

**NORTH CAROLINA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
WORK SESSION AGENDA
DRAFT**

WORK SESSION

NC State Fairgrounds
Jim Graham Building – Gate 11
Hall of Fame Meeting Room
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
March 27, 2018
6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS SESSION

NC State Fairgrounds
Jim Graham Building – Gate 11
Hall of Fame Meeting Room
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
March 28, 2018
9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair reminds all the members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any conflict of interest or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the Commission. If any member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict, please state so at this time.

II. PRELIMINARY – Business Meeting

Welcome Chairman John Langdon

III. BUSINESS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda | Chairman John Langdon |
| 2. Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations | Mr. Phillip Reynolds |
| 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes | Chairman John Langdon |
| A. January 7, 2018 Work Session Meeting Minutes | |
| B. January 7, 2018 Business Session Meeting Minutes | |
| 4. Election of Vice Chairman | Chairman John Langdon |
| 5. Division Report | Director Vernon Cox |
| 6. Association Report | Mr. Dietrich Kilpatrick |
| 7. NRCS Report | Mr. Tim Beard |

8. Consent Agenda
 - A. Supervisor Appointments
 - B. Supervisor Contracts
 9. Commission Member Contracts
 - A. Consideration of an ACSP Contract for John Langdon
 - B. Consideration of an ACSP Contract for Charles Hughes
 10. District Supervisor Conditional Appointments
 - A. 2017 Conditional Appointments Status
 - B. 2018 Extension Requests
 11. Agriculture Cost Share Program (CS) Supplemental Allocation
 12. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program Regional Applications
 13. Disaster Response Program
 - A. Program Update
 - B. Consideration of Increasing the Cap on Disaster Pond Repair
 14. Technical Specialist Training Update
 15. Nutrient Sensitive Watershed Annual Agricultural Reports
 16. District Issues
 - A. Consideration for ACSP Contract on Local Government Land 02NCAC 59D.0101(h)
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Eric Pare
Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth

Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth

Mr. Eric Pare

Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth

Ms. Julie Henshaw

Mr. David Williams

Mr. Jeff Young

Mr. Joey Hester

Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
Stokes SWCD

**NORTH CAROLINA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
Stokes SWCD



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700
Fax: (919) 715-0135

January 16, 2018

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III
Governor of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Via Email

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest Filed By Myles Garth Payne
Prospective Appointee – Soil and Water Conservation Commission**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. Myles G. Payne's** 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Soil and Water Conservation Commission**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission was established to approve petitions for and assist supervisors of soil conservation districts, review applications for planning assistance, and approve, supervise and review small watershed work plans. In addition, the Commission has the authority to develop and implement programs for the approval of water quality and animal waste management systems technical specialists and water quality protection programs. The Commission is also responsible for the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, including the review and approval of applications of district supervisors that apply for a grant from this program, as well as the Community Conservation Assistance Program.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. § 138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. § 138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Payne will fill the role of First Vice President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts on the Commission. Mr. Payne owns Payne Dairy, Inc. He is Vice Chairman of the Alexander County Soil and Water Conservation District and a board member of the North Carolina Farm Bureau. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving his farm, his district or the Farm Bureau come before the Commission for official action.

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III

January 16, 2018

Page 2 of 2

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. § 138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. § 138A-32(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. § 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,



Lisa Johnson, Paralegal
NC Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

cc: Myles G. Payne

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700
Fax: (919) 715-0135

January 23, 2018

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III
Governor of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Via Email

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest Filed By Benjamin Derek Potter
Prospective Appointee – Soil and Water Conservation Commission**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. Benjamin D. Potter's** 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Soil and Water Conservation Commission (the "Commission")**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission was established to approve petitions for and assist supervisors of soil conservation districts, review applications for planning assistance, and approve, supervise and review small watershed work plans. In addition, the Commission has the authority to develop and implement programs for the approval of water quality and animal waste management systems technical specialists and water quality protection programs. The Commission is also responsible for the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, including the review and approval of applications of district supervisors that apply for a grant from this program, as well as the Community Conservation Assistance Program.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. § 138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. § 138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Potter will fill the role of a representative from the coastal region. Mr. Potter is the President of B.D. Potter Farms, Inc. He is also a Director with AgCarolina Farm Credit. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving his farm or AgCarolina come before the Commission for official action.

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III
January 23, 2018
Page 2 of 2

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. § 138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. § 138A-32(e).

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Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,



Lisa Johnson, Paralegal
NC Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

cc: Benjamin D. Potter

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



**NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
March 27, 2018**

NC State Fairgrounds
Jim Graham Building – Gate 11
Hall of Fame Meeting Room
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Commission Members	Guests	
John Langdon	Vernon Cox	Michelle Lovejoy
Wayne Collier	David Williams	Bryan Evans
Chris Hogan	Julie Henshaw	Joey Hester
Dietrich Kilpatrick	Kelly Hedgepeth	Tom Hill
Myles Payne	Helen Wiklund	Michael Shepherd
Derek Potter	Eric Pare	Sandra Weitzel
Mike Willis	Jeff Young	Rick McSwain
Commission Counsel	Kristina Fischer	Rob Baldwin
Phillip Reynolds	Ralston James	Joe Hudyncia
	Davis Ferguson	Chester Lowder
	Tom Ellis	Ken Parks

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. Chairman Langdon declared a conflict of interest for Agenda Item 9A and will recuse himself from that item. Chairman Langdon stated a vice chairman needs to be nominated to preside over Agenda Item 9A. Mr. Reynolds stated the Commission has chosen not to act on items in the work session, but it is appropriate to discuss potential nominations tonight for the vice chairman's position and vote on it tomorrow. Mr. Reynolds added Chairman Langdon will recuse himself and turn the meeting over to the presiding officer, if there is no objection based upon a consensus to handle the item. Chairman Langdon asked for a recommendation for vice chairman. Commissioner Hogan recommended Commissioner Collier as vice chairman and Commissioner Willis seconded. Commissioner Collier accepted the nomination as vice chairman.

Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Langdon stated there is an ex-officio seat from the Commission that serves on the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission and a name must be brought forth tomorrow to fill the seat. Commissioner Collier recommended Commissioner Willis to serve and the Commissioners agreed. Mr. Reynolds stated tomorrow's agenda

does not have to be updated or reprinted. Tomorrow, during the Approval of the Agenda, the item can be added as an *“item noted,”* since only one person is interested in the seat. By consensus, the Commission will recommend to Governor Cooper to appoint Commissioner Willis to the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission. This is a 3-year term; when the member leaves the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission, a new member must be recommended.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon asked for comments on the agenda. Ms. Henshaw stated Agenda Item 9B will become part of Agenda Item 8B, since Mr. Charles Hughes is now a supervisor and no longer a Commission member. Mr. Reynolds stated it will be noted *“as is,”* since Mr. Hughes is no longer a member of the Commission.
2. **Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Phillip Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds stated that a couple of members have changed seats, i.e., the first vice chairman and the immediate past president, however, they do not have to have new evaluations of Statements of Economic Interests. Mr. Payne and Mr. Potter, as the new members to the Commission, will have their statements read into the minutes tomorrow. The Division will keep a copy of these records on file.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Langdon asked for comments on the minutes. None were declared.

3A. January 7, 2018 Work Session Meeting Minutes

3B. January 7, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

4. **Election of Vice Chairman:** This item was handled at the beginning of the meeting.
5. **Division Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Director Vernon Cox to present. Director Cox stated the report will be presented at the Business Meeting tomorrow. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.
6. **Association Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Kilpatrick to present. Commissioner Kilpatrick stated the report will be presented at the Business Meeting tomorrow. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.
7. **NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon asked if Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist, will be present at the Business Meeting tomorrow. Director Cox stated Mr. Beard will be in attendance to present and provided the report.

Chairman Langdon shared a blog from NACD by Laura Demmel written on March 19, 2018, which is titled, *“Conservation Districts Key in the Agricultural Sustainability Conversation.”* The blog stated, *“From the farm level to the retailer, companies, and organizations are assessing how to best measure the sustainability of food and agricultural products produced at every point in the supply chain. Conservation districts have the opportunity to enter into the conversation on the farm and ranch level.”*

8. **Consent Agenda:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Eric Pare and Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

8A. Supervisor Appointments: Mr. Pare presented three recommendations.

- Lloyd K. Ransom, Columbus SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of Bobby N. Stanley, who passed away; attached is a resignation letter from Mr. Ransom resigning from his elected term to fill the vacant appointed term for 2016-2020
- George B. Belflower Jr., Rutherford SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of Dewalt Koone for 2014-2018 with an attached resignation letter from Mr. Koone
- Peter T. Hight, Warren SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of Leonard J. Killian, who passed away for 2014-2018

8B. Supervisor Contracts: Ms. Hedgepeth stated the blue sheet for Item 8B has an additional contract from Polk County. With the additional contract from Mr. Charles Hughes, which has moved from Agenda Item 9B to 8B, there are now 11 contracts totaling \$53,366. Mr. Hughes will update Form 1A to Form 1B.

9. **Commission Member Contracts:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

9A. Consideration of an ACSP Contract for John Langdon: Chairman Langdon recused himself and Commissioner Collier presided over Agenda Item 9A. Ms. Hedgepeth presented a Commission member contract for Chairman Langdon. Form 1A was filled out for approval which will be signed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and the vice chairman once approved. The contract is in order.

Chairman Langdon resumed presiding over the meeting.

9B. Consideration of an ACSP Contract for Charles Hughes: This item was handled with Agenda Item 8B.

10. **District Supervisor Conditional Appointments:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Eric Pare to present. A copy of the conditional appointments is included as an official part of the minutes.

10A. 2017 Conditional Appointments Status: Mr. Eric Pare presented a blue sheet for Item 10A for conditional supervisor appointments for the following list of supervisors that received conditional appointment between May 2016 and February 1, 2017.

Conditional appointment date	SWCD	First name	Last name	2018 SOG attendance
November 2016	Bladen	Albert C.	Beatty	2 nd extension
November 2016	Gaston	Robin	Armstrong	2 nd extension
November 2016	Hertford	Clint	Brinkley	attended
November 2016	Martin	Corris J.	Jenkins, III	attended
November 2016	Richmond	William	Thompson	
November 2016	Rutherford	Bill	Eckler	2 nd extension
November 2016	Union	Edward B.	Staton	attended
January 2017	Gaston	Kevin	Mauney	2 nd extension
January 2017	Pitt	Carl	Briley	2 nd extension

The Commission granted extension requests on March 15, 2017. Mr. Pare contacted the districts to get the extension letters; the supervisors were not contacted directly. Chairman Langdon stated the Commission should approve each supervisor. Director Cox stated a one-day regional training will be available in 2019. The supervisors will be approved for a one-year extension, and the Division will follow-up with Mr. Thompson. Deputy Director Williams stated this is not the first time that supervisors have been given an extension. This is the first time these appointments would automatically terminate, if the training is not completed. Previously, the Commission would not consider the supervisors for reappointment. Now, these appointments are conditional upon attending the UNC-SOG training. This change was made in 2016. Commissioner Collier stated each supervisor should be notified in November to register for the upcoming training in February. Chairman Langdon stated newly-appointed supervisor, Don Rogers, with Johnston County has completed 18 hours of training in two months since being appointed, including the required School of Government training. Mr. Pare will follow-up with Mr. Thompson and the Commission can only approve the extension requests received. The Commission deferred action on Mr. Thompson until the May meeting—not granting him an extension. Mr. Thompson will continue to serve until the May meeting at which time the Commission will take action. The three supervisors that attended the UNC-SOG will be fully appointed.

10B. 2018 Extension Requests: Mr. Pare stated 29 supervisors were conditionally appointed upon completing the UNC-SOG training and 18 supervisors attended the training and should be considered fully appointed. The remaining 10 supervisors will require the Commission's action, if their terms are to be extended. Mr. Matthew Reynolds never responded to supply an extension letter. Chairman Langdon suggested each supervisor should appear in person and explain their reason for an extension request. Commissioner Collier agreed the supervisor should appear before the Commission, especially when a second extension is requested. Mr. Reynolds will be notified of his deferment and 18 supervisors will be granted an extension.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Pare.

11. Agriculture Cost Share Program Supplemental Allocation: Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present. A copy of the allocation is included as an official part of the minutes. Ms. Hedgepeth presented a blue sheet that replaced Item 11. In the future, a report will confirm all applications that were submitted were received and correct. The total amount is for a proposed allocation of \$385,418. Commissioner Collier stated Martin County has requested additional funds and received those funds. Ms. Hedgepeth asked for a Just-in-Time Allocation for additional funds. Presently, the Division does not have unobligated cost share funds. However, if funds are returned, those funds can be reallocated through the end of May or the Commission can wait until next year. The Division provides Just-in-Time Allocations for the other programs but not for ACSP. Commissioner Collier stated the Commission should approve the Just-in-Time Allocations for ACSP funds that are returned. Commissioner Willis added we need to lessen the future allocation penalty; the allocation should not hurt the district.

12. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program Regional Applications: Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Ms. Henshaw stated our internal staff reviewed 31 applications and three were withdrawn by the applicant leaving 28 for review. This is the second batching period of the year, and there is approximately \$370,000 in funds to award. There are 14 applications for recommendation of funding from 10 districts. These recommended applications are those that have the highest-ranking scores. During this regional application period, there were no irrigation conversion systems application submitted; only pond repair/retrofits and new ponds applications were received.

13. Disaster Response Program: Chairman Langdon recognized Deputy Director David Williams to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

13A. Program Update: Deputy Director Williams stated the update will be presented tomorrow.

13B. Consideration of Increasing the Cap on Disaster Pond Repair: The Commission approved a cap of \$50,000 for pond repair contracts. Contracts above \$50,000 would be reviewed by the Commission on a case-by-case basis. With more than half of the applications over \$50,000, the Division is recommending an increase to \$100,000. There are 10-15 contracts out of 91 contracts that would exceed the \$100,000 threshold. Director Cox stated the Division is only looking at a preliminary cost estimate for these repairs. Deputy Director Williams stated there is \$7.2M available to be allocated for pond repair. The average estimated repair cost is \$217,000 with \$21,500 for engineering services.

14. Technical Specialist Training Update: Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Jeff Young to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Mr. Young discussed the new course required for technical specialists on the topic of NC Rules and Regulations Governing Animal Waste. A 2-hour course on this topic was created by Michael Shepherd in conjunction with the Division of Water Resources (DWR). Two individual who received conditional approval for technical specialist designations in January 2018 the attended the training offered on March 15, 2018 in Raleigh. Both individuals have now met all the requirements for their technical specialist designation. Mr. Young gave an update on the status of the Technical Specialist Continuing Training Workgroup and asked for the Commission's consent to proceed with the Workgroup's recommendations.

Chairman Langdon called for a break at 7:44 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:55 pm.

15. Nutrient Sensitive Watershed Annual Agricultural Reports: Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Joey Hester to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Mr. Hester stated there are four major watershed reports. There are some 25 years of regulations that go into the rules, i.e., the development and the implementation of the rules and how the mandates are met. All four basins are meeting the mandates. The agricultural community will be impacted by the mandates, primarily in the Falls Lake and Jordan Lake Watersheds.

16. District Issues: Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth.

16A. Consideration for ACSP Contract on Local Government Land 02NCAC 59D.0101(h): Ms. Hedgepeth stated contract 85-2018-001-12 is for \$5,670.00. It is for a stream restoration practice, which the district will install in Little Snow Creek. Ms. Hedgepeth stated Mr. Marvin Cavanaugh will be in attendance tomorrow from Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District as well as a staff member. There is an easement on the property, and by statute, the district must ask for the Commission's approval, according to 02 NCAC 59D.0105(h).

Public Comments: Mr. Rob Baldwin stated his predecessor, Mike Pardue and Michelle Lovejoy, Executive Director with the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, entered into an agreement between NRCS, the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation and the Wilkes Soil and Water Conservation District. The agreement supplied money from NRCS National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) to do a watershed study. The initial grant was for approximately \$45,000, which was to pay the salary for a watershed coordinator. Mr. Baldwin provided several highlights from the grant:

- A forestry workshop will be conducted to address conservation issues
- Drones are the future to show conservation applications and the changing landscape
- Employed a student at Appalachian State University as a technical writer
- Requesting CWA 319 grant monies to clean up a tributary within the watershed
- Working with Phillip Trew with High County Council of Governments to apply for a 205-J Grant to pursue 319 monies for the Reddies River and Yadkin River intersection
- Generated a 147-page Watershed Study that Perdue University is using as a model
- Received an \$865,000 grant through NRCS National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI), which will be used through EQIP to fund various Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Employed a Watershed Contractor, Swan Creek Solutions, to contract these funds

Chairman Langdon stated the Resource Institute is compiled of NRCS employees that have retired and are working for Resource Institute.

Mr. Baldwin stated employees no longer have Job Approval Authority (JAA) and Certified Conservation Planner (CCP) credentials after retirement and NRCS is not hiring the technical staff back.

Chairman Langdon stated the weaknesses are known within NRCS, and there is a need to maintain relationships and keep an open communication.

Commissioner Willis stated Wilkes County has very effective district employees. The money goes through the district and gets to landowners and farmers; new partnerships create these projects. Wilkes District goes above and beyond to put the funds on the ground.

Ms. Michelle Lovejoy stated The Foundation stands to help all the partners by looking at all the factors. One item of interest is targeted conservation, which is being discussed on a national scale and has come up when The Foundation did a strategic plan and is coming up in this strategic plan.

This watershed will be interesting to watch over the next 10-15 years. The watershed is in a unique position. The headwaters are at the Blue Ridge Parkway continental divide, which goes into state park land, game lands, agricultural lands and a small municipality for drinking water. Definitive water quality improvements can be achieved by doing what conservation districts do best.

Director Cox stated this is an intensive watershed project, and it will do some good work.

Commissioner Collier stated while attending two Area Meetings there is a concern about the CREP Program's land rental rates. The land rental rates are very low in some counties and high in other counties, as a tobacco or potato producer. There is a big discrepancy where the land rental rates are twice as high in some areas, which would be way over the \$150 cap. FSA sets the land rental rates, and part of the rates are based on the National Statistical Surveys.

Chairman Langdon added the rates may be high due to the impact on erosion.

Deputy Director Williams stated the land rental rates can be \$20-\$30/county up to \$100-\$150/county with the local rental rates are set at the county level but the cap is set at the state level.

Commissioner Collier added to check the conservancy because they pay more money, if someone is interested in the CREP Program.

Commissioner Willis stated the \$100-\$150 rental rates are being paid in Wilkes County.

Chairman Langdon noted the absence of Charles Hughes and Ben Knox and welcomed Derek Potter and Myles Payne and glad to see Kristina Fischer and Bryan Evans.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Vernon N. Cox, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.



Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on May 16, 2018.



**NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2018**

NC State Fairgrounds
Jim Graham Building – Gate 11
Hall of Fame Meeting Room
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Commission Members		
John Langdon	Jeff Young	Michelle Lovejoy
Wayne Collier	Kristina Fischer	Tim Beard
Chris Hogan	Ralston James	Lisa Fine
Dietrich Kilpatrick	Bryan Evans	Ken Parks
Myles Payne	Helen Wiklund	Joey Hester
Derek Potter	Eric Pare	Rick McSwain
Mike Willis	Sandra Weitzel	Michael Shepherd
Commission Counsel	Louise Hart	Joe Hudyncia
Phillip Reynolds	Rob Baldwin	Tom Hill
Guests	Davis Ferguson	Keith Larick
Vernon Cox	Tom Ellis	Jason Byrd
David Williams	David Harris	Brad Moore
Julie Henshaw	Michele Raquet	Rodney Wright
Kelly Hedgepeth	Marvin Cavanaugh	Tom Smith

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. Chairman Langdon declared that he had a conflict of interest for Agenda Item 9A and will recuse himself. Chairman Langdon stated the Commission will elect a new vice chairman, since Commissioner Knox's position has been replaced. The vice chairman will preside over Agenda Item 9A.

Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting along with Commissioner Potter and Commissioner Payne to the Commission. Mr. Payne thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve.

Chairman Langdon asked Mr. Reynolds to explain Agenda Item 9B with regards to the contract submitted by Mr. Hughes, a former Commission Member. Mr. Reynolds stated Agenda Item 9B is being removed from the agenda and being added to Agenda Item 8B. At the time the contract was submitted,

Mr. Hughes was a Commission Member, which required additional approval from the Commission and Commissioner of Agriculture. Since Mr. Hughes has been replaced by Commissioner Potter, and Mr. Hughes is still a district supervisor, Agenda Item 9B will be handled with all the other supervisor contracts within the Consent Agenda.

Chairman Langdon stated after a new vice chairman is elected, the Commission Members will discuss the nomination of a representative from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to sit on the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission. With Mr. Hughes having served on the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission, the seat is vacant now, and his replacement will be under consideration by Governor Cooper. This will be added as Agenda Item 4A.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Collier moved to approve the amended agenda and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.
2. **Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Phillip Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds stated the Statements of Economic Interests have been received for Mr. Payne and Mr. Potter. The Governor's Office sent the paperwork to the Division where it will be kept on file. By statute, portions of the letter must be read into the minutes and available upon request.

From the State Ethics Commission to Governor Cooper for the Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest filed by Mr. Myles Garth Payne for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the State Ethics Commission determined the following:

Our office is in receipt of Mr. Myles G. Payne's 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

Mr. Payne will fill the role of First Vice President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts on the Commission. Mr. Payne owns Payne Dairy, Inc. He is Vice Chairman of the Alexander County Soil and Water Conservation District and a board member of the North Carolina Farm Bureau. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving his farm, his district or the Farm Bureau come before the Commission for official action.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regards to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

From the State Ethics Commission to Governor Cooper for the Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest filed by Mr. Benjamin Derek Potter for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the State Ethics Commission determined the following:

Our office is in receipt of Mr. Benjamin D. Potter's 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission ("the Commission"). We have reviewed it for actual

and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

Mr. Potter will fill the role of a representative from the coastal region. Mr. Potter is the President of B. D. Potter Farms, Inc. He is also Director with AgCarolina Farm Credit. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving his farm or AgCarolina come before the Commission for official action.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regards to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Reynolds.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Chairman Langdon asked for a motion of the minutes.

3A. January 7, 2018 Work Session Meeting Minutes

3B. January 7, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hogan motioned to approve the minutes and Commissioner Kilpatrick seconded. Motion carried.

4. Election of Vice Chairman: Chairman Langdon called for a nomination and motion for a member of the Commission to serve as the vice chairman of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Commissioner Hogan nominated Commissioner Collier as vice chairman and Commissioner Willis seconded. Motion carried.

4A. Nomination of Representative to the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission: Chairman Langdon called for a nomination and motion for a representative to serve on the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission and to provide a recommendation to Governor Cooper for appointment. Commissioner Collier motioned to nominate Commissioner Willis as the representative and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

5. Division Report: Chairman Langdon recognized Director Vernon Cox to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Director Cox congratulated the new members to the Commission and congratulated Chairman Langdon on his reappointment as Chairman of the Commission for the next three years. Director Cox stated the building we are meeting in is the location of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Hall of Fame. The pictures of the people on the walls are a reminder of the good work that has been accomplished in North Carolina for soil and water conservation.

- Personnel Updates – New Hires and Vacancies
 - Program Assistant IV - Heather Reichert filling Dottie Jones' position
 - CREP Survey Technician – Ben Wilkins starting April 9
 - Cost Share Administrative Assistant II – Paula Day starting April 9

- Environmental Specialist (AgWRAP) – vacant
- Administrative Assistant (Time-Limited) - vacant
- Pilot Supervisor Training Program Update
 - Twenty district supervisors achieved the 6-hour training requirement as of March 1, 2018
 - Drew Brannon (Henderson SWCD) and Donald Rogers (Johnston SWCD) achieved 18.25 STCs
 - All five district supervisors in New Hanover SWCD achieved 6+ STCs
- Established an Ad Hoc Workgroup to address issues related to Districts utilizing non-program funds for cost share.
- Soil & Water Cost Share Rules 02 NCAC 59D Update
 - If approved, the rules will become effective in 2018 but the first allocation using the new rules will not occur before July 1, 2019
- May 16, 2018 is the next Soil and Water Conservation Commission Meeting being held in the Halifax District Office. On the afternoon of May 15, 2018, we will have a field tour to visit CREP sites and see the innovative conservation cover practices being implemented. We have met with representatives from the Soybean Growers Association, Cotton Growers Association and NC State University, who are interested in this practice. The NC Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation is seeking funding for some demonstration projects for this practice
 - Mr. Cox also updated the Commission on a recent meeting with Mr. Roian Atwood, sustainability director of Wrangler Jeans. Wrangler is interested in soil health and demonstrating that their production process and supply chain are sustainable.
 - Ms. Michelle Lovejoy, executive director of the NC Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation, Mr. Bryan Evans, executive director of the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Mr. David Parrish, chief executive officer of the Cotton Growers Association, and Mr. Vernon Cox, director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, met with Mr. Roian Atwood in February and explained the opportunity to aid farmers and promote conservation and soil health among North Carolina cotton growers.
 - Mr. Atwood is also a former participant in the Envirothon

Chairman Langdon shared a blog from NACD which stated, *“Conservation Districts Key in the Agricultural Sustainability Conversation”* by Laura Demmel sent out on March 19, 2018 wrote, *“From the farm level to the retailer, companies, and organizations are assessing how to best measure the sustainability of food and agricultural products produced at every point in the supply chain. Conservation districts have the opportunity to enter into the conversation on the farm and ranch level.”* Chairman Langdon stated it is important to have these conversations and for the Commission to go on these field trips to help understand these new opportunities.

Mr. Cox stated many corporations are looking at their sustainability needs and analyzing their supply chain.

6. Association Report: Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Kilpatrick to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

- Strategic Planning/Long Range Visioning Update

- Participated in a series of surveys provided by the NC Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation as part of their long-range vision plan
 - District dues at 100% for 2017
 - Conservation license plates still available
 - Eight partners participated in the NACD Fly-In and met 13 representatives and 2 senators
 - Conservation Action Team (CAT) welcomes Mr. Tyler Ross, Madison SWCD, replacing Mr. Rick McSwain, who retired from Lincoln SWCD and is working for the Division
 - Supervisor training pilot is underway. We will look to continue to improve that program as we go further along.
 - Commissioner Kilpatrick mentioned his ongoing emphasis on improving involvement of District Supervisors at Area and Annual meetings. One initiative that he is working on is to coordinate with the First Vice-President and Second Vice-President of the Association to attend district meetings in their region and emphasize the importance of District Supervisor involvement.
 - NC is hosting the 2019 NA Envirothon and the Association has collected approximately one-third, or \$60,000, of the budget
 - During the NACD Fly-In, we met with Under Secretary Bill Northey who has tentatively agreed to speak at the 2019 Annual Meeting
 - Mr. Bryan Evans stated the Association has not fully moved to just asking for those interested in the license plates as funds are still being collected and the Department of Agriculture's Public Affairs Division will help to publicize where to get the form
- 7. NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist, to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.
- Under Secretary Bill Northey has been confirmed; a former supervisor and former Secretary of Agriculture of Iowa and invited Mr. Beard's counterpart in Iowa to be a special assistant in Washington
 - Secretary Perdue has announced a reorganization which includes multiple agencies under one umbrella called Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) with a goal to organize this business center by September 30, 2018
 - New web site launched for farmers
 - Secretary Perdue has emphasized improved customer service. Employees will be allowed to telework no more than one day a week
 - Mr. Leonard Jordan is still the Acting Chief for NRCS
 - On a national level, NRCS is being allowed to fill 150 positions. This includes 3 positions that are to be filled in North Carolina
 - Our state engineer has moved to the national office; our priority is to fill that position; two supervisor soil conservationist positions have been advertised
 - Deploying 150 new computers state-wide to NRCS and district employees
 - NRCS is working on the partnership MOU and finalizing the document
 - Mr. Kent Clary, state soil scientist, is retiring which will have an impact in the state due to lack of staff

Chairman Langdon stated he received a couple of telephone calls from a former Commission Member, who is currently a district supervisor. The former Commissioner claims that he is being discriminated against; he is not eligible to participate in the easement program due to a

conflict of interest. NACD approved a resolution on this issue; however, Washington (USDA NRCS) has maintained that it is a conflict of interest for a district to hold an easement on property owned by a district supervisor. The pioneer of Soil and Water Conservation, Hugh Hammond Bennett, put this program together for farmers to showcase good soil and water conservation and for those supervisors to lead by example. It puts the supervisor in a place where he cannot participate in these programs. Mr. Beard stated it is a concern, which is being worked through by addressing the rules and appeals process.

Chairman Langdon asked for an update on the Omnibus Appropriations Bill. Mr. Beard stated there is some certainty with what our budget/allocation will be but NRCS does not have a full budget yet.

- 8. Consent Agenda:** A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

8A. Supervisor Appointments:

- Lloyd K. Ransom, Columbus SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of Bobby N. Stanley, who passed away; attached is a resignation letter from Mr. Ransom resigning from his elected term to fill the vacant appointed term, for 2016-2020
- George B. Belflower Jr., Rutherford SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of Dewalt Koone for 2014-2018 with an attached resignation letter from Mr. Koone
- Peter T. Hight, Warren SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of Leonard J. Killian, who passed away, for 2014-2018

8B. Supervisor Contracts: Ms. Hedgepeth stated there are nine contracts totaling \$40,189 with an additional page with 10 contracts totaling \$52,189.

Chairman Langdon asked for a motion on the consent agenda. Commissioner Hogan motioned to approve the consent agenda and Commissioner Payne seconded. Motion carried.

- 9. Commission Member Contracts:** Chairman Langdon recused himself from Item 9A. Vice Chairman Collier recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

9A. Consideration of an ACSP Contract for John Langdon: Ms. Hedgepeth stated Contract #51-2018-408-09 for Chairman John Langdon for a non-field farm road repair is in order. By statute, cost share contracts with Commission members must be approved by both the Soil and Water Conservation Commission and by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

Vice Chairman Collier called for a motion. Commissioner Hogan motioned to approve the contract and Commissioner Willis seconded. Motion carried.

- 10. District Supervisor Conditional Appointments:** A copy of the appointments is included as an official part of the minutes.

10A. 2017 Conditional Appointments Status: Chairman Langdon stated he received the letters from the supervisors from Macon SWCD and Richmond SWCD; they were mailed to his farm

office. Mr. Reynolds stated the supervisor from Macon SWCD was requesting his first extension request, which is Item 10B, and there are additional extension requests under Item 10A. Mr. Thompson did not attend the required training and did not submit an extension letter. The staff was asked during the work session to get additional information from Mr. Thompson to consider his appointment at the next meeting. Chairman Langdon stated there should not be any reason for deferment. Mr. Reynolds stated that would be fully appropriate to consider Mr. Thompson's extension request with the others in Item 10A and the supervisor in Macon SWCD in Item 10B.

Mr. Pare stated letters will be sent out to those supervisors who are still conditionally appointed and those supervisors that did attend UNC-SOG are fully appointed.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Potter motioned to approve the conditional appointments and Commissioner Payne seconded. Motion carried.

10B. 2018 Extension Requests:

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Potter motioned to approve the extension requests and Commissioner Kilpatrick seconded. Motion carried.

- 11. Agriculture Cost Share Program Supplemental Allocation:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present. A copy of the allocation is included as an official part of the minutes.

Ms. Hedgepeth stated the allocation totals \$385,418. The same allocation parameters were used that were used at the beginning of the fiscal year to allocate the funds to the districts. The districts met the 75% encumbrance requirement per Commission policy for supplemental allocations.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Willis motioned to approve the ACSP supplemental allocation and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

Ms. Hedgepeth asked for a Just-in-Time Allocation for any funds that are canceled from this point to the remainder of the year to allocate the contracts that are encumbered.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Collier made a motion to approve the Just-in-Time Allocation and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion approved.

- 12. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program Regional Applications:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present. A copy of the applications is included as an official part of the minutes.

Ms. Henshaw stated there are 14 applications for approval to proceed to contracting. The applications have been reviewed by the internal review team within the Division and the AgWRAP Review Committee. The applications are for seven new ponds and seven pond repair retrofits. There are seven applications in the western region, six in the central region and one in the eastern region. Only one application was received in the eastern region due to the amount of work required for the Disaster Response Program. The Division received 31 applications in

Batch 2, which totals over \$800,000 with only approximately \$370,000 to award. From the 31 applications, three applications were withdrawn by the applicants and 28 are being considered for funding. It is recommended that the highest-ranking projects be funded, which is half of the ones submitted.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Payne motioned to approve the AgWRAP regional allocations and Commissioner Kilpatrick seconded. Motion carried.

- 13. Disaster Response Program:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. David Williams to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

13A. Program Update: Deputy Director Williams stated the presentation was given before the House Disaster Response Oversight Committee. The figures shown are a breakdown of the allocations of the disaster response funding, which the Commission approved and was stated by the General Assembly specifically with a cap of \$1M for pasture renovation for drought response. The Commission determined how the remaining \$32.2M would be divided. A map of the counties in blue were eligible for Hurricane Matthew disaster relief, which includes pond repair, stream debris removal, and non-field farm road repair, and the counties in brown in the west were eligible for drought response which includes pasture renovation. The statute required the Division to coordinate with various federal programs that the funds are expended that does not affect any person's eligibility for federal funding nor to use state funds to cover costs that can be covered by federal funds. The Division is coordinating with all agencies to not duplicate efforts.

The largest program is the Stream Debris Removal Program with over \$36M requested with the Division allocating \$20.23M to 51 local projects in 38 counties, with those projects pledging over \$1M in match. The Division has approved over \$2.7M in payments on 25 projects affecting over 400 miles and the removal of 117 beaver dams. The Commission has allocated \$1.5M for non-field farm roads to 22 districts with 200 applications received and 120 cost share contracts approved for \$444,362. The Division has paid out \$187,868 on 55 completed contracts. The Commission authorized Just-in-Time Allocations for requests more than the initial allocations. The Division is not aware of new applications and may propose to switch some of those unallocated funds available for additional stream debris work.

For agricultural pond repairs, there are 91 applications received. Resource Institute has been hired to do the engineering assessments for these ponds and complete repairs. Payments for repairs have been made on two ponds. A couple of counties chose not to participate in the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). Based on preliminary cost estimates from Resource Institute, the average pond repair cost is \$217,000, the average engineering cost is \$21,500, and the range for repair costs is \$22,000-\$659,000. State funding is also available to supplement the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). One statutory concern presented to the General Assembly is the statutory limit on AgWRAP payments to an individual applicant (\$75,000/individual/year). Based on cost estimates in the engineering assessments completed

thus far, over 40% of the pond repairs will require cost share amounts above \$75,000. In those cases, these payments will have to be spread out over multiple years, possibly as many as three. The Division has requested from the General Assembly a special provision to suspend the annual payment cap or raise it to \$200,000 for this program.

In July the Commission approved the Drought Pasture Renovation Practice, and it allocated \$1 million to 18 districts requesting an allocation. Some districts did not encumber all their allocation to contracts by December 1, 2017. The Division used the unencumbered funds for Just-in-Time Allocation to districts who needed additional allocation. A total of 203 contracts have been approved for repairs on 3,702 acres. Pasture renovation has been completed on 1,268 acres.

Commissioner Kilpatrick thanked Deputy Director Williams for the Division's work on stream debris removal in the east; there have been many complaints but now the district is receiving thank yous. Deputy Director Williams stated letters of appreciation are being compiled for the General Assembly and can be mailed to the Department and the Commissioner of Agriculture. Commissioner Potter agreed with Commissioner Kilpatrick and stated Pamlico's County Manager sent a message that local landowners are very appreciative. Chairman Langdon stated it is important to be more athletic and nimble; hopefully, another disaster does not hit the state before we finish the practice. Chairman Langdon stated North Carolina should be a role model and impress our legislators.

13B. Consideration of Increasing the Cap on Disaster Pond Repair: Deputy Director Williams stated the cap approved in January 2017 on pond repair contracts that the Division could approve was \$50,000. The engineering assessments completed to date indicate that 50% or more of the repair projects will involve cost share greater than \$50,000. The Division recommends increasing the cap to \$100,000. The Commission could still consider any above this amount, as they will be exceptional cases.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Hogan motioned to approve increasing the cap to \$100,000 and Commissioner Payne seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Langdon thanked Deputy Director Williams. Chairman Langdon called a break at 10:32 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:42 a.m.

14. Technical Specialist Training Update: Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Jeff Young to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

Mr. Young assembled a technical specialist workgroup from the public and private sector and discussed ideas on how to set up the training process, course credits, deadlines and approval process. The workgroup discussed recommendations including if an individual could complete all 6-hours of required training in a single year. The deadline date (December 31) for training

requirements would be the same for all technical specialists with no staggered dates based on when SWCC approved the designation, and offer a 30-day grace period to appeal, if the training had not been completed, e.g., hardship cases may come before the Commission. The workgroup seeks the Commission's approval to delegate their authority so the workgroup can review materials and determine if a training course is qualified or not qualified rather than bringing it before the Commission. The timeline is to have the 3-year clock start on January 1, 2019 and start the 6-hours of training with an on-line database. It is the goal to have on-line database, but it is not certain IT will have a system operational by January 1, 2019. An off-line database can serve as an alternate method. It will be populated by technical specialists completing an online form found at the Division's web site. When a technical specialist enters their data, a unique number will be assigned to each individual and used for future tracking and correspondence.

In November 2017, the new Technical Specialist Training Rule became effective which specifies a new 2-hour class on the topic of NC Rules and Regulations Governing Animal Waste Management. In March, the course was presented by Mr. Michael Shepherd in Raleigh. Two individuals who received conditional approval for technical specialist designations in January 2018 attended the course, fulfilling the condition, and now full-fledged technical specialists.

Mr. Young asked for feedback from the Commissioners. Commissioner Hogan stated it looks like the workgroup is moving in the right direction. Chairman Langdon asked how the workgroup gets together. Mr. Young stated two members attend by teleconference/on-line and the others attend in person. Commissioner Collier asked if any comments have been offered by the technical specialists. Mr. Young stated a survey has not been sent to the Listserv, but the feedback from the 2-hour course was positive. Chairman Langdon stated this is an important part of the agricultural industry, and the Commission needs to work together to make this a good model and the Commission looks to Mr. Young for his advice and recommendations.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Young for traveling here and the work he is doing for the state.

- 15. Nutrient Sensitive Watershed Annual Agricultural Reports:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Joey Hester to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

Mr. Hester stated the goal is to update where we have come from with regards to Nutrient Sensitive Watershed requirements, the strategies developed and how the agricultural part of the strategy works, where we stand today and a brief picture of the program. There are four strategies, and we have been working on it for 20 years. The Neuse River Basin Strategy rules were passed in 1998 based on a baseline period of 1991-1995. There is a need to report nitrogen and keep our current nitrogen loss at 30% under the baseline figure. A tool was created called NLEW, which was developed specifically to meet the requirements of the rule. The Tar-Pamlico rules were passed in 2001. Each basin must report collectively on an aggregate

basis for the agricultural sector. The information is aggregated at a county level, and then at the basin level. There is no way to measure phosphorus loss in the agricultural sector but we can document trends that contribute to the increase and decrease in the risk of phosphorus loss. The Jordan Lake Watershed Strategy was passed in 2009 based on a baseline of 1997-2001 with 3 separate sub-watershed nitrogen reduction goals. The Falls Lake Watershed Strategy has a 2006 baseline and is broken down into Stage 1 and Stage 2 goals. A map was provided showing the nutrient reduction strategy watersheds. The reporting hierarchy was discussed for each committee. An update was provided of the overview for Crop Year 2016 for the four river basins. The rules as they were written have been revised by the Rules Review Commission. The General Assembly split the Falls Lake and Jordan Lake strategies into their own Rules Review Processes. The Neuse and Tar-Pamlico rules are currently under review. There are two rule changes; first our reports are proposed to be submitted directly to the Division of Water Resources and second there is a baseline recalculation based on land use changes. The High Rock Nutrient Strategy is being finalized and there is a need to keep the farmers and districts informed of new requirements. Chairman Langdon stated we cannot control what the development community is doing but we can position ourselves to not be blindsided. Commissioner Kilpatrick stated Mr. Hester should attend a production meeting and present it to the members. Commissioner Collier stated the cooperative extension is having some educational meetings in Cumberland County with regards to solar farm issues, it would be informative for Mr. Hester to attend. Commissioner Potter stated there is a need for education of the people that will be affected.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Hester for his report.

- 16. District Issues:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth. Ms. Hedgepeth introduced Mr. Marvin Cavanaugh and Mr. Tom Smith with Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District to present Contract #85-2018-001-12 for an ACSP Contract on Government Land.

16A. Consideration for ACSP Contract on Local Government Land 02NCAC 59D.0101(h):

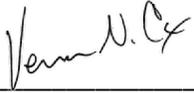
Mr. Cavanaugh stated the district plans to use \$1,202 from ACSP and \$4,468 from impaired and impacted stream restoration funds totaling \$5,670 to install a BMP practice, i.e., a wing deflector and plant trees for stabilization in conjunction with a stream restoration project. Stokes SWCD holds the easement to stabilize the area just below the stream crossing and monitor and maintain about 5 acres. The permits were reviewed with the core of engineers and Division of Water Resources. The installation will be completed by mid-to-late April 2018.

Chairman Langdon called for a motion. Commissioner Payne motioned to approve Contract #85-2018-001-12 and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cavanaugh stated the Farmers Appreciation Dinner is on Thursday, April 5, and open to the public and free with blue grass music and everyone is welcome.

Public Comments: Chairman Langdon indicated more guests came in and welcomed them. Chairman Langdon thanked everyone for their hard work and attendance and Association leadership and the Commission members and welcomed Commissioner Potter and Commissioner Payne. Commissioner Willis thanked Chairman Langdon for his continuity and for serving and welcomed Commissioner Payne and Commissioner Potter and learning about the eastern part of the state and hope supervisors come to the Commission meetings. Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Reynolds for his time and counsel.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.



Vernon N. Cox, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.



Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on May 16, 2018.



**NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WORK MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2018**

Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center
Empire Rooms A & B
4700 Emperor Boulevard
Durham, NC 27703

Commission Members	Guests	
John Langdon	Vernon Cox	Michael Shepherd
Wayne Collier	David Williams	Tom Hill
Charles Hughes	Julie Henshaw	Michelle Lovejoy
Chris Hogan	Kelly Hedgepeth	Tom Ellis
Ben Knox	Helen Wiklund	Eric Galamb
Dietrich Kilpatrick	Eric Pare	Myles Payne
Mike Willis	Lisa Fine	John Finch
Commission Counsel	Jeff Young	Ken Parks
Phillip Reynolds	Bryan Evans	

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. Chairman Langdon stated Johnston SWCD has a recommendation for a supervisor appointment on the agenda, and Mr. Reynolds stated there is no conflict of interest.

Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon asked for comments on the agenda. None were declared.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Langdon asked for comments on the minutes.

2A. November 14, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes

2B. November 15, 2017 Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Knox noted a correction in the November 14, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes on page 4 of 5 under Item 11 to change "398 *designed* technical specialists" to "398 *designated* technical specialists" and in the November 15, 2017 Business Meeting Minutes on page 2 of 8 under Item 4, in the fourth bullet, to change "to be a *concerning* of supervisors" to

“to be a *concern* of supervisors.” Commissioner Collier noted a correction in the November 15, 2017 Business Meeting Minutes on page 5 of 8 under Item 7 the first line at the top of the page to change “directly *use* for the Disaster Recovery Programs” to “directly *used* for the Disaster Recovery Programs.”

3. **Division Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Director Vernon Cox to present. Director Cox stated a few informational items were added to the report. The report will be presented this afternoon. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.
4. **Association Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Hogan to present. Commissioner Hogan stated the report will be presented this afternoon. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.
5. **NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon asked if Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist, will be present this afternoon. Director Cox stated Mr. Beard will be in attendance to present.
6. **Consent Agenda:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Eric Pare, Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth, and Mr. Jeff Young to present.

6A. Supervisor Appointments: Mr. Pare presented four recommendations.

- Matthew Lindsay, Hoke SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of David Tommy Lindsay for 2014-2018
- Donald Frederic Rogers, Johnston SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of Tami O. Thompson for 2014-2018
- Adam Gardner, Wilson SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of David Dwight Batts for 2014-2018
- James Edwards, Yancey SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of T. Russell Fox for 2014-2018

6B. Supervisor Contracts: Ms. Hedgepeth stated there are no contracts to present.

6C. Technical Specialist Designation: Mr. Jeff Young presented two applications.

- Mr. Edward Stephens, a soil scientist with the Division, is requesting to be designated as a technical specialist for the Wettable Acres category. Mr. Stephens has completed the required training.
- Ms. Kaitlyn Johnson, an environmental technician with Randolph SWCD, is requesting to be designated as a technical specialist for the Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management and Wettable Acres categories. Ms. Johnson has completed the required training.

The Rules adopted by the NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the November 15, 2017 Commission Meeting specified that all technical specialists, as part of their designation, must complete an additional course on the topic of NC rules and regulations governing animal waste management systems. The course is not available at this time. There are two individuals waiting to take the course. The Division is seeking guidance to

give contingent approval upon these individuals completing the course once it is offered either by the Division of Water Resources (DEQ) or the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. The trainings should be available before the next Commission Meeting. In addition, there may be more individuals that come before the Commission seeking technical specialist designation that will need to complete the required training.

Ms. Johnson has completed all the work except for the additional waste management training. The Division recommends approving this designation, to be effective upon the completion of the additional training requirement.

Commissioner Collier stated that he will make a motion during the Business Meeting for the approval of the technical specialist designations to become effective upon the official completion of the additional waste management training requirement to be offered by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation or Division of Water Resources.

Mr. Reynolds stated Item 6B will be removed from the agenda, since there are no contracts to approve, and Item 6C will be removed from the consent agenda and will be handled separately.

- 7. FY2017 Commission Programs Annual Reports:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present.

7A. Cost Share Programs Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017:

Ms. Henshaw stated she will present the first consolidated annual report for all the Commission Cost Share Programs as required by Session Law 2017-10, which dictated this change. The report will highlight the allocations for FY2017 and some of the cumulative accomplishments. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

7B. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Report: Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Eric Galamb to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

Mr. Galamb stated the program closed seven contracts on 346 acres. In addition, the first CREP Workgroup meeting will be held on February 8, 2018. The workgroup was appointed by the NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the November 15, 2017 Commission Meeting.

- 8. District Issues:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth. A copy of the issues is included as an official part of the minutes. Ms. Hedgepeth stated there are two district issues.

8A. Request for ACSP Contract on Government-owned Property:

This request is from Dare Soil and Water Conservation District for Agricultural Cost Share Program (ACSP) Contracts on Governmental Property for Rule 02 NCAC 59D .0105(h) for Contract 28-2018-001, which is part of a refuge land and is located on federal land and being farmed.

8B. Request for Exception to ACSP component on Average Cost List:

This request is from Alleghany Soil and Water Conservation District. The district is asking for an agitator pump on a dairy with 130 milk cows. These pumps are significantly more expensive than the amount provided in the Average Cost List. The Average Cost List was for a different style pump for a swine operation. This issue will be presented to the Technical Review Committee (TRC) in the Spring to come up with the average cost for dairies. All the estimates and design information are included with the request. The funds are available at 75%.

Public Comments: Director Cox noted the staff made sure the packets were delivered to the Commissioners in a timely manner.

Commissioner Collier stated last year there was a concern with Martin Soil and Water Conservation District and that per this year's annual report, the cost share money was spent and going well.

Mr. Bryan Evans thanked the Commissioners for being at the Annual Meeting.

Mr. John Finch reminded everyone Mr. Tim Palmer, First Vice President of National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), from Iowa, will be at the Annual Meeting tomorrow and encouraged all meeting participants to speak to him. North Carolina has always been a leader with NACD. The next NACD Meeting is January 27-31, 2018 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Opryland Resort.

Ms. Michelle Lovejoy stated the NC Foundation is working on the Improving Pastures Program. The Foundation has awarded 19 districts with equipment and 21 counties can participate in a pasture demonstration, which will be discussed in one of the break-out sessions tomorrow. A Strategic Planning Project is currently in process with other partnerships. At the end of the Annual Meeting, there will be an on-line survey for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The Business Session Report will be just on the Strategic Planning Project, and by this time next year, it will be completed.

Director Cox stated tomorrow the Division anticipates Commissioner Troxler will sign a Good Neighbor Agreement with the US Forest Service. It will allow the Forest Service to provide funds to the Department of Agriculture and specifically the Division to support our programs. Mr. Allen Nicholas, US Forest Service Supervisor for North Carolina, will be present the Good Neighbor Agreement. Former Commissioner Bill Yarborough and Mr. Tyler Ross with Madison Soil & Water Conservation District helped initiate this agreement.

Mr. John Finch stated that Mr. David Vogel is attending the Annual Meeting from NACD. Mr. Vogel works with the US Tribes to get conservation practices on tribal lands and is the primary NACD contact person for this effort.

Mr. Bryan Evans mentioned the break-out sessions have the approved Supervisor Training Credits listed in the program for the Annual Meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.



Vernon N. Cox, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.



Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on March 28, 2018.



**NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2018**

Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center
Imperial Rooms 4 – 7
4700 Emperor Boulevard
Durham, NC 27703

Commission Members	Guests		
John Langdon	April Hoyt	Terri Kirby Hathaway	Daniel McClellan
Wayne Collier	Jonathan Wallin	Ricki Shepherd	Brooks Bunn
Charles Hughes	Caroline Wicker	PJ Andrews	Rick McSwain
Chris Hogan	Jeff Joyner	Lloyd Phillips	Jackie McAuley
Ben Knox	Tommy Deese	Gavin Thompson	Joanna McPhatter
Dietrich Kilpatrick	Eric Galamb	Lea Ann Branch	Greg Hoyt
Mike Willis	Lloyd Ransom	Pam Steuer	David Harris
Commission Counsel	James Sarvis	Jim Chandler	Eddie Culberson
Phillip Reynolds	Charles Hill	Hicks Pollard	Patty Dellinger
Guests	James Allen	Donald Heath	Barbara Bleiweis
Vernon Cox	Edward E. Davis	Charles Mathews	Bryan Evans
David Williams	Janie Woodle	Wayne Moser	Tom Ellis
Julie Henshaw	Tom Hill	Autumn Romanski	Kevin Dixon
Kelly Hedgepeth	Richard Smith	W. Chester Lowder	Ed Staton
Helen Wiklund	Mamie Caison	Chris Huysman	Alan Aldridge
Jeff Young	Jenny Parks	Michelle Raquet	Kyleene Rooks
Eric Pare	Kaitlyn Johnson	Ken Parks	James B. Hardison
Tim Beard	Randy Freeman	Tammi Remsburg	Harold Hunter
Michael Shepherd	Brenda Williams	Craig Myers	Ryan Manning
Andrew Brannon	James M. Ferguson	Frankie Singleton	Brandon Young
Tracy Warren	Manly West	Clint Brooks	Donald F. Rogers

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were declared.

Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon asked for a motion on the agenda. Commissioner Knox motioned to approve the amended agenda and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Langdon asked for a motion on the minutes.

2A. November 14, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes

2B. November 15, 2017 Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hogan motioned to approve the amended minutes and Commissioner Kilpatrick seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Division Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Director Vernon Cox to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

- Personnel Updates; January 29 will have full engineering and technical services staff
- Supervisor Per Diem Update
- Division has formed an Ad Hoc Workgroup to address non-program funds for Cost Share
- Cost Share Rule 02 NCAC 59D comment period remains open until January 15, 2018
- Division received a grant for \$2.49M from the USDA for the Swine Farm Floodplain Easement and the State will match funds; anticipate accepting applications starting in the summer/fall of 2018
- Division moved to 216 West Jones Street after 50 years in the Archdale Building.
- Introduced Mr. Rick McSwain as the new western regional coordinator

Chairman Langdon thanked Director Cox.

4. **Association Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Hogan to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Commissioner Hogan stated it has been a learning experience and an honor to serve as President of the Association.

- Raising funds for the Association
 - Ordering Conservation Education license plates; go to the Association's web site; goal is to reach 500 plates with \$15 going towards education
- Association may obtain 501(c)(5) status towards greater Legislative exposure with Mr. Bryan Evans, Executive Director, registering as a lobbyist
- Received almost \$50,000 in pledges towards the 2019 North American Envirothon taking place in Raleigh, North Carolina; asking each district to pledge \$1,000
- Next Annual Meeting scheduled for January 6-8, 2019 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Durham, North Carolina

Chairman Langdon thanked President Hogan.

5. **NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist, to present. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

- Government working on a resolution by January 19 to avoid a shutdown; working on a shoe-string budget until the full budget is approved by Congress
- Working on mandatory programs
 - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP); received a little over 1,800 EQIP applications and over \$20M in financial assistance for EQIP
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) awarded 3 out of 4 projects at almost \$11M
- Sentinel Landscape Project funded for \$7M
- Program Reviews for FY2017: EQIP \$20M; CSP less than \$500,000; RCPP over \$900,000
- Easement Programs funded less than \$5M; enrolling over 2,700 acres
- Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) sponsored by the 2008 Farm Bill received approximately \$15M in financial assistance to close the projects and \$4M in technical assistance for six existing projects
- NACD announced the award of funding for two positions in NC to accelerate technical assistance for conservation planning; not all of the \$9M awarded yet
- Administrative functions with FSA are to be consolidated by the end of the fiscal year of September 2018
- Mr. Leonard Jordan is still serving as Acting Chief for NRCS. The agency is still waiting for the permanent appointment of an Undersecretary

Chairman Langdon asked Mr. Beard to include the NRCS handout with the mailout. Mr. Beard will be provided a meeting calendar. Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Beard.

6A. Supervisor Appointments: Mr. Eric Pare presented four recommendations.

- Matthew Lindsay, Hoke SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of David Tommy Lindsay for 2014-2018
- Donald Frederic Rogers, Johnston SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of Tami O. Thompson for 2014-2018
- Adam Gardner, Wilson SWCD, filling the unexpired appointed term of David Dwight Batts for 2014-2018
- James Edwards, Yancey SWCD, filling the unexpired elected term of T. Russell Fox for 2014-2018

Chairman Langdon asked for a motion. Commissioner Knox motioned to approve the supervisor appointments and Commissioner Willis seconded. Motion carried.

6C. Technical Specialist Designation: Mr. Jeff Young presented two applications.

- Mr. Edward Stephens, a soil scientist with the Division, is requesting to be designated as a technical specialist for the Wettable Acres category. Mr. Stephens has completed the required training.
- Ms. Kaitlyn Johnson, an environmental technician with Randolph SWCD, is requesting to be designated as a technical specialist for the Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management and Wettable Acres categories. Ms. Johnson has completed the required training.

Last August, the Commission approved rules governing technical specialist designations. The amended rules were subsequently approved by the Rules Review Commission to require that all individuals requesting technical specialist designation must complete additional training taught by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation or the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on the topic of NC Rules and Regulations governing Animal Waste Management Systems. The training is not currently available, and the staff has been directed by Director Cox to implement the training. The Division is seeking approval of these individuals as technical specialists to be made effective upon completing the additional required training in the next month or two.

Chairman Langdon asked for a motion. Commissioner Collier motioned to approve the request of technical specialist designation for Mr. Stephens and Ms. Johnson to become effective upon the successful completion of the waste management training requirement and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

7. **FY2017 Commission Programs Annual Reports:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present. A copy of the reports is included as an official part of the minutes.

7A. Cost Share Programs Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017:

Ms. Henshaw shared an overview of the Fiscal Year from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. This is the first year the report is consolidated for all three programs, per Session Law 2017-10. The three programs operate using the same infrastructure and process. Ms. Henshaw highlighted each program, discussed the funding and compliance process described in the appendix, the map of all contracted BMPs for all the programs, and the list of contracts for all programs by county.

Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) FY2017

The Commission allocated over \$5.6M. The General Assembly appropriated \$2.4M to help fund local technical positions in 95 districts across the state and supported 102.6 positions. Technical assistance funds provide a 40.2% match with local funds, which is less than the target rate of 50% match. The operating expenses were just over \$1,200 per district. Based on the cumulative benefits for the life of the program, the Division has implemented over 60,000 contracts which resulted in over 3M acres affected, saving 7.6M tons of soil per year, 21M pounds of nitrogen per year, and 6.5M pounds of phosphorus per year.

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) FY2017

For FY2017, districts requested over \$2.2M, but the program only has \$200,000 to appropriate. This includes funding for part of 2 positions to implement the program. Last fiscal year, \$244,036 was allocated for practices. This was the first year of implementing a new allocation rule. In each region, there were different types of projects, but each region was allocated the same amount of funds. Some accomplishments include: installing 7 acres of stormwater wetlands, 41 acres of critical area plantings, 7 acres of riparian buffers, and more than 60,000 linear feet of streambank and shoreline protection work.

Agriculture Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) FY2017

The Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) set out goals for how the program should be implemented each year. For FY2017, the Commission set four goals. The first goal was to conduct a competitive regional application process for selected AgWRAP BMPs. The second goal was to allocate funds to districts for all practices. The third goal was to implement the Job Approval Authority (JAA) Process for BMPs. There are 23 conservation partnership employees representing 15 districts with Job Approval Authority. The fourth goal was to continue to provide training opportunities for districts. Last fiscal year, the BMP funding requested was more than \$6.8M. State appropriations for the program was just under \$1.5M, with \$150,000 used for engineering and administrative costs. Last year, with a reversion of \$360,558 from cancelled and completed contracts, the total allocated for BMPs in FY2017 was \$1.6M. The breakdown of the regional application process had two batching periods (November and March). The eastern region had fewer applications due to Hurricane Matthew so there were additional funds available to assist with work in other regions. AgWRAP accomplishments to date include: installing 63 ponds, repairing or retrofitting 43 ponds, cleaning out 52 ponds, installing 236 wells and converting 29 irrigation systems. The map highlights the programs.

Cost Share Program Goals

The staff continues to focus on meeting the Commission's program review policy by visiting 18 districts each year, making upgrades to the online contracting system, working through the rule re-adoption process with the comment period ending January 15, 2018, and scheduling regional trainings across the state for February and March.

Chairman Langdon thanked Ms. Henshaw. Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Eric Galamb to present.

7B. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Report:

Mr. Galamb presented the report which covers the Federal Fiscal Year from October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017. The program is in 9 river basins in the state. As of September 2017, the program has 262 easements. Last year, the program closed on 7 additional contracts, with two being for 30-year term contracts and the remainder in permanent easements. New acres increased by 78 acres and existing buffers were 268 acres. In total, the program had 346 acres of new enrollments on the 7 contracts. These contracts increased the program's stream protection by 12.3 miles. The program offers 6 conservation practices and 2 conservation practices CP3A (Hardwood and Longleaf Pine) and CP22 (Riparian Buffer) were utilized last year. The program continues to deliver substantial benefits for the reduction of sediment and nutrient delivery to streams. The program's marketing initiative did not change, as it continues with the same approach. The total program cost is \$91M for the life of the program. Thus far, the state has contributed a 33% match, exceeding the requirement for incurring 20% of the total program costs.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Galamb.

- 8. District Issues:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth. A copy of the issues is included as an official part of the minutes.

8A. Request for ACSP contract on Government-owned Property:

The first issue is from the Dare Soil and Water Conservation District for Cost Share Contract 28-2018-001. Approval of the contract by the Commission is required by 02 NCAC 59D .0105(h) for BMPS implemented on federal government land. Ms. Terry Kirby Hathaway and Ms. Ann Daisey presented the issue.

Ms. Hathaway stated Dare County is known for its beaches but on mainland Dare there are some large farms located on the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. The landowner owned the land prior to it becoming Federal land. The landowner has been farming for over 30 years. This practice through the Agricultural Cost Share Program is not available through any other state programs or federally-funded programs through NRCS. The farm is located on a portion of mainland Dare which drains into the Alligator River and the Albemarle Sound on the northern Outer Banks. The funds are necessary for the practice of land smoothing. The supporting practice is vegetative buffers.

Chairman Langdon asked for a motion. Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the request for ACSP Contract 28-2018-001 and Commissioner Hogan seconded. Motion carried.

8B. Request for Exception to ACSP component on Average Cost List:

The second issue is from the Alleghany Soil and Water Conservation District for an exception to the cost list for a manure pump/agitator. The cost is higher than the average cost. Mr. Chris Huysman and Ms. Janie Woodle presented the issue.

Ms. Woodle stated the request is for an exception to the average cost to grant approval to pay 75% of the actual cost on a manure pump/agitator for a new waste storage system. The system is located on Bledsoe Creek, which is an impacted stream. The old waste management system was failing. It is a 45-year old dairy operation with 130 dairy cows, but the operation has been reduced to 70 cows due to construction. Once the system is operable, the dairy will increase production back to 130 cows. The district is waiting on a design from NRCS for two ramps.

Chairman Langdon asked for a motion. Commissioner Knox motioned to approve the exception to the average cost which allows Alleghany District to pay 75% rather than the cap due to higher cost of the type of equipment required and Commissioner Hughes seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Chairman Langdon reiterated Commissioner Hogan's comments that North Carolina is a leader and all Commissioners have a responsibility to the Commission, the districts, and the supervisors. Currently, 98% of our population is non-agricultural and 2% represents agriculture. Based on our elected officials and our voice, the number of agricultural-educated people, we need to think about a strategic plan and sustainability to foresee where we are going to be 10 years from now. The decision to have 8 pilot districts participate in a Supervisor Training Program is to help create a

better program. All comments, suggestions or criticism of the Supervisor Training Program are welcome.

Commissioner Kilpatrick commended Chairman Langdon for his leadership and stated that he has learned a lot during his short time on the Commission. He also expressed his support for taking the Commission on tour and believes that it is a great idea.

Commissioner Collier stated coming from an urban/rural county, there is pressure at the supervisor level with fewer agricultural supervisors on the board. These supervisors that are from urban areas need to get the training to understand the agricultural aspect to help those that we serve.

Commissioner Knox thanked Commissioner Kilpatrick for his leadership. Commissioner Knox stated he helped push for supervisor training along with former Commissioner West. It is important to speak to our legislators and be on top of the game and supervisor training will help. Commissioner Knox served on the Supervisor Training Development Committee. The training must be worthwhile so that each supervisor is knowledgeable. Commissioner Knox enjoyed his term on the Commission and learned a lot.

Commissioner Willis thanked the leadership and challenged the supervisors and staff to get something out of the training as it sets the tone for the new leaders. Commissioner Willis stressed as we move into 2018 that we need to make a difference and take time to think about what is important.

Mr. Jeff Joyner from the Richmond Soil and Water Conservation District added that he challenges the Commission, due to a tremendous turnover of supervisors in the last ten years in Richmond County, to embrace the training. Richmond County has their best board in years, but requirements for additional training, mandates and rules make it difficult to find five good supervisors. The challenge is how to get each county to buy into the training.

Commissioner Willis recognized Commissioner Hughes for his years of his service and thanked him.

Mr. Don Rogers from the Johnston Soil and Water Conservation District was approved as a new supervisor today and stated it is very important to take the training. As a former forester, Mr. Rogers needs the training and is in full agreement with the requirements.

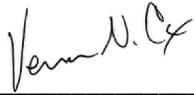
Chairman Langdon stated we must serve ourselves as best we can and not neglect our businesses and families and put our best foot forward.

Chairman Langdon thanked Commissioner Hughes and Commissioner Knox. Chairman Langdon stated it has been a labor of love for Commissioner Knox to serve. Chairman Langdon appreciated his commitment for serving as President of the Association and on the Commission. Chairman Langdon presented a plaque from the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission to J. Ben Knox in grateful appreciation and recognition of distinguished service and leadership as a member of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Chairman Langdon presented a plaque from the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission to Charles W. Hughes III in grateful appreciation and recognition of distinguished service and leadership as a member of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Chairman Langdon

recalled being in the leadership initiative with Commissioner Hughes and other members of the Commission, which was a great opportunity. Chairman Langdon expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Hughes for his wisdom, leadership and guidance.

Dr. Reich stated it is good to be here and thanked the Commission for their leadership. He stated that he appreciates the services of the retiring Commissioners and reminded everyone Commissioner Troxler will be in attendance tomorrow. Dr. Reich thanked the Division staff for working hard to carry on the work relative to legislative preparations from Hurricane Matthew's relief efforts and the staff transitions.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.



Vernon N. Cox, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.



Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on March 28, 2018.

Personnel

- **New Hires:**
 - Program Assistant IV (Raleigh) – Heather Reichert
- **Vacancies:**
 - CREP Survey Tech: Hire Recommendation
 - Cost Share Admin Asst. II: Hire Recommendation
 - Environmental Specialist (AgWRAP) – Interviews Scheduled
 - Administrative Asst.(Time-Limited) – Schedule Interviews



Soil and Water Cost Share Rules

- **02 NCAC 59D**
 - Combines all cost share program rules into 59D.
 - Allocation criteria are revised for both Technical and Financial Assistance
- **Next Steps**
 - Review by Cost Share Committee – May 1, 2018
 - Consideration by SWCC
 - Effective Allocation – July 1, 2019



PILOT Supervisor Training Program

The most recent report of STCs logged is available on the Division website; numbers are current through early March.

- 20 achieved the 6-hour training requirement
- 18.25 STCs - Drew Brannon (Henderson SWCD), and Donald Rogers (Johnston SWCD)
- All five New Hanover SWCD Supervisors achieved 6+ STCs

Outside Funding Workgroup

- Ad hoc workgroup to address issues related to Districts utilizing non-program funds for Cost Share.
- Review and make recommendations to:
 - Commission Match Policy for Grants.
 - Procedure for Districts to Request Division Involvement in Grant Projects.
- Participants include: Districts with grant experience from across the state, non-profits organizations, and those with experience working with funders.



May SWCC Meeting

- Date: 5/16/2018
- Location: Halifax District Office
- Field Tour: 5/15/2018 (afternoon)
- Tour Agenda:
 - CREP Sites
 - Innovative Conservation Cover Practices





Association Report to the Commission

March 28, 2018

Strategic Planning/Long Range Visioning

Thanks to a grant received by the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, the Association has been working on the development of a strategic visioning plan to address needs for our future. As part of this process, we have been holding listening sessions in cooperation with the Division's cost share update meetings. Also, a variety of partners have been participating in the process by completing surveys designed to look at non-traditional opportunities. The plan is to be completed by fall of 2018.

District Dues

The Association is very appreciative that 100% of Conservation Districts in NC paid dues for 2017. This is the first time in some time this has happened. The support showed by Districts will assist our Association as we move forward for addressing upcoming needs.

Conservation Education License Plate

The Association is still collecting applications for a new specialty license plate for North Carolina. We did not make our goal of 500 by this month, but will continue this effort. A new approach of taking an interest application will run through the better part of 2018. Additional information on the plate can be found on the Association website at:

www.ncaswcd.org/index.php/conservation-education/specialty-conservation-license-plate/



2018 NACD Fly-In

Members of the NC conservation partnership participated in the Fly-In in Washington, DC on March 20. President Kilpatrick, Vice President Myles Payne, Secretary Nancy Carter, and NACD Board members Franklin Williams and John Finch, along with support from Vernon Cox, Tim Beard, and Bryan Evans carried national needs to our congressional members.

Conservation Action Team (CAT)

The CAT welcomes Tyler Ross, of the Madison District. Tyler brings a wealth of District knowledge and will be a good replacement for Rick McSwain of the Lincoln District, who recently retired and came to work with the Division.

Training

The Association has been working with the partnership to address training needs of the Districts. We are in the process of developing a plan and assisting with training delivery.

Attendance

President Kilpatrick has been carry forth the message of participation and engagement of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors in Area and State initiatives and meetings. Participation is needed to insure that collectively we address the needs of the Districts and landowners and producers we serve.

2019 North American Envirothon

North Carolina will host the 2019 NA Envirothon mid-summer of 2019. We have a budget set at nearly \$150,000 to provide a great event for participants. The Association is requesting each Conservation District secure a \$1000 donation over the next year to support this event. To date, we have close to \$60,000 in collections and pledges. If you know of a potential sponsor, please make a contact or pass their contact information along to the Association.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

North Carolina - The Update



National News

Notes from the NRCS National Office

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) uniquely touches the lives of all Americans daily, through the food they eat, the fibers they wear, and the fuels they use, and U.S. producers make it all possible. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's motto to "Do Right and Feed Everyone" has served as the inspiration to travel to more than 30 states across the nation, hearing from the men and women on the front lines of U.S. agriculture. Through these interactions, USDA developed a set of principles to share with Congress for consideration as they craft the Farm Bill and other legislation beneficial to the agricultural economy. USDA stands ready to provide counsel to Congress, and strives to be the most efficient, most effective, and most customer-focused department in the federal government. Our goal is to be responsive to the American people and improve services while reducing regulatory burdens on USDA customers.

USDA supports legislation that will...

- Provide a farm safety net that helps American farmers weather times of economic stress without distorting markets or increasing shallow loss payments.
- Promote a variety of innovative crop insurance products and changes, enabling farmers to make sound production decisions and to manage operational risk.
- Encourage entry into farming through increased access to land and capital for young, beginning, veteran and underrepresented farmers.
- Ensure that voluntary conservation programs balance farm productivity with conservation benefits so the most fertile and productive lands remain in production while land retired for conservation purposes favor more environmentally sensitive acres.
- Support conservation programs that ensure cost-effective financial assistance for improved soil health, water and air quality and other natural resource benefits.



Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC)

Secretary Perdue announced in May that the new Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) is the Department's focal point for the nation's farmers and ranchers and other stewards of private agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest lands. FPAC agencies (NRCS, Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency) implement programs designed to mitigate the significant risks of farming through crop insurance services, conservation programs and technical assistance, and commodity, lending, and disaster programs.

Under the FPAC Business Center the following function will be realigned for each of the FPAC agencies:

- Acquisition/Procurement;
- Budget;
- Financial Management;
- Grants and Agreements;
- Human Capital;
- Information Technology; and
- Management Services

Our customers will see results in improved and consistent customer experience across FPAC agencies as OneUSDA, easier access to information about USDA resources and programs (farmers.gov), and reduced burden applying for USDA programs and resources.



Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the launching of a new website, Farmers.gov. This website, which is in its very early stages, will serve as a one-stop shop for America's farmers, ranchers, and forest land owners to get information, online services, and access to resources they need to grow our nation's food, fiber, flora, and fauna. The launch is an alpha version of the site that includes initial branding and an office locator and feedback mechanism. We are refining the office locator over the next few

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Service**

WWW.NC.NRCS.USDA.GOV



days to highlight NRCS and FSA service center locations above the RMA regional offices to minimize confusion. We're talking to our customers and field employees who

serve those customers, often farmers and ranchers themselves, and are building Farmers.gov around their needs and ideas through a streamlined, user-centric approach – bringing the most usable information together in a new way. Stay tuned for additional digital engagement pieces and more information on the website: Farmers.gov.

State News

Computer Deployment

North Carolina NRCS is in the process of identifying NRCS computers with expired warranties that need to be replaced. New computers will be deployed throughout the state over the next three months. Along with computer deployment, we are evaluating our computer inventory monitoring process as well cost for computers that are connected to the USDA network. To improve efficiencies, we will be pulling all extra, shared and non-assigned computers across the state. All computers in these categories that are in warranty will be deployed to district partners who are active on our USDA network and are currently utilizing NRCS computers with out of date warranties. Evaluating our computer assignment and deployment process, improving efficiencies and reducing the burden on the tax payer where improvements can be made supports the Secretaries vision under FPAC. If you have questions about NRCS computer deployment and efficiency improvements, please contact Stuart Lee at Stuart.Lee@nc.usda.gov.

District MOU

North Carolina NRCS recently received approval on a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NRCS, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service – Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Service. The purpose of the agreement is to supplement the Cooperative Working Agreement between NRCS, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission, and Soil and Water Conservation District. Through the MOU the parties mutually agree to provide leadership in natural resources conservation, pledge to work together by advancing and practicing teamwork, including input in the decision making process; communicating, coordinating, and cooperating; promoting mutual respect, and sharing leadership, ownership, credit, and responsibility. Throughout the month of March, MOUs will be provided to our partners to review. Our Area State Conservationist for

Field Operations will be working closely with partners and helping to coordinate this effort.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Program Quick View (as of 2/20/2018)

2018-(FY) Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Renewals

Number of Contracts: 7
Financial Assistance Amount: \$152,988
Total Acres : 7,875.7 ac.

2018 (FY) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Number of Eligible Applications: 1,384
Total Available Financial Assistance (FA): \$22,095,794

2018 (FY) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Project: NC Swine Floodplain Buyout (National)
Lead Partner: NC Division of Soil and Water
Proposed NRCS Investment: \$2,490,000 in EQIP & ACEP-ALE

Project: SmithfieldGro (National)
Lead Partner: Environmental Defense Fund
Proposed NRCS Investment: \$1,080,000 in EQIP

Project: NCSLHPP for 2018 (National)
Lead Partner: NC Department of Ag. and Consumer Services
Proposed NRCS Investment : \$7,000,000 in ACEP-ALE

Project: Walls River Source Water Protection Project (State)
Lead Partner: Mills River Partnership
Proposed NRCS Investment: \$730,000 in EQIP

Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Programs In Review

Farm Bill Conservation Program

	<u>RCPP</u>	<u>CSP</u>	<u>EQIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
Acres	6,605	49,127	63,074	118,806
Financial	\$960,855	\$1,628,727	\$20,356,832	\$22,946,414

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

	Program	Acres	Total
	<u>Agreements</u>	<u>Enrolled</u>	<u>Funded</u>
ACEP-ALE*	8	843	\$1,825,813
ACEP-WRE*	1	1,927	\$3,072,915
Total	9	2,770	\$4,898,728

Contacts:
State Conservationist—Timothy A. Beard
(Tel) 919.873.2100
State Public Affairs—Stuart Lee
(Tel) 919.873.2107
(Email) Stuart.Lee@nc.usda.gov



DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
 North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
 1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
 919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/swc/

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
 Appointed/ Elected Seat
 Current Term: 16 - 20

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Columbus Soil and Water Conservation District of Columbus County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing March 2018 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Mr. Bobby N. Stanley.

Name of nominee: Lloyd K. Ransom
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 67 Border Bell Drive Whiteville, NC 28472
 Email address of nominee: Lransom1@ec.rr.com
 Home phone: 910-654-4847
 Mobile phone: 910-234-4879
 Business phone: _____
 Occupation: NCDA Research Station Employee
 Age: 62
 Education: High School Graduate
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Board Member on Columbus Soil & Water Conservation District since 2014
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: _____

Other pertinent information: _____

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: 2013

Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes"

Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes"

Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes"

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination. I also certify that this recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

X James A. Sarvis 3-2-18
 SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
 Printed name: James A. Sarvis

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X Lloyd K. Ransom 3/2/18
 Individual recommended for appointment Date
 Printed name: Lloyd K. Ransom



ATTACHMENT 8A
Columbus County Soil and Water

Conservation District

45B Government Complex Road - Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-2196 ext. 3

March 2, 2018

I, Lloyd Ransom, resign from the position as an elected District Supervisor to fill the vacant position as an appointed District Supervisor on the Columbus Soil and Water District Board of Supervisors.

Lloyd Ransom



DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
 North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
 1614 Mall Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
 919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/swc/

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
 Appointed / Elected Seat
 Current Term: 14-18

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Rutherford Soil and Water Conservation District of Rutherford County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing July and ending 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Dewalt Koone MAY 2018 or DEC 2018 or

Name of nominee: George B. Belflower Jr "Buddy"
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: POB 247 Bostie, NC 28018
 Email address of nominee: buddy.belflower@gmail.com
 Home phone: _____
 Mobile phone: 706-892-7588
 Business phone: _____
 Occupation: Retired USDA Cattle Farmer
 Age: 62
 Education: UGA BS Agriculture
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: NONE
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: _____
 Other pertinent information: Chairman White County Water Authority & Vice Chair Planning Commis.

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: _____
 Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes"
 Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes"
 Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes"
 Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes"
 Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes"
 Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes"

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination. I also certify that this recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

X Shannon Buckley 3-2-18
 SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
 Printed name: Shannon Buckley

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.
 X George B. Belflower 3-2-18
 Individual recommended for appointment Date
 Printed name: George B. Belflower

November 30, 2017

Dewalt Koone
356 Padgett Road
Union Mills, NC 28167
828-287-5745
dewalt50@gmail.com

Shannon Buckley, Chairperson
Rutherford Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors
500 West Street, Suite 2
Spindale, NC 28160

Dear Shannon,

I would like to inform you that I am resigning from my position as Supervisor of Rutherford Soil and Water, effective December 1 2017.

I have enjoyed working with Soil and Water and NRCS, and I am very proud of the work these agencies have done to assist cooperators and protect our natural resources.

Sincerely,



Dewalt Koone
Supervisor, Rutherford Soil and Water



DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
 North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
 1614 Mall Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
 919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/swc/

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
 Appointed / Elected Seat
 Current Term: 14-18

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Warren Soil and Water Conservation District of Warren County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing March, 2018 and ending December, 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Leonard Killian.

Name of nominee: Peter T. Hight
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 1107 Harristown Rd. Macon, NC 27551
 Email address of nominee: highpeachfarm@gmail.com
 Home phone: 252-257-4874
 Mobile phone: 252-213-1224
 Business phone: 252-257-4874
 Occupation: Environmental Health Specialist
 Age: 61
 Education: BS in Horticulture and Master's in Crop Science both from NCSU
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: _____
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Former Fertilizer Administrator with NCDA & CS, Retired NCCES County Director, Served on Board of Directors for Farm Bureau, Church Treasurer
 Other pertinent information: N/A

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: N/A

Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes"

Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes"

Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes"

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes"

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination. I also certify that this recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

X Heiman L. Collins 2/13/2018
 SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
 Printed name: HEIMAN L. COLLINS

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.
 X Peter T. Hight 2/13/2018
 Individual recommended for appointment Date
 Printed name: Peter T. Hight

**NC Cost Share Programs Supervisor Contracts
Soil and Water Conservation Commission**

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
New River	05-2018-801	Russell Vannoy	AgWRAP Well	\$7,500	Ag funds
Caswell	17-2018-023	Joan Slade	Critical Area Planting	\$4,373	
Chatham	19-2018-005	J. Lynn Mann	Stripcropping	\$2,242	
Guilford	41-2018-006	Harold Alexander	Heavy Use Area & Critical Area Planting	\$5,648	
Haywood	44-2018-006	James Ferguson	Drought Pasture Renovation	\$9,450	DPR Funds
Henderson	45-2018-004	Jerred Nix	Ag Chemical Handeling Facility-Well	\$5,710	Facility funded by EQIP
Lenior	54-2018-300	Rodney Smith, Jr.	Emergency Access Restoration	\$2,600	FRR funds
Lenior	54-2018-304	Rodney Smith, Jr.	Emergency Access Restoration	\$66	FRR funds
Lenior	54-2018-305	Rodney Smith, Jr.	Emergency Access Restoration	\$2,600	FRR funds
Polk	75-2018-804	William Davis	Agricultural pond	\$12,000	AgWRAP (Repair)

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: **10**

Total **\$52,189**

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: **Agwrap**

Best management practice: **Agricultural pond (repair)**

Contract number: **75-2018-804**

Contract amount: **\$12,000.00**

Score on priority ranking sheet: **n/a (repair to Agwrap contract #75-2013-801)**

Cost Share Rate : **90 %** If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): **n/a**
Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? **no**

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name:

William V. Ward
(District Supervisor's signature)

3-08-18
Date

Approved by:

Richard Smith
(District Chairperson's signature)

3-05-18
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the NEW RIVER Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: A_g WRAP

Best management practice: A_g WRAP WELL

Contract number: 05-2018-801 Contract amount: \$7,500

Score on priority ranking sheet: 73

Cost Share Rate : 75 % If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1 out of 2

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? NO

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: RUSSELL VANNOY

Russell Vannoy
(District Supervisor's signature)

10-10-17
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]
(District Chairperson's signature)

10/11/17
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Caswell Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: Critical Area Planting

Contract number: 17-2018-023

Contract amount: \$4,373.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 18

Cost Share Rate : 75 % If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 4th out of 4

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Joan Slade

Joan C. Slade
(District Supervisor's signature)

2-12-18
Date

Approved by:

William R. Boy
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-19-18
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: Stripcropping

Contract number: 19-2018-005 Contract amount: \$ 2,242

Score on priority ranking sheet: 650

Cost Share Rate : 75% If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 3rd of 8

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? no

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: J. Lynn Mann

Jessie Mann

(District Supervisor's signature)

2-15-18

Date

Approved by:

John S. Klassen

(District Chairperson's signature)

2-15-18

Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Guilford Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: NCACSP

Best management practice: HEAVY USE ARDA & CRITICAL AREA

Contract number: 41-2018-006 Contract amount: \$ 5648.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 75

Cost Share Rate : 90% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AG. DISTRICT.

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 6 out of 14

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? NO

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Harold Alexander

Harold Alexander

(District Supervisor's signature)

2/12/18

Date

Approved by:

[Signature]

(District Chairperson's signature)

2/12/18

Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: Pasture ^{Drought} Renovation

Contract number: 44-2018-006 Contract amount: \$ 9,450

Score on priority ranking sheet:

Cost Share Rate : 90% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: EVAD

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 7 out of 9

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: James Ferguson

James W. Ferguson
(District Supervisor's signature)

2/22/18
Date

Approved by:

Louise L. Foy
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-22-18
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Henderson Co. Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: ACSR

Best management practice: Well for Agrichemical Handling Facility => EQIP Funding

Contract number: 45-2018-004 Contract amount: \$ 5,710⁰⁰

Score on priority ranking sheet: 74.99

Cost Share Rate : 75% If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1 of 4 on 11/16/17

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Jerred Nix



(District Supervisor's signature)

12-6-17

Date

Approved by:

Andrew C. Brannon

(District Chairperson's signature)

12-11-2017

Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Lenoir Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: Disaster Relief Program

Best management practice: Emergency Access Restoration

Contract number: 54-2018-300 Contract amount: \$ 2,600

Score on priority ranking sheet: 55

Cost Share Rate: 40% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: Repairs made prior to June 1st 2017 deadline do not meet NRCS standards but do meet the minimum requirement to receive 40% under the program guidelines.

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): N/A – Applications continuously accepted so rank does not determine funding and due applications that are still coming in the rank constantly changes.

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? N/A

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Rodney Smith Jr


(District Supervisor's signature)

12-13-17
Date

Approved by:


(District Chairperson's signature)

12-21-2017
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Lenoir Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: Disaster Relief Program

Best management practice: Emergency Access Restoration

Contract number: 54-2018-304 Contract amount: \$ 66

Score on priority ranking sheet: 40

Cost Share Rate: 40% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: Repairs made prior to June 1st 2017 deadline do not meet NRCS standards but do meet the minimum requirement to receive 40% under the program guidelines.

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): N/A – Applications continuously accepted so rank does not determine funding and due applications that are still coming in the rank constantly changes.

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? N/A

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Rodney Smith Jr


(District Supervisor's signature)

12-13-17
Date

Approved by:


(District Chairperson's signature)

12-21-2017
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Lenoir Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: Disaster Relief Program

Best management practice: Emergency Access Restoration

Contract number: 54-2018-305 Contract amount: \$ \$2,600

Score on priority ranking sheet: 55

Cost Share Rate: 40% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

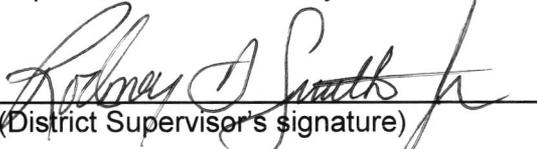
Reason: Repairs made prior to June 1st 2017 deadline do not meet NRCS standards but do meet the minimum requirement to receive 40% under the program guidelines.

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): N/A – Applications continuously accepted so rank does not determine funding and due applications that are still coming in the rank constantly changes.

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? N/A

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Rodney Smith Jr


(District Supervisor's signature)

12-13-17
Date

Approved by:


(District Chairperson's signature)

12-21-2017
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC-CSPs-1A
(11/12)

**ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS**

As a Soil & Water Conservation Commission Member, I have applied for or stand to benefit* from a contract under the commission's cost share programs. I did not vote on the approval, or denial, of the application, or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices to improve water quality or water resources.

Program: Disaster Relief Program

Best management practice: Non-Field Farm Road

Contract number: 54-2018-311 Contract Amount: 1,177.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 55

Cost share rate: **75%** If different than 75%, please list percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): N/A

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the commission member's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Commission member name:

Chris North III
(Commission member's signature)

3-8-2018
Date

Approved by:

Kurt Zorn
(District Chairperson's signature)

3-8-2018
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

Approved by:

(Commissioner of Agriculture)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-4(e)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC-CSPs-1A
(11/12)

**ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS**

As a Soil & Water Conservation Commission Member, I have applied for or stand to benefit* from a contract under the commission's cost share programs. I did not vote on the approval, or denial, of the application, or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices to improve water quality or water resources.

Program: NCA-CSP

Best management practice: Non Field Farm Road Repair

Contract number: 51-2018-408-09 Contract Amount: \$ 8,821⁰⁰

Score on priority ranking sheet: 60

Cost share rate: 75% If different than 75%, please list percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1st out of 1

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the commission member's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Commission member name:

[Signature]
(Commission member's signature)

02-13-2018
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-13-2018
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

Approved by:

(Commissioner of Agriculture)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-4(e)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

Update on Conditional Supervisor Appointments

In May 2016, the commission adopted policy regarding conditional appointment for supervisors. Relevant language is as follows:

“For newly appointed supervisors, as they begin a new appointed term or fill an unexpired term for either an elected or appointed seat, the Commission will make the appointment conditional upon the individual’s attendance at the next *Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors* training session offered at the UNC School of Government. For those conditionally appointed supervisors that do not attend the training, their appointment will expire the day following the subsequent Commission meeting (typically the March meeting), unless the Commission acts to extend their conditional appointment. Conditionally appointed supervisors that wish to request an extension to meet the training requirement must provide a written request for Commission consideration.”

Below is a list of supervisors that received this type of conditional appointment between May 2016 and February 1, 2017; and were granted extension requests to attend the February 2018, *Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors* offered at the UNC School of Government.

Conditional appointment date	SWCD	First name	Last name	2018 SOG attendance
November 2016	Bladen	Albert C.	Beatty	2 nd extension
November 2016	Gaston	Robin	Armstrong	2 nd extension
November 2016	Hertford	Clint	Brinkley	attended
November 2016	Martin	Corris J.	Jenkins, III	attended
November 2016	Richmond	William	Thompson	
November 2016	Rutherford	Bill	Eckler	2 nd extension
November 2016	Union	Edward B.	Staton	attended
January 2017	Gaston	Kevin	Mauney	2 nd extension
January 2017	Pitt	Carl	Briley	

Of the 9 conditionally appointed supervisors, three have attended the UNC School of Government as required and should be considered “fully appointed”. The remaining six will require commission action if their terms are to be extended. Written documentation from conditionally appointed supervisors is attached as appropriate.

6089 NC Hwy 210 East
Harrells NC 28444

March 12, 2018

Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NCDA&CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1614

RE: UNC School of Government Supervisor Training

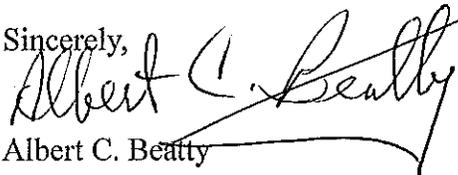
Dear Sirs,

I planned to attend this year's training session beginning on February 6. However, I was unable to attend because of a conflict at my hog farm, so I did not register for this year's training. Please note that I had planned to attend last year, and registered and paid my fees, but had to cancel. I have been unable to get any refund or information as to whether this fee could be applied to this year's training.

As an appointed supervisor, I understand that my attendance at the training is mandatory so I will make every effort to attend the 2019 session. I ask that you extend my appointment based on my intent to attend the next available session.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert C. Beatty". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Albert C. Beatty



**Gaston County Natural Resources Department
Gaston Soil and Water Conservation District
Gaston County Environmental Review Advisory Board
1303 Cherryville Highway – Dallas, North Carolina 28034 - Phone: (704) 922-4181 – Fax: (704) 922-2158**

March 13, 2018

Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NCDA & CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

RE: School of Government Supervisor Training

Dear Commissioners,

I was unable to attend the 2018 Supervisor Training Session due to the class having been full at the time I tried to register. As an appointed supervisor, I understand that my attendance at the training session is mandatory. I ask that you would extend my appointment based on my intent to make it to the next available session.

Sincerely,

Robin Armstrong

Mission Statement

Gaston County seeks to be among the finest counties in North Carolina. It will provide effective, efficient and affordable services leading to a safe, secure and healthy community, an environment for economic growth, and promote a favorable quality of life.

March 13, 2018

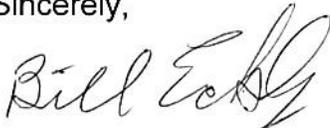
Soil & Water Conservation Commission
NCDA&CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1614

Dear Soil & Water Conservation Commission,

I was appointed to the Rutherford Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and began my term on Monday, December 5, 2016. I was unable to attend the School of Government Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors that was scheduled for February 6, 2018 and February 7, 2018 due to the extended winter weather in Rutherford County. I have green houses for my horticulture business and needed to keep winter weather from damaging the green houses and plants. I plan to attend the next scheduled Supervisors training. I am requesting an extension to be able to meet the training requirement.

Thank you for your assistance and dedicated work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Eckler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "L".

Bill Eckler, Supervisor
Rutherford SWCD



Gaston County Natural Resources Department
Gaston Soil and Water Conservation District
Gaston County Environmental Review Advisory Board
1303 Cherryville Highway - Dallas, North Carolina 28034 • Phone: (704) 922-4181 • Fax: (704) 922-2158

March 13, 2018

Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NCDA CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1416 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

RE: School of Government Supervisor Training

Dear Commissioners

I was unable to attend the 2018 Supervisor Training Session due to illness. As an appointed Supervisor, I understand that my attendance at the training session is mandatory so I will make arrangements to attend the 2019 session. I ask that you would extend my appointment based on my intent to make it to the next available session.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mooney

Mission Statement

Gaston County seeks to be among the finest counties in North Carolina. It will provide effective, efficient and affordable services leading to a safe, secure and healthy community, an environment for economic growth, and promote a favorable quality of life.

Update on Conditional Supervisor Appointments

In May 2016, the commission adopted policy regarding conditional appointment for supervisors. Relevant language is as follows:

“For newly appointed supervisors, as they begin a new appointed term or fill an unexpired term for either an elected or appointed seat, the Commission will make the appointment conditional upon the individual’s attendance at the next *Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors* training session offered at the UNC School of Government. For those conditionally appointed supervisors that do not attend the training, their appointment will expire the day following the subsequent Commission meeting (typically the March meeting), unless the Commission acts to extend their conditional appointment. Conditionally appointed supervisors that wish to request an extension to meet the training requirement must provide a written request for Commission consideration.”

Below is a list of supervisors that received this type of conditional appointment between May 2016 and February 1, 2017; and were granted extension requests to attend the February 2018, *Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors* offered at the UNC School of Government.

Conditional appointment date	SWCD	First name	Last name	2018 SOG attendance
November 2016	Bladen	Albert C.	Beatty	2 nd extension
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November 2016	Richmond	William	Thompson	
November 2016	Rutherford	Bill	Eckler	2 nd extension
November 2016	Union	Edward B.	Staton	attended
January 2017	Gaston	Kevin	Mauney	2 nd extension
January 2017	Pitt	Carl	Briley	2 nd extension

Of the 9 conditionally appointed supervisors, three have attended the UNC School of Government as required and should be considered “fully appointed”. The remaining six will require commission action if their terms are to be extended. Written documentation from conditionally appointed supervisors is attached as appropriate.



ATTACHMENT 10A_BLUE
403 Government Circle, Suite 4
Greenville, N.C. 27834
Phone (252) 902-1746
Fax (252) 902-1748
<http://pittswcd1963.com>

March 26, 2018

Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NCDA & CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1614

RE: UNC School of Government Supervisor Training

Dear Sirs:

As an elected district supervisor, I understand that training is now mandatory. I was unable to attend the training at UNC due to an annual family vacation I take every February.

I will make arrangements to fulfill my obligations as quickly as possible and according to policy. It is my hopes that the pilot districts will come up with more flexible opportunities to reach the training mandate.

If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl Briley".

Carl Briley
District Supervisor

Cc: File

carolyn/word/bdmtg/carlbriley.doc

ATTACHMENT 10B

2018 Conditional Supervisor Appointments and Extension Requests

Below is a list of supervisors that received this type of conditional appointment between December 1, 2016 and February 1, 2018; also included is an indication of their attendance at the February 6 and 7, 2018, *Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors* offered at the UNC School of Government.

Conditional appointment date	SWCD	First name	Last name	2018 SOG attendance
December 2016	Franklin	Brent	Strickland	attended
December 2016	Granville	Dean	Askew	attended
December 2016	Macon	Pam	Bell	attended
December 2016	New Hanover	David	Dowdy	attended
December 2016	Stokes	Michael	Booth	attended
January 2017	Hoke	Matthew N.	Lindsey	Extension req.
January 2017	Johnston	Donald	Rogers	attended
January 2017	Wilson	Adam	Gardner	attended
January 2017	Yancey	James M.	Edwards	attended
February 2017	Dare	Eduardo J.	Valdivieso	attended
February 2017	Onslow	Emily	Walton	Extension req.
March 2017	Fishing Creek	Zeb W.	Winslow	Extension req.
March 2017	Guilford	Anna	Amoriello	Extension req.
March 2017	Henderson	Jarred	Nix	Extension req.
March 2017	Iredell	Matthew	Pence	attended
May 2017	Durham	David	Harris	attended
May 2017	Edgecombe	Harold	Thompson	Extension req.
May 2017	Gaston	Kevin	Mauney	Extension req.
May 2017	Jones	Nicolas	Norris	Extension req.
May 2017	Rockingham	Kevin	Dixon	attended
May 2017	Union	Adam	Moore	attended
May 2017	Washington	Justin	Allen	Extension req.
June 2017	Mecklenburg	Barbara	Bleiweis	attended
September 2017	Granville	Dean	Askew	attended
September 2017	Macon	Matthew	Reynolds	
September 2017	Polk	William	Davis	Extension req.
November 2017	Davie	Craig	Myers	attended
November 2017	Wake	David	Adams	attended
November 2017	Warren	Tom	Traylor	attended

Of the 29 conditionally appointed supervisors, 18 have attended the UNC School of Government as required and should be considered “fully appointed”. The remaining 10 will require commission action if their terms are to be extended. Written documentation from conditionally appointed supervisors is attached as appropriate.



Washington County District
407 NC Hwy 32 North
P.O. Box 218
Roper, NC 27970

March 13, 2018

N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Commission
216 West Jones Street
Raleigh NC 27603

Dear Sir:

This is regarding my lack of attendance at the NC School of Government on February 6 and 7, 2018 to represent Washington County District of NC Soil And Water.

During the time the Supervisor Training class was held, my wife had a medical procedure done which required her to have constant attendance. I was not able to leave her at home alone while I was that far away overnight, and she was not able to travel that distance.

Please accept this as my apology and my declaration that I do intend to participate in next year's training class. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 252-945-5227.

Sincerely,

Justin Allen
Washington County District

March 15, 2018

Mr. John Langdon, Chair
NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Dear Mr. Langdon,

I would like to Request an extension for attending the UNC School of Government Supervisor Training. I was not able to attend due to my work responsibilities on my dairy farm. My father was suffering from mild dementia, that has suddenly become more severe and debilitating for him. My mother, who also helped out on the farm, fell just before Christmas. Then in early January, my hired milker fell and was injured; to be out of work for three months. Therefore, I have had the sole responsibilities for running the dairy farm and milking since early January.

I hope to be in a better situation next year and plan to attend if I decide to file to run for this position and am elected.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna G. Amoriello".

Anna G. Amoriello
Guilford SWCD Supervisor
3802 High Rock Rd, Gibsonville, NC 27249

POLK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

156 School Road
Mill Spring, NC 28756
828.894.8550
Kelly Gay – District Administrator
kgay@polknc.org

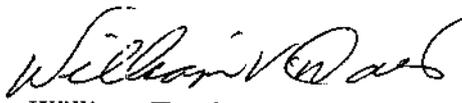
Board Members: Richard Smith – Chairman John Vining Vice-Chairman David Slater – Secretary
William Davis

March 12, 2018

Dear Members of the Soil & Water Conservation Commission,

I am writing to request an extension to attend the mandatory School of Government training for District Supervisors. I fully intended to attend this year when I was asked by the District to fill a vacant supervisor position, however, the dates conflicted with a previous engagement with another organization. I plan to attend the training next year if I am reelected. I appreciate your consideration of this request on my behalf.

Sincerely,



William Davis

Mathew N. Lindsay
830 St Pauls Drive
Raeford, NC 28376

March 14, 2018

To Whom It My Concern:

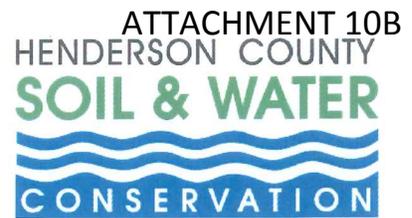
I am asking the Soil and Water Commission to extend to me an extension of time to attend the School of Government in Chapel Hill, NC till the 2019 session. Due to late notification of me being approved. Thank you for consideration in this matter .

Sincerely,


Mathew N. Lindsay

Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District

61 Triple Springs Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792
(828) 697-4949 (phone) (828) 693-5832 (fax)
<http://hendersoncountync.org/soil>



February 21, 2018

Soil and Water Conservation Commission
c/o Mr. John Langdon, Chairman
7728 Raleigh Road
Benson, NC 27504

Dear Sirs:

I regret to inform you that I was not able to attend the recent offering of the Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors on February 6-7, 2018.

As Vice-President of the Blue Ridge Apple Growers Association, my responsibilities at the Blue Ridge Apple Growers 2018 Apple School were extensive. Apple School was held on the same dates as the Basic Training Course and my attendance was planned before I knew the dates of the Training Course.

Please excuse my absence and allow me the opportunity to attend the Basic Training Course during its next offering in 2019. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Nix".

Jerred Nix, Supervisor
Henderson Soil & Water Conservation District





Jones County
110-A South Market Street
Trenton, North Carolina 28585

February 19, 2018

The Honorable John Langdon
Chairman
NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission
C/o NCDA&CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Dear Chairman Langdon,

I am writing to you in reference to the mandatory supervisor's training at The School of Government for newly elected/appointed supervisors. Unfortunately, our administrative person attempted to register online finding the class was full and registration closed. Therefore I will not be able to attend in 2018. However, I'm committed to attending next year in 2019.

Thank you, I enjoy being a part of Jones County Soil and Water Conservation and working with the Soil & Water family.

Sincerely,

Nick Norris
Jones Co. SWCD
Board of Supervisors

Cc: file

RECEIVED

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

March 13, 2018

To Whom it may concern

As a new Supervisor for the Edgecombe SWCD, I am required to attend training at The School of Government. This being my first year, and having been appointed to my position late in the year, I was unable to attend. I had a prior commitment attending a conference that is required to maintain my certification to aerial apply pesticides. This certification is critical for my occupation. I have ample time to coordinate my schedule for upcoming training opportunities moving forward.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harold Thompson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Harold Thompson

3/14/2018

Dear Whomever It May Concern,

I was unable to attend the UNC School of Government Training February 6-7, 2018 due to the class already being full when I attempted to register for it. I am making it a priority and look forward to attending the class the next time it is offered. If there is anything else you need, please let me know.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

X 

Emily Walton
Onslow SWCD Supervisor

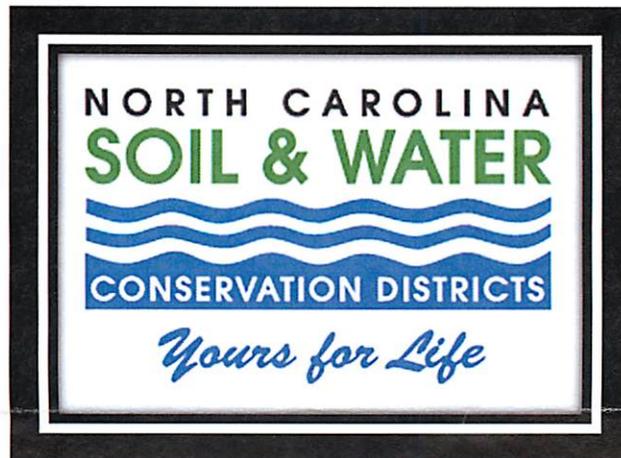
From: Zeb Winslow
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 1:41 PM
To: Pare, Eric; [Bradley, Pam - Halifax, NC](#)
Subject: [External] UNC School of Government Training

Eric,

I apologize for missing, and would like to request an extension of the deadline for my attendance of the UNC School of Government Training. I was made aware of this requirement when I accepted the position of Supervisor with Fishing Creek Soil and Water District, but was unable to attend the 2018 session due to obligations on my farm. When I learned of the dates of the training, it was too late for me to arrange for someone to cover my responsibilities here. I brought this up in a board meeting and was told it would be no problem to attend the 2019 session instead. I have notes in my calendar for next year's session and will reserve a spot as soon as the dates are set. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help.

Sorry for the confusion,
Zeb Winslow
252-578-1332

Macon County Soil & Water Conservation District



191 Thomas Heights Road
Franklin, NC 28734
Phone (828)524-3311 ext.3

Soil & Water Conservation Commission
c/o Mr. John Langdon, Chairman
7728 Raleigh Road
Benson, NC 27504

Dear Sirs:

I regret to inform you that I was not able to attend the recent offering of the Basic Training Course for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors on February 6-7, 2018.

As a Paramedic of Macon County, my responsibilities and attendance to Macon County EMS had taken priority on the days of the Basic Training Course.

Please excuse my absence and allow me the opportunity to attend the Basic Training Course during its next offering in 2019. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Matthew Reynolds, Supervisor
Macon County Soil & Water Conservation District

FY 2018 Spring Supplemental Allocation

County	CS Requested	CS Allocation
Alamance	\$9,129	\$9,076
Alexander	\$50,000	\$9,894
Alleghany	\$13,659	\$9,069
Anson	\$30,000	\$10,091
Ashe	\$50,000	\$8,908
Avery	\$12,000	\$8,273
Beaufort	\$126,692	\$9,955
Brunswick	\$9,745	\$6,246
Buncombe	\$30,000	\$10,113
Burke	\$21,194	\$8,443
Cherokee	\$10,000	\$8,283
Chowan	\$15,427	\$6,463
Cleveland	\$25,000	\$10,154
Columbus	\$34,000	\$8,500
Cumberland	\$20,000	\$4,782
Davie	\$16,000	\$9,292
Halifax	\$17,100	\$8,919
Harnet	\$10,000	\$8,004
Haywood	\$27,000	\$8,490
Henderson	\$20,000	\$10,418
Hyde	\$40,600	\$7,764
Johnston	\$30,000	\$11,357
Lee	\$5,000	\$5,000
Lincoln	\$15,000	\$9,835
Martin	\$7,500	\$5,495
Mitchell	\$20,000	\$10,206
Moore	\$7,075	\$7,075
Northampton	\$20,000	\$7,080
Perquimans	\$20,000	\$6,096
Person	\$40,000	\$9,092
Pitt	\$3,057	\$3,057
Polk	\$25,000	\$6,358
Randolph	\$50,000	\$9,263
Robeson	\$12,000	\$9,467
Rutherford	\$60,000	\$8,900
Sampson	\$100,000	\$12,657
Scotland	\$31,000	\$5,337
Surry	\$50,000	\$12,067
Union	\$18,585	\$12,969
Wake	\$10,000	\$9,416
Warren	\$500	\$500
Washington	\$20,000	\$7,594
Wayne	\$53,000	\$9,706

FY 2018 Spring Supplemental Allocation

County	CS Requested	CS Allocation
Wilkes	\$69,055	\$9,382
Yadkin	\$27,500	\$9,872
Yancey	\$6,500	\$6,500
Total	\$1,288,318	\$385,418

Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program Regional Application Recommendations

ATTACHMENT 12

Cooperator Name	County:	Region:	AgWRAP BMP	Crop Acreage/ Number of Livestock	Funds Requested	Ranking Total Score
David Etheridge	Harnett	Central	New Pond	118.8	\$25,000	51
Phillip Page	Harnett	Central	New Pond	50	\$25,000	47
Fields of Cotton LLC	Halifax	Central	New Pond	200	\$25,000	30
Michael Shields	Forsyth	Central	Pond Repair	10	\$25,000	28
Brian Crissman	Harnett	Central	Pond Repair	30	\$25,000	24
Wilbert T Solomon Jr	Halifax	Central	Pond Repair	59.9	\$30,000	18
Howdy Properties, LLC	Beaufort	Eastern	New Pond	55.75	\$25,000	25
Bradley Rhodes Farm	Henderson	Western	Pond Repair	1.5	\$30,000	44
Phillip Brittain	Henderson	Western	Pond Repair	35 c/c pairs	\$30,000	33
Ken Appling	Rutherford	Western	New Pond	50 c/c pairs	\$30,000	29
Thomas Nestlerode	Cleveland	Western	New Pond	30 c/c pairs	\$25,000	28
Mark Helms	Madison	Western	Pond Repair	40 livestock	\$25,000	26
Jeff Smith	Yadkin	Western	Pond Repair	50	\$25,000	25
Charles Hamilton	Lincoln	Western	New Pond	20	\$25,000	18
					\$370,000	

	Number of Applications
Total Funds Requested \$802,000	31
Applications Withdrawn	3
Applications Considered for Funding	28
Total Funds Available \$369,978	
14 applications recommended for funding based on highest ranking scores	

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM REPORT to the Soil & Water Conservation Commission

David B. Williams, Deputy Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation

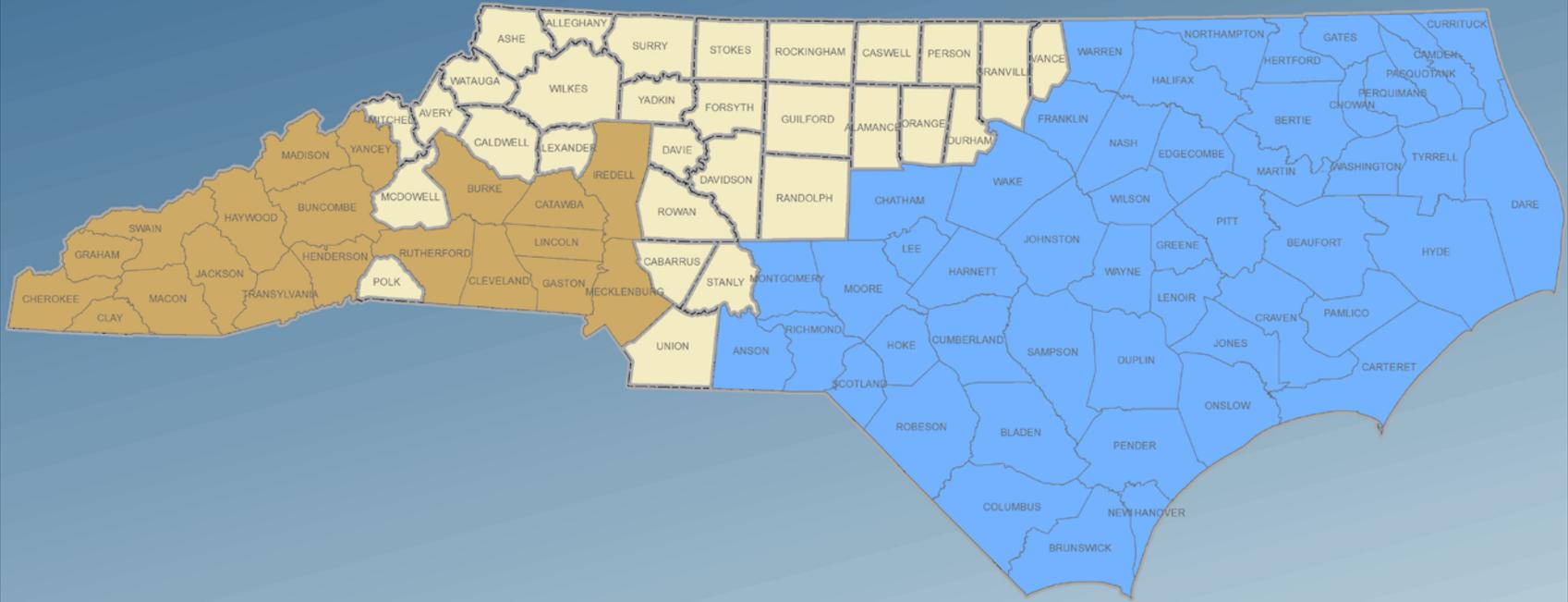


2016-17 FUNDING

Activity	2016 Allocation	2017 Allocation	Total
Stream Debris Removal	\$9,500,000	\$11,500,000	\$21,000,000
Agricultural Pond Repair (AgWRAP)	\$1,200,000	\$6,000,000	\$7,200,000
Non-Field Farm Road Repair	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Pasture Renovation		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Temporary Staff – TA	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$12,200,000	\$20,000,000	\$32,200,000

Legend

-  Eligible for Pasture Renovation
-  Eligible for Stream Debris, Roads & Ponds
-  County Boundaries



Counties Eligible for 2016/2017 Disaster Recovery Funds



Coordination with Federal Funding (USDA, FEMA)

- Ensure funds expended in a manner that does not adversely affect any person or entity's eligibility for (available or anticipated) federal funds
- Avoid using State funds to cover costs that can be covered by federal funds
- Intent to fund gaps not covered by federal assistance
- USDA, Farm Service Agency – Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service – Emergency Watershed Program (EWP)
- FEMA, Stream Debris Removal

Stream Debris Removal

- Over \$36.8 M requested
- Division has allocated \$20.23M to 51 local project sponsors in 38 counties; \$1.1M in local match planned
- Approved \$1.9M in payments on 19 projects to date, affecting over 269 miles, removing 53 beaver dams

ELIGIBILITY & PRIORITIZATION

1. Stream debris removal (e.g. woody vegetation)
2. Stand alone instream sediment removal (explain)
3. Streambank stabilization (vegetative cover) with or without sediment removal
4. Other Stream Repair needs

Non Field Farm Roads

Commission approved the following practices

- Non-Field Farm Road – Repair must meet NRCS standard
- Emergency Access Restoration – Repairs must have been completed by June 9, 2017, cost share capped at 40%.

Commission has allocated \$1.5 M to 22 districts

- To date:
 - 200 applications received
 - 120 cost share contracts for \$444,362.
 - \$187,868 paid out to 55 contracts.

AgWRAP Supplement for Damaged Ponds & Dams

Commission approved the following practices

- Pond Repair – 75% cost share for repair meeting Pond Repair Retrofit requirements.
- Emergency Agricultural Pond Repair/Retrofit addresses agricultural ponds that were repaired prior to June 2017 due to the necessity to restore water supply immediately, cost share capped at 40%.
- Emergency Auxilliary Spillway Repair/Retrofit - repair auxiliary spillways on existing low-hazard agricultural pond systems that were damaged during the disaster events of 2016.

90 applications received

Resource Institute contracted to do engineering assessments for ponds

- 46 engineering assessments completed
- Draft designs received for 4 repairs, and design development is underway for 6 others

Repairs and payments complete for 2 ponds

Coordination with USDA- ECP for Pond Repairs

- FSA County Committees determine:
 - whether to participate in ECP
 - applicant eligibility
 - amount of funding to commit to each applicant, based on engineering assessment
- Contracted with Resource Institute, Inc. to conduct engineering needs assessments, designs, construction oversight
 - 46 engineering assessments completed to date
 - Average est. repair cost \$217,000 + \$21,500 engineering
 - Range: \$22,000 - \$659,000
- FSA County Committees have approved \$2.1M for 18 pond projects so far
- ECP awards:
 - > \$50K require State Committee approval
 - \$100K - \$200K require approval in Washington
- State funding available to cover 18% of the landowner's match for ECP, so farmer's share may be as little as 7%.

Statutory Concern – Annual Payment Cap

- Pond repair funds appropriated as a Supplement to AgWRAP.
- Authorizing statute for AgWRAP limits payments to \$75,000 per year per applicant (G.S. 139-60(c)(1)(a)(2))
- Over 40% of disaster pond repairs will involve state cost share > \$75,000, so payments will have to be spread over multiple years.
- Suggest a special provision for disaster program funds to suspend the annual payment cap or raise to \$200,000.

Pasture Renovation

Commission approved the following practices

- Drought Pasture Renovation

20 western counties eligible

Commission has allocated \$1,000,000 to 18 districts

- To date:
 - 203 cost share contracts for 3,702 acres, totaling \$846,366.
 - Renovation is complete for 1,268 acres.

Swine Floodplain Buyout Program

- Budget directs leftover disaster funds from NCFS to be used to support voluntary swine buyout from the 100-year floodplain
- Received a \$2.49M grant from USDA-NRCS to support this activity
- Working on Cooperative Agreement with USDA
- Anticipate soliciting applications from eligible producers in late summer/fall
- Goal: remove 5-10 active swine operations from the 100-year floodplain.

Questions?

Item 13B: Cap on Disaster Pond Repair Contracts

- Present Commission cap on delegated approval for Pond Repair Contracts is \$50,000.
- Of the repair applications for which an engineering assessment has been completed, over half of the contracts will exceed \$50,000 and will require Commission approval
- Suggest increasing delegation from \$50,000 to \$100,000.







**EXISTING LICENSES AND/OR CERTIFICATIONS
REQUIRING CONTINUING EDUCATION APPLICABLE
TO TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS**

- ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT OPERATORS
- PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
- IA CERTIFIED IRRIGATION DESIGNER
- SPRAY IRRIGATION OPERATORS
- LICENSED SOIL SCIENTISTS
- PESTICIDE APPLICATORS
- CERTIFIED CONSERVATION PLANNER
- CERTIFIED AGRONOMISTS
- CERTIFIED CROP ADVISORS

**CURRENT NUMBER OF COURSES AVAILABLE FOR
CONTINUING EDUCATION (>300)**

- ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT OPERATORS - 3
- PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS - **UNLIMITED**
- IA CERTIFIED IRRIGATION DESIGNER - 56
- SPRAY IRRIGATION OPERATORS - 113
- LICENSED SOIL SCIENTISTS - **UNLIMITED**
- PESTICIDE APPLICATORS - 74
- CERTIFIED CONSERVATION PLANNER - 9 (MODULES)
- CERTIFIED AGRONOMISTS - 6
- CERTIFIED CROP ADVISORS - 6

WORKGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

1. CONTINUING TRAINING WILL NOT CATEGORIZED BY TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION
2. TECHNICAL SPECIALIST MAY COMPLETE ALL SIX (6) HOURS OF TRAINING HOURS IN A SINGLE YEAR
3. EFFECTIVE DATE FOR NEW TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BEGIN IN JANUARY FOR ALL TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS; NO STAGGERED 3-YEAR PERIODS
4. CONTINUING HOURS IN EXCESS OF SIX (6) HOURS WILL NOT CARRY OVER
5. 30-DAY GRACE PERIOD AFTER DEADLINE; HARDSHIP CASES MAY COME BEFORE SWCC

WORKGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT.)

- 6. FORMATION OF A WORKGROUP TO REVIEW /APPROVE CONTINUING TRAINING COURSES. WORKGROUP WILL CONSIST OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS CONVENING BY TELECONFERENCE AND ONLINE MEETING. AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE COURSES MUST BE DELEGATED TO WORKGROUP BY THE SWCC.

CONTINUING TRAINING TIMELINE

- **DECEMBER 2017** – CONVENE TECHNICAL SPECIALIST WORKGROUP
- **MARCH 2018** – PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSION
- **MARCH-MAY 2018** – DATABASE & WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
- **MAY 2018** – UPDATE COMMISSION / SYSTEM DEMONSTRATION
- **JUNE 2018** – SYSTEM ROLL OUT, "GOES LIVE"
- **JANUARY 2019** – THREE YEAR TRAINING PERIOD BEGINS FOR ALL TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS

NC RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING ANIMAL WASTE

- 2-HOUR COURSE DEVELOPED BY DSWC IN CONJUNCTION WITH DWR
- COURSE FIRST OFFERED MARCH 15, 2018 IN RALEIGH
- TWO TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS APPLICANTS RECEIVING CONDITIONAL APPROVAL BY THE SWCC AT THE JANUARY 2018 MEETING COMPLETED THE COURSE, SATISFYING ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE DESIGNATION(S).

Nutrient Sensitive Watersheds

Annual Progress Reporting for Agriculture Rule Implementation in the Falls Lake, Jordan Lake, Neuse, and Tar-Pamlico Watersheds

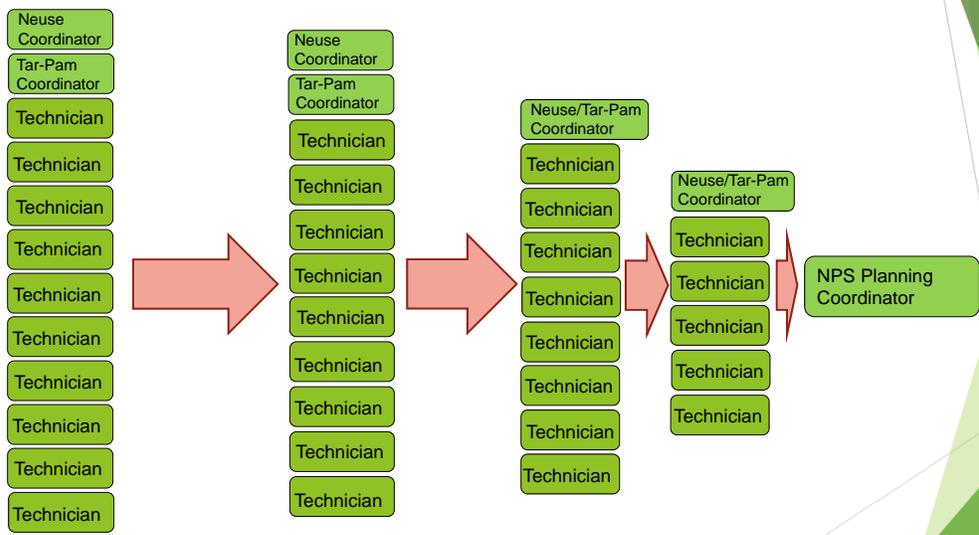
Agriculture Rules

- ▶ Neuse River Basin (1998)
 - ▶ 1991-1995 baseline
 - ▶ 30% nitrogen loss reduction
- ▶ Tar-Pamlico River Basin (2001)
 - ▶ 1991 baseline
 - ▶ 30% nitrogen loss reduction
 - ▶ No net increase in phosphorus loss risk
- ▶ Jordan Lake Watershed (2009)
 - ▶ 1997-2001 baseline
 - ▶ 3 subwatershed reduction goals
- ▶ Falls Lake Watershed (2011)
 - ▶ 2006 baseline
 - ▶ Stage I - 20% nitrogen loss reduction from cropland and pastureland, 40% phosphorus loss reduction
 - ▶ Stage II - 40% nitrogen loss reduction from cropland and pastureland, 77% phosphorus loss reduction

Reporting Hierarchy

- ▶ Local Advisory Committees
 - ▶ 25 counties
 - ▶ Includes DSWC, NRCS, SWCD, CES, NCDACS, and 2 farming interests
- ▶ Basin Oversight Committees
 - ▶ Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins
 - ▶ Includes DSWC, NRCS, NCDACS, CES, DWR, environmental interest, scientific expert, and 1-3 agriculture interests
- ▶ Watershed Oversight Committees
 - ▶ Falls and Jordan Lake Watersheds
 - ▶ Includes DSWC, NRCS, NCDACS, CES, DWR, 3 environmental interests, scientific expert, and 4 agriculture interests

Funding Changes



Crop Year 2016

- ▶ Neuse River Basin
 - ▶ 52% nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (30% mandate)
- ▶ Tar-Pamlico River Basin
 - ▶ 56% nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (30% mandate)
 - ▶ No net increase in phosphorus loss risk
- ▶ Falls Lake Watershed
 - ▶ 75% cropland nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (20% mandate)
 - ▶ 32% pastureland nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (20% mandate)
 - ▶ No net increase in phosphorus loss risk (there is currently no approved methodology for actual percentage calculation)
- ▶ Jordan Lake Watershed
 - ▶ Haw - 33% cropland, 29% pastureland nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (8% mandate)
 - ▶ Upper New Hope - 67% cropland, 48% pastureland nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (35% mandate)
 - ▶ Lower New Hope - 73% cropland, 39% pastureland nitrogen loss reduction from baseline (no increase mandate)

Nutrient Reduction Best Management Practices

- ▶ Nutrient Scavenger Crops
- ▶ Buffers
 - ▶ Riparian buffers
 - ▶ Filter strips
 - ▶ Field borders (only if adjacent to a blue line stream)
- ▶ Water Control Structures
 - ▶ Half round
 - ▶ In-line
- ▶ Livestock Exclusion Systems
 - ▶ Falls Lake & Jordan Lake only

Current Status

- ▶ Rules Review Commission
 - ▶ Revision of all rules in process
 - ▶ Fiscal note development ongoing for Neuse and Tar-Pamlico
 - ▶ Jordan Lake and Falls Lake up for revision in 2019 and 2022, respectively
- ▶ Nutrient Trading
 - ▶ Livestock Exclusion System credit finalized
 - ▶ Developed Area Buffer Improvement credit under development
 - ▶ Trading scheme under development
- ▶ High Rock Lake Watershed
 - ▶ Model finalized
 - ▶ Stakeholder process initiated, stalled
 - ▶ Rules still must be developed and approved



PO Box 98, Danbury, NC 27016 ▪ 336.593.2846 Ext. 3 ▪ 336.593-4010 (Fax) ▪ www.stokesswcd.org

March 9, 2018

Kelly Hedgepeth, NC Cost Share Program Manager
NCDA&CS, Division of Soil Water
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27604

Contract # 85-2018-001-12

Dear Mrs. Hedgepeth,

The Stokes SWCD is requesting approval from the Soil and Water Commission for contract # 85-2018-001-12 in the amount of \$5,670.00. The contract is for a stream restoration practice i.e. wing deflector to be installed in Little Snow Creek streambed immediately downstream of a livestock stream crossing. Attached is a design drawing showing the scope of the work. Items included in this job will be the installation of additional containerized tree plantings to further stabilize the streambanks in this area. We found this area needed further work late in the fall during our walk through with the contractor, engineer, and landowner. We were reviewing a successfully completed Little Snow Creek Streambank Restoration and Enhancement Project from last year. It was determined the installation of these new practices are needed to better maintain the livestock stream crossing, and further stabilize the streambanks along this area.

The Stokes District has partnered with the NC Wildlife Commission for professional engineering designs, practice installation inspections, job approval authority. All permits have been reviewed with DWR and Corp of Engineers. We have obtained quotes from a contractor whom we have worked with in the past that is familiar with the stream restoration work. We would like to start work by mid-April. Practice installation should take no more than 3 days. The Stokes District has a vested interest in this project. We already hold a permanent conservation easement on approximately 2000 feet on both sides of Little Snow Creek. We look forward to appearing before the commission March 28.th Additional local signed contract items will be uploaded after our March 21st meeting. Please contact our staff for further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin Cavanaugh", is written over a horizontal line.

Marvin Cavanaugh
Stokes SWCD Vice-chairman

Cc: Stokes SWCD Board