

NORTH CAROLINA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
AGENDA
DRAFT

WORK SESSION

NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
September 15, 2015
6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS SESSION

NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
September 16, 2015
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. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chairman John Langdon

A. August 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes

B. August 11, 2015 Work Session Meeting Minutes

3. Division report

Ms. Pat Harris

4. Association report

Mr. Manly West

5. NRCS report

Mr. Tim Beard

6. High Pathogenic Avian Influenza Update and Potential Cost
Share Program Response

Ms. Natalie Woolard
Ms. Julie Henshaw

ATTACHMENT 1

- 7. Consent Agenda
 - A. Nomination of Supervisors Ms. Kristina Fischer
 - B. Supervisor contracts Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth

- 8. Supervisor Removal Mr. David Williams
 - A. Dare Soil and Water Conservation District
 - B. Wake Soil and Water Conservation District

- 9. Agriculture Cost Share Program Financial Assistance Allocation Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth

- 10. Cost Share Committee Recommendations Ms. Julie Henshaw
 - A. Consideration of delegation of reference update authority
 - B. Agriculture Cost Share Program Technical Assistance Allocation

- 11. Community Conservation Assistance Program Allocation Mr. Tom Hill

- 12. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program Ms. Julie Henshaw
 - A. Detailed Implementation Plan
 - B. Average Cost List

- 13. District issues Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
 - A. Request for exception to non-compliance with maintenance requirements for cost share contracts policy Chatham SWCD
 - B. Contract 60-2013-001 extension request DSWC Staff

- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- V. ADJOURNMENT**

**NORTH CAROLINA
 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
 August 11, 2015**

Crowne Plaza Hotel
 Hampton/Embassy Rooms
 1385 Lenoir Rhyne Blvd SE
 Hickory, NC

Commission Members	Others Present	
John Langdon	Greg Hughes	Sandra Reid
Tommy Houser	Jim Summers	Linda Milt
Ben Knox	Chris Sloop	Charlie Bass
Manly West	Vicky Porter	Kelly Whitaker
Bill Yarborough	Kevin Moore	Kaitlyn Johnson
	Tom Smith	Bill Alston
	Rodney Wright	Drew Brannon
	Leslie Smathers	Dennis Testerman
	Mike Doxey	Frankie Singleton
Commission Counsel	James Pentecost	Patty Dellinger
Phillip Reynolds	Nancy McCormick	Daniel McClellan
	Bruce Whitfield	Thomas Sledge
Guest	Kelly French	PJ Andrews
Tim Beard	Patrick Baker	Caroline Sisley
Jerry Raynor	James Sarvis	Bob Edwards
Others Present	Edward Davis	Andrew Cox
Pat Harris	Amanda Collins	Duane Vanhook
David Williams	Greg Davis	Brian Chatham
Julie Henshaw	Gary Holtzmann	Rachel Smith
Natalie Woolard	Janie Woodle	Jonathan Wallin
Kelly Hedgepeth	Brenda Williams	Sabra Cahoon
Ralston James	Jamey Walker	Susannah Goldston
Kristina Fischer	Millie Langley	Mamie Caison
Rob Baldwin	Harold Alexander	Sue Glover
Eric Pare	Pam Bell	Kila Thompson
Sandra Weitzel	Melinda James	Ted Wortman
Davis Ferguson	Mike Breedlove	Stephen Bishop
Dick Fowler	Jason Cathey	Renee Melvin
Alan Aldridge	Leslie Vanden Herik	Rick McSwain
Louise Hart	Jennifer Brooks	Alan Walker

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and charged the commission members 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. Commissioner Knox announced that he would recuse himself for item 12B for contract 80-2013-001 involving the Rowan District. Commissioner West announced that he would recuse himself for item 12B for the three contracts involving Pasquotank County in the Albemarle District. Chairman Langdon announced that he would recuse himself for item 12B for contract 51-2013-012 involving Johnston District.

Chairman Langdon noted that in the absence of Vice-Chairman Frazier, it was necessary for the Commission to designate a commissioner to serve as the presiding officer for the item for which he would be recusing himself. Commissioner Knox moved to nominate Commissioner West to serve as the presiding officer, and Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. Commissioner West accepted the nomination, and the motion was approved.

Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting, and he asked all of the Commission members and attendees to introduce themselves and reminded everyone to sign the registration sheet.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairman Langdon reviewed the agenda. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West. The motion carried.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. **MAY 19, 2015 MEETING:** The minutes of the commission meeting held on May 19, 2015 were presented.
- b. **JULY 15, 2015 TELECONFERENCE MEETING:** The minutes of the commission teleconference held on July 15, 2015 were presented. Commissioner West offered a motion to approve the minutes of both the May and July meetings. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Division Report:

Ms. Pat Harris, Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the division report. Her presentation included the following:

- Reported that the 2015 Conservation Employee Training in Hickory includes 170 registrants.
- Recognized the contributions of Ms. Dierdre An, a Summer intern working with the Division on developing outreach and marketing materials for our cost share programs, including developing a new logo for the Division.
- Provided an update on the state budget and legislative session.
- Provided an update on human resources in the Division
 - Alan Aldridge, new CREP Specialist for the western half of the state, stationed in Mocksville
 - Administrative Officer II position has accepted a promotion in the Department's Research Stations Division. Now awaiting approval to make an offer to a new candidate
 - Will soon open recruitment for Administrative Secretary due to pending resignation
 - Have completed interviews for the vacant Environmental Senior Specialist position in the Technical Services Section
- Described House Bill 904 – Study Drainage Needs in Low-Lying Areas
- Announced that several individuals from North Carolina are involved in the National Conservation Planning Partnership proceedings to help reinvigorate conservation planning in the entire conservation partnership in North Carolina and nationwide.

- Provided an update on the activities of the Conservation Action Team to address challenges in North Carolina regarding conservation planning and job approval authority.
- Recognized the attendees who are Certified Conservation Planners.
- Reported that Technology Grants will be awarded after the CET with 5 districts submitting applications (Alexander, Caldwell, Gaston, Guilford, and Stanly) using AgWRAP engineering funds totaling \$22,679.
- Discussed the concerns related to the threat of high-pathogenic avian influenza.

Commissioner Yarborough commended all the efforts to promote better conservation planning and pledged support from the Commission to do all it can to help.

The handout for the division report is included as Attachment 3.

Chairman Langdon recognized Melinda James and Vicky Porter and thanked them for their presence at the meeting today.

4. **Association Report:** Commissioner West, NCASWCD President, presented a brief overview on the following:
- 2015 Conservation Farm Family regional winners and state winner. State-level celebration at the Robert Baker Farm in Rockingham County on August 27.
 - Update on progress regarding the Executive Director position
 - Reported on the Southeast NACD meeting in Tupelo, MS and that the 2016 SE NACD Meeting will be hosted by NC in Cherokee
 - Reported that the Digt Exhibit at the Natural Science Museum in Raleigh has been very well-attended and that this Saturday is the last day.
 - Announced that the Association and the NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation are jointly sponsoring a half-page ad featuring the work of districts in a new magazine being developed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The handout provided for item 4 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

5. **NRCS Report:** Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist for the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), referred to a handout and presented a brief overview of the following:
- NRCS is busy obligating funds for 2015 and completing the end-of-year close out, which needs to begin earlier because of the administrative reorganization.
 - Announced that the Resource Institute was awarded funds under the Regional Resource Conservation Partnership for 2015.
 - NRCS has obligated \$16.7 million of \$17.9 million allocated for EQIP for 2015. This involves 573 contracts to date.
 - NRCS is moving forward with the Conservation Client Gateway to allow customers to do more NRCS activities electronically via the web.
 - NRCS is offering training on Toolkit 8 to NRCS and district employees and has received good feedback to date.
 - Next Basics of Conservation Planning training will be in Greensboro on November 3-5.

The handout provided for item 5 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

6. Consent Agenda:

Commissioner West moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yarborough, and it passed unanimously.

6A. Appointment of Supervisors

- Jimmy Ray Horton, Jr.; Rowan SWCD; filling the unexpired term of Harry P. Corriher.

6B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts

Contract No.	District	Supervisor Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
25-2015-006	Craven	Michael C. Temple (supervisor in Carteret SWCD)	Grade Stabilization Structure	\$2,962

6C. Technical Specialist Designation

Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management (WUP/NM)

Henry Faison, Sampson SWCD

Dwayne Faircloth, Sampson SWCD

6D. Job Approval Authority

Sediment Removal Planning and Certification

Charlie Bass – Franklin SWCD

6E. Extension of 2013 AgWRAP Contracts for New Ponds and Pond Repair/Retrofit

Contract No.	District	Cooperator Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
36-2013-801	Gaston	Michael Smith	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$18,000
44-2013-801	Haywood	David Burnett	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$18,000
46-2013-800	Hertford	Morris Farms	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$15,000
82-2013-801	Sampson	Donald Stokes	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$18,000
82-2013-802	Sampson	James B. Best	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$15,000
82-2015-803	Sampson	Lester Robbin Best	Agricultural Water Supply/Reuse Pond	\$15,000

The handouts provided for items 6A-6E are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

7. Report from the Protected Information Workgroup

Mr. David Williams reported on a workgroup convened to develop recommendations for addressing concerns about properly handling information in cost share agreements that is protected by Section

1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill. He shared that contrary to earlier understanding, the mere presence of a signature by an NRCS employee or a district employee with job approval authority granted by NRCS does not make a particular document subject to protection under Section 1619.

Also the workgroup is confident that districts can consider all applications in open session, just as the Commission considers applications for supervisor contracts in open session, but conservation plans can only be considered in open session if the applicant voluntarily releases his information.

The workgroup will continue to meet and will report additional progress at the Commission's next meeting.

The handout provided for item 7 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

8. Technical Review Committee Recommendations

Ms. Hedgepeth reported that the Technical Review Committee (TRC) had met on June 17 and July 27 and has two recommended changes to ACSP practices for the Commission's consideration.

8A. Revision to Livestock Mortality Management System

The TRC is recommending clarification of policy 14 related to a roof installed over an incinerator. The change would clarify that any roof installed must meet the requirements of the incinerator manufacturer and NRCS standard #316. Commissioner West moved to approve the recommended change to this practice, and Commissioner Knox seconded. The motion was approved.

8B. Revision to the Precision Agrichemical Application practice

Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Division has received considerable feedback from districts related to concerns over the existing criteria for the boom section control tier of this practice being impractical to implement for a retrofit of existing sprayers. The TRC is recommending to change the pass-to-pass accuracy requirement from decimeter to sub-meter. Also the TRC recommends changing the maximum average section length from 9 to 12 feet. The TRC recommends the cooperators must demonstrate that the equipment has been properly calibrated before qualifying for payment.

The TRC is also recommending an increase in the cap for each tier of this practice.

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the recommended changes to this practice, and Commissioner Houser seconded. The motion was approved.

The handouts provided for items 8A-8B are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

9. Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP)

Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present the items related to the Agriculture Cost Share Program.

9A. Approval of the PY2016 Detailed Implementation Plan

Ms. Hedgepeth presented the proposed PY2016 Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) for the Agriculture Cost Share Program. She noted that there were no changes from the PY2015 DIP. Commissioner West moved to approve the DIP, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded. The motion was approved.

9B. PY2015 Cost List Changes

Ms. Hedgepeth presented the TRC's recommendation on the average cost for PY2016. She noted the changes from the PY2015 cost list only involve components related to Precision Agrichemical Application considered in item 8B. Commissioner Knox moved to approve the average cost list, and Commissioner Houser seconded. The motion was approved.

9C. ACSP Spot Checks

Ms. Hedgepeth presented the ACSP spot check report for PY 2015. She reported that 9.7 percent of the contracts in active maintenance were visited with 98 percent in compliance. 245 supervisors participated in the spot checks. She noted that districts were taking action to follow up on those contracts found to be out of compliance or needing maintenance. Commissioner Houser moved to approve the spot check report, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Hedgepeth also distributed some detailed information on districts' follow up on non-compliance.

The handouts provided for items 9A-9C are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

10. Community Conservation Assistance Program

Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Henshaw to present the items related to the Community Conservation Assistance Program.

10A. Approval of the PY2016 Detailed Implementation Plan

Ms. Henshaw presented the proposed PY2016 DIP for the Community Conservation Assistance Program. She noted that there are no changes from the PY2015 DIP due to limitations in funding. Commissioner Knox moved to approve the DIP, and Commissioner West seconded. The motion was approved.

10B. PY2015 Cost List Changes

Ms. Henshaw presented the CCAP Advisory Committee's recommendation on the average cost for PY2016. She noted that there are no changes from the PY2015 cost list. Commissioner West moved to approve the average cost list, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded. The motion was approved.

10C. CCAP Spot Checks

Ms. Henshaw presented the CCAP spot check report for PY 2015. She reported that 21 percent of the contracts in active maintenance were visited with 99 percent in compliance. She noted that districts were taking action to follow up on those contracts found to be out of compliance or needing maintenance. Commissioner Houser moved to approve the spot check report, and Commissioner West seconded. The motion was approved.

The handouts provided for items 10A-10C are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

11. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program

Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Henshaw to present the items related to the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program.

11A. Detailed Implementation Guidance

Ms. Henshaw requested guidance from the commission on the 2015-16 Detailed Implementation Plan for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP). Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to ask the AgWRAP Committee to develop options for a regional allocation. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

11B. AgWRAP Spot Check Report for PY2015

Ms. Henshaw presented the PY2015 spot check report for the AgWRAP Program for approval. She reported that 68% of the 108 AgWRAP contracts in the active maintenance stage had been checked with 100% compliance. Commissioner Knox offered a motion to approve the report. Commissioner West seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

The handouts provided for item 11A – 11B are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

12. District Issues**12A. Post Approval of an Expired Contract**

Chairman Langdon called on Ms. Hedgepeth who provided an introduction for the request, then she introduced Cleveland District Supervisor Ted Wortman and District Technician Stephen Bishop, to answer questions from the commission members about the request. Chairman Langdon reminded the district staff of the importance to check CS² to avoid overlooking the expiration date. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the post-approval request, and Commissioner West seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Ms. Hedgepeth pointed out the cost share update session on Thursday morning and commented that she would call particular attention to the expiration dates and 1/3 rule deadlines.

12B. Extension Requests for Cost Share ContractsContract 13-2013-502; Cabarrus SWCD

Ms. Vicky Porter, Supervisor from Cabarrus SWCD, and Mr. Dennis Testerman, District Director, were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for critical area planting for the Cabarrus County Schools. The district also requested funding from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund making total funding almost \$1 million for stormwater retrofits. The project has been delayed due to unavailability of funding and manpower for the school. The school has now secured resources to allow the contract to move forward. Commissioner West moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Knox. The motion carried.

Contract 22-2013-003; Clay SWCD

Mr. Aaron Martin, Supervisor from Clay SWCD, and Ms. Linda Milt, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a stream protection system. The project was delayed because a storm damaged some of the work, which delayed installation of the fence. The district has also requested funding from the Division of Water Resources to help with the streambank stabilization needs. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Houser. The motion carried.

Contract 24-2013-010; Columbus SWCD

Mr. James Sarvis, Supervisor from Columbus SWCD, and Mr. Edward Davis, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a rotary drum mortality composter for a swine operation. The project was delayed due to engineering delays and financial difficulty. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West. The motion carried.

Contract 41-2013-002; Guilford SWCD

Mr. Harold Alexander, Supervisor from Guilford SWCD, and Ms. Millie Langley, District Director were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for grassed waterways, field borders, and diversions. The project was delayed due to contractor being over-committed. Commissioner West moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Knox. The motion carried.

Contract 41-2013-005; Guilford SWCD

Ms. Hedgepeth informed the Commission that this item has been withdrawn by the Guilford District because the farmer has not completed any of the required work.

Contract 41-2013-009; Guilford SWCD

Ms. Hedgepeth informed the Commission that this item has been withdrawn by the Guilford District because the farmer has not completed any of the required work.

Contract 41-2013-011; Guilford SWCD

Mr. Harold Alexander, Supervisor from Guilford SWCD, and Ms. Millie Langley, District Director were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for fencing and watering tanks. The project is a part of a larger project funded by EQIP. He has not been able to complete the cost-share supported portion of the project. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Langdon recused himself for the next item, and Commissioner West assumed the role of presiding officer .

Contract 51-2013-012; Johnston SWCD

Ms. Hedgepeth noted that the Johnston SWCD did not have a supervisor present to represent the district's request to extend contract 51-2013-012. The district director submitted a request to table this item until the September meeting. Commissioner Yarborough noted that the email came from the staff and not the district board. He moved to disapprove the request since there was no Johnston supervisor present. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Commissioner Langdon did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

Commissioner Langdon resumed the chair.

Contract 56-2013-005; Macon SWCD

Ms. Melinda James and Ms. Pamela Bell, Supervisors from Macon SWCD, and Mr. Mike Breedlove, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a stream protection system. The well has been installed, but the other practices were delayed due to the death of the farm patriarch and subsequent estate issues. Commissioner West moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Contract 60-2013-001; Mecklenburg SWCD

Mr. Jason Cathey, Supervisor from Mecklenburg SWCD, and Ms. Leslie vandenHerik, District Technician, were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a stream restoration project on the Rocky River. The project has been affected by accelerating erosion that needed to be addressed prior to implementing this restoration. Commissioner Knox moved to approve the requested extensions. Commissioner West seconded the motion. Commissioner Yarborough moved to postpone consideration of the action until the September meeting to allow time to confirm that the project can be completed in the time allotted under the proposed extension. Upon advice from the Commission Counsel, Commissioner Knox withdrew his motion and Commissioner West concurred. Commissioner Yarborough added that he would not expect the Commission to require the district to appear before the Commission again. The motion carried.

Contract 70-2012-006, 70-2013-010, 70-2013-013; Albemarle – Pasquotank SWCD

Ms. Hedgepeth announced that the Division staff have been in contact with three supervisors from Pasquotank County. The supervisors all understood that this item would be presented at the September meeting. Division staff was unsuccessful in contacting the district staff. Commissioner Yarborough noted that none of the three contracts for which the district requested extension have completed 1/3 of the contracted work, and he moved to deny all three requested extensions from Pasquotank. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Commissioner West did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

Contract 73-2013-009; Person SWCD

Mr. Bruce Whitfield, Supervisor from Person SWCD, and Mr. James Pentecost, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a diversion and grassed waterway. The waterway was installed, but vegetation was damaged by vandals on four-wheelers. Commissioner Houser moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner West seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Contract 74-2013-009; Pitt SWCD

Mr. Bob Edwards, Supervisor from Pitt SWCD, and Mr. PJ Andrews, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a rotary drum mortality composter. The project is awaiting a permit from the state vet. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Contract 76-2012-803; Randolph SWCD

Mr. Bill Alston, Supervisor from the Randolph SWCD, and Ms. Kaitlyn Johnson, District Technician, were present to answer any questions from the commission. The project involves a new agricultural water supply and reuse pond. The Division of Energy, Mining, and Land Resources did not qualify the pond as a low-hazard, meaning a new design was required. The pond has been redesigned and has now been approved. Construction was delayed due to weather and contractor workload. Commissioner Houser moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Contract 76-2012-804; Randolph SWCD

Mr. Bill Alston, Supervisor from the Randolph SWCD, and Ms. Kaitlyn Johnson, District Technician, were present to answer any questions from the commission. The project involves a new agricultural

water supply and reuse pond. Construction was delayed due to the farm production schedule. Now the dam has become unstable and a revised design is needed. Commissioner West moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Contract 80-2013-001; Rowan SWCD

Mr. Jim Summers, Supervisor from Rowan SWCD, and Mr. Chris Sloop, District Technician were present to answer any questions from the commission. The contract is for a stream protection system. The project was delayed due to a death in the family and subsequent estate issues. Commissioner West moved to approve the requested extension. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. Mr. Sloop noted that the cooperators are highly motivated to get the alternative water system in place due to the persistent drought. The motion carried. Commissioner Knox did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

The handout for agenda items 12A-12B is attached and included as an official part of the minutes.

VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner West asked the staff to explore options for greater supervisor training opportunities and options for better recognizing supervisors to obtain training.

Commissioner Houser commented that we had far more extensions at this meeting than we should. Commissioner West added that the supervisors and staff should take better advantage of the new resources made available through CS². Ms. Hedgepeth stated that supervisors can get logins for CS².

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Langdon asked if there were any public comments, and none were offered. Chairman Langdon reminded everyone that we're in hurricane season and we have avian influenza on the horizon, so we all need to be vigilant.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Langdon adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.
(Signature)

David B. Williams, Recording Secretary
(Signature)

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on September 16, 2015.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
(Signature)

**NORTH CAROLINA
 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
 COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
 August 11, 2015**

Crowne Plaza Hotel
 Hampton/Embassy Rooms
 1385 Lenoir Rhyne Blvd SE
 Hickory, NC

Commission Members		
John Langdon	David Williams	
Tommy Houser	Natalie Woolard	
Ben Knox	Julie Henshaw	
Manly West	Kelly Hedgepeth	
Bill Yarborough	Dick Fowler	
	Kristina Fischer	
	Bill Alston	
Commission Counsel		
Phillip Reynolds		

Chairman John Langdon called the work session to order at 3:00 p.m. He 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. Commissioners West, Knox, and Langdon announced that they would recuse themselves from discussion and vote for contracts affecting their respective districts for item 12B.

Counsel Phillip Reynolds noted that in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, the Commission will need to elect another supervisor to preside over the item for which Chairman Langdon has recused himself.

- 1. Agenda:** Chairman Langdon reviewed the agenda and asked if there were any suggested modifications to the agenda. There was general discussion about how to get more training for supervisors, both elected and appointed. The Haywood district is promoting a resolution to require regular training for all supervisors. The Commission agreed to add an agenda item for the meeting for comments from the Commission.

- 2. a. Minutes – May 19, 2015 Meeting:** Chairman Langdon asked if there were any comments on the minutes. There were no comments. Commissioner Yarborough asked whether the letter mentioned under the Division report regarding SB513 was ever sent. Director Harris stated that she could not recall sending the letter and that we would follow through on the request.

b. Minutes – July 15, 2015 Teleconference Meeting: Chairman Langdon asked if there were any comments on the minutes. There were no comments.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. **Division Report:** Ms. Pat Harris, Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, described her planned division report.
4. **Association Report:** Commissioner West, discussed the items that will be included in the Association report tomorrow.
5. **NRCS Report:** Director Harris stated that State Conservationist Tim Beard would present a report.
6. **Consent Agenda:** Ms. Kristina Fisher, Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth, Ms. Natalie Woolard, and Ms. Julie Henshaw discussed the items that will be included on the consent agenda.
7. **Protected Information Workgroup Report:** Mr. David Williams presented a preview of his planned report on the meeting of the Protected Information Workgroup.
8. **Technical Review Committee Report:** Ms. Hedgepeth described the recommendations she would present from the Technical Review Committee, including:
 - a. **Livestock Mortality Management System Revisions**
 - b. **Precision Agrichemical Application Revisions**
9. **Agriculture Cost Share Program:** Ms. Hedgepeth described the following items she planned to present regarding Program Year 2016 for the Agriculture Cost Share Program:
 - a. **Detailed Implementation Plan**
 - b. **Average Cost List**
 - c. **Spot Checks** – Ms. Hedgepeth also presented some detailed information on districts' follow up on non-compliant contracts.
10. **Community Conservation Assistance Program:** Ms. Julie Henshaw described the following items she planned to present regarding Program Year 2016 for the Community Conservation Assistance Program:
 - a. **Detailed Implementation Plan**
 - b. **Average Cost List**
 - c. **Spot Checks**
11. **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program:** Ms. Henshaw described the following items she planned to present regarding Program Year 2016 for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program:
 - a. **Detailed Implementation Guidance**
 - b. **Spot Checks**

12. District Issues

12A. Post Approval of an Expired Contract: Ms. Hedgepeth explained that the Cleveland district is seeking Commission approval for a contract to replace a 2013 contract that expired before the payment for the contracted work could be paid. The district requests to replace the contract with a new 2016 contract. Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Division has reviewed the contract and conservation plan and recommends approval.

12B. Extension Requests for Program Year 2012 and 2013 Contracts: Ms. Hedgepeth stated several districts will come before the Commission requesting extension for contracts that are set to expire. She reviewed with the Commission its existing policy for considering and approving extension requests and briefly described each of the requests that will be considered in the meeting.

Public Comments:

Adjournment: Chairman Langdon adjourned the work session at 4:57 p.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

David B. Williams, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on September 16, 2015.

Patricia K. Harris, Director

DISTRICT SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Drafted August 31, 2015

Objective: To design and implement a Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) supervisor training program that results in knowledgeable and skilled district supervisors, and enhances the overall capacity of the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts to deliver its programs and services.

Considerations:

- Develop a training program that requires both elected and appointed district supervisors to obtain a minimum number of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) within a specified period of time
- Target the proposed certification program for either the district or the individual district supervisor
- Design the program with the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) to provide oversight and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) to administer the program
- Secure needed authority through statutory change or rules for SWCC to require district supervisor training
- Determine approval process for CEUs of needed and relevant topics, and related delivery methods (e.g. online training modules)
- Develop tracking and monitoring protocol to document satisfactory completion of training requirements
- Develop SWCC policy to address noncompliance with district supervisor training requirements including reduction in cost share allocation and/or removal from district board
- Determine timeline for implementation of training program

Opportunities:

- Utilize existing annual state meeting, area spring and fall meetings to deliver training topics at no additional cost for supervisor travel, subsistence and per diem
- Utilize the existing district directory MS Access database as a tracking mechanism to document completion of required training
- Evaluate existing training programs for similar groups (e.g. County Commissioners) for lessons learned

Challenges:

- Lack of dedicated training coordinator to oversee training program
- Lack of needed resources to develop training materials
- Lack of supervisor travel funds for training conducted outside of current training venues

- Lack of DSWC's ability to ensure need training courses and materials will be delivered on a regular and consistent basis at this time

Next Steps:

- The SWCC Chair to appoint and charge a committee to develop recommendations and determine needed resources for a high quality district supervisor training program for Commission consideration

Potential Training Topics:

- District supervisor roles and responsibilities
- Ethics
- Strategy plans and local natural resource concerns & priorities
- Personnel management
- Incorporating training plans for district staff
- Job Approval Authority
- Purpose of the operational agreement
- Working with nontraditional partners
- Local Work Groups
- Evaluating your district
- Budget and finance; contract management
- Securing outside funding sources; grant management
- Leveraging resources
- State cost share programs (ACSP, CCAP, AgWRAP)
- State working lands programs (CREP)
- VAD, EVAD and ADFP
- Securing and holding easements; easement stewardship
- Federal programs
- The value of diversity
- History of soil and water conservation districts
- How to properly conduct a meeting; open meetings law
- Section 1619 and cooperator confidentiality
- Document management and retention schedules; FOIA and state public records laws
- What is the Partnership?
- Advocating for and/or marketing your program to local government leadership
- Environmental education including Envirothon, Resource Conservation Workshop, various contests, Environmental Field Days
- Conservation Farm Family
- What is CS²?
- Value of conservation planning

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR DISTRICT CHAIRS

Drafted June 10, 2015

Objective: to provide basic leadership training to district chairs so that they can lead their respective district boards and staff for improved service and program delivery to cooperators and the general public.

Target Audience: District chairs and other supervisors with potential leadership skills as identified by the area executive committees

Logistics:

- Two-day training patterned after the new employees orientation and Altria workshops.
- Initial workshop implemented in FY2016 and offered every other year if successful

Costs:

- SWC Commission to provide supervisor travel, per diem and subsistence
- Secure outside funding through the Foundation to cover additional expenses for training materials, guest speakers, etc.
- Division to provide in kind support through coordination of training and resource speakers

Identified Training Topics and Exercises:

- Role of the chair
- What is the operational agreement
- How to conduct a meeting
- Planning for success (strategic planning to address resource concerns)
- Matching funding resources to priorities
- Getting the most out of your staff
- How to foster a relationship with local government (possible speaker from Assoc. of County Commissioners)
- How to fill supervisor vacancies with the right individuals
- Budget and finance

Update on conditional supervisor reappointments from November 2014 meeting

At the November 19, 2014, meeting the commission made several conditional reappointments to local soil and water conservation district boards.

Four reappointments were made for nominees who had not attended School of Government training as required. These reappointments were conditional upon their attendance at the February 2015 School of Government training. All four individuals attended this training in February.

Three reappointments were made for nominees who had not attended two-thirds of the district's regularly scheduled board meetings during the previous term. These reappointments were made with the condition that the commission monitor their attendance for the next 12 months and bring any who do not attend two-thirds of their district's meetings over this period back for reconsideration at the November 2015 meeting. These individuals and their local districts were provided written correspondence on November 20, 2014, to make them aware that their appointment is contingent upon attendance at local district board meetings December 2014 through November 2015. Below is an update on progress:

	Edward McLaurin Chatham SWCD	John D. Lovin Graham SWCD	Wilton Lee Short, Jr. Vance SWCD
December 2014	<i>No meeting</i>	Attended	Attended
January 2015	Did not attend	Attended	Attended
February 2015	Attended	<i>No meeting</i>	Attended
March 2015	<i>No meeting</i>	Attended	Did not attend
April 2015	Did not attend	Attended	Attended
May 2015	Attended	Attended	Attended
June 2015	<i>No meeting</i>	Attended	<i>No meeting</i>
July 2015	<i>No meeting</i>	Did not attend	Did not attend
August 2015	Did not attend	Did not attend	Attended
September 2015			
October 2015			
November 2015			
Current Total	2/5 = 40%	6/8 = 75%	6/8 = 75%

ASSOCIATION REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
September 16, 2015

Conservation Farm Family Program – The Rockingham SWCD did an excellent job planning and hosting the Outstanding Conservation Farm Family Celebration on the Robert Baker Farm, the 2015 state winner. Approximately 250 attended the celebration that featured Commissioner Troxler as the main speaker. The event attracted television coverage from Winston Salem as well as local print media. Association President Manly West was the master of ceremonies for the event. This was an excellent example of a working family farm with a conservation/stewardship ethic that extends over three generations and is being passed down to a fourth.

Executive Director Position – Julie Groce has accepted the position of Association Executive Director and began work on Monday, September 14. Julie comes to the Association with a degree in Agriculture Communications from Ohio State University. She has 14 years of experience with Elanco Animal Health in the areas of corporate communications and marketing management. Julie, her husband, and daughter live near Siler City in Chatham County where they have a beef cattle operation. Her husband Sam is Cooperative Extension Director for Chatham County. Julie currently serves as President of the NC Agri Business Council.

Market Based Conservation Initiative – A signing ceremony to commemorate this unique collaborative effort between the North Carolina conservation partnership and the military was held in Clinton, August 28. NACD President Lee McDaniels attended and offered brief comments. Association President Manly West, North Carolina NACD Board Member Franklin Williams, and Alternate Board Member Jeff Harris attended as well. Several private landowners who were accepted into the program were in attendance with one landowner speaking to what the program had meant to her. Eighteen eastern NC districts, the Association, and the Foundation were integral parts of this pilot initiative which is likely to lead to more collaboration opportunities with the military.

Dig It Exhibit – The exhibit at the Natural Science Museum in Raleigh closed on August 15. The final attendance tally was 68,356, an average of 712 visitors per day. This well exceeded expectations.

Exit interviews were held with 360 visitors to ask them about their impressions of the exhibit. 96% of visitors indicated they would recommend the exhibit to others. Here are a few quotes from those that visited the exhibit:

- “This is impressive even for someone like me, and I am a farmer.”
- “It was obviously developed for lay people and kids. It is great.”
- “I think I will come back with more students, this is great. You should advertise in schools because it is a great resource.”
- “I am amazed with what you have here; I am ashamed that I my age I have not been to such an amazing place before. You are just amazing at what you do.”
- “I am pleasantly surprised that they added a lot about NC soils to it; I remember that Nebraska and other states did not do that.” (from a Smithsonian staffer who visited)
- “We appreciate you taking time to explain things to children. I will come back without my nieces so I can spend time reading everything.”

Cost Share Program Response to Imminent Threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

The Division is working with the Department to assess circumstances where existing cost share policies may impede or enable efficient response to the imminent threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Considerations may include temporary exceptions to policies affecting specific cost share practices (e.g., dry stack, waste storage structures). While the recommendations have not yet been fully developed, our aim is to have recommendations available for the Commission's consideration at its September meeting.



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

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/sw/

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District of Mecklenburg 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 Jan 2015 and ending Jan 2019 to fill the expired or un-expired term of 4 years. Sept 2015 Dec 2018

Name of nominee: Eric Spengler
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 1913 Union St.
Email address of nominee: eric@spengler.aganslaw.com
Home phone: (765) 717-2042
Mobile phone: same
Business phone: (704) 910-5469
Occupation: Attorney
Age: 30

Education: JD/MPA (Indiana University)
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Post-Construction Control Ordinance (PCCO) task force member
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Sustain Charlotte represented
Conservation Law Center, legal intern

Other pertinent information: M.P.A. with focus in environmental and energy issues

- Is nominee willing to attend a training session 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 Nancy G. Carter 8/31/15
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: Nancy G. Carter

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

X Eric Spengler 8/31/15
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Eric Spengler

NC Cost Share Programs Supervisor Contracts
Soil and Water Conservation Commission

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Forsyth	34-2015-005	Edward Wall	cropland conversion to grass	\$1,350	
Wilson	98-2016-001	Alan Sharp	lagoon biosolids removal	\$7,238	

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: 2

Total \$ **8,588**

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 Forsyth 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: Cropland Conversion to Grass

Contract number: 34-2015-005 Contract amount: \$1,350

Score on priority ranking sheet: 65

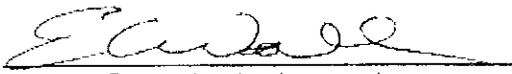
Cost Share Rate : 75% If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): Tied for 2nd out of 3 applicants

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: Edward C. Wall


(District Supervisor's signature)

5-14-15
Date

Approved by: Toby Bost


(District Chairperson's signature)

5-14-15
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 Wilson 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: Big Solids Removal

Contract number: 98-2016-001 Contract amount: \$ 7238.60

Score on priority ranking sheet: 470

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 3 projects

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: Alan Sharp

Alan Sharp

(District Supervisor's signature)

8/11/15

Date

Approved by:

[Signature]

(District Chairperson's signature)

8-17-15

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.

Dare County Soil & Water Conservation District
PO Box 1000
Manteo, NC 27954
24 March 2015

Jeremy Adams
241 W Barracuda Drive
PO Box 1934
Nags Head, NC 27959

Dear Jeremy:

Due to your lack of attendance at our monthly Dare Soil & Water Board of Supervisor meetings, I regret to inform you that we must replace you on this board. Our meeting minutes show that you have attended only three meetings since you were elected in November 2012; your last appearance was at the meeting on May 7, 2013.

You are entitled to appear before the state's Soil and Water Conservation Commission to appeal this decision. Feel free to contact me at 252-255-2730 in order to learn how to get onto the agenda at the Commission's next scheduled meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Bray
Chairman, Dare Soil & Water Conservation District

LB:tkh

cc: Eric Pare, Rodney Woolard

Request to remove Jeremy Adams from Dare County Soil and Water District Board of Supervisors

Timeline:

11/2012	Jeremy Adams elected to Dare Board of Supervisors with write-in votes
12/4/2012	Adams attended Board meeting
2/5/2013	Adams attended Board meeting
3/5/2013	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
5/7/2013	Adams attended Board meeting
7/2/2013	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
9/3/2013	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
10/8/2013	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
10/2013- 3/2014	multiple attempts made to contact Adams through telephone and email
1/14/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
3/22/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
5/6/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
6/3/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
7/1/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
8/5/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
10/7/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
12/2/2014	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
2/3/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
3/6/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
3/7-15/2015	Researched contact information for Jeremy Adams
3/25/2015	Certified letters mailed to the only two addresses available for J Adams
4/2015	Both certified letters were returned to Dare SWCD office as undeliverable
4/7/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
5/5/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received; supervisors in attendance vote to petition Soil and Water Commission to have Jeremy Adams removed from the board
6/2/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received
8/4/2015	Board meeting without Adams in attendance; no notice received



August 11, 2015

Dear Bill,

First, we thank you for your time and service since December 2008. We greatly appreciate your dedication to conservation work in Wake County over the years. Second, we are concerned since we have not heard from you in six months. Our thoughts and hopes are that you are well. In accordance with rules and regulations, we followed the guidance policy and notified the Soil and Water Commission of our inability to contact you and documented the length of time, our concerns, and our appreciation of your tenure on this board.

The board still wants to hear from you. We hope you will continue to be a part of the Wake District family and friends. This is another attempt to explain some options that will help us move the work of the District forward with a full and active Board.

In accordance with Guidance Policy provided by the NC Soil and Water Commission, the Wake District Board of Supervisors is providing this written notice of the a) Wake District's decision, b) reason for the decision, and c) your options throughout this process.

- a) **Decision:** Wake Board of Supervisors notified the Commission of the extended absences, attempts to communicate with no responses, and petitioned the Commission for removal of Supervisor. (See letter dated June 15, 2015)
- b) **Reason:** We documented absences from five (5) consecutive District Board meetings: February, March, April, May and June of 2015. Wake SWCD exercised due diligence in trying to communicate with you through phone calls, emails, and postal mail. We have since documented your absence at the July and August Board meetings.
- c) **Options:**
 1. Send a letter of your resignation from the Wake SWCD Board of Supervisors.
 2. You can also request to be on the agenda and appear before the Soil and Water Commission at their September 16th meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Archdale building. (The August Commission meeting is in Hickory and we didn't think that would be convenient.)

Again, we are grateful to have had you on our Board and we wish you all the best. However, the work of the Wake District requires the full attention and work efforts of a complete and functioning board. Wake County is now home to more than one million residents. The conservation work needed to protect the natural resources is greater than ever. Watershed protection, erosion and sediment control measures, and governance by an active Board of Supervisors is crucial.

Sincerely,

Thomas Dean, Chairman

cc: NCSWC Commission



June 15, 2015

Re: Guidance Rules

Dear Members of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission,

We want to begin by thanking our Board Member, William Cole for his time and service since December 2008. We greatly appreciate his dedication to conservation over the years. Wake Soil and Water Conservation District strives to provide exemplary service to our citizens and landowners. This is accomplished through the attentiveness and passion that our Board, Board Associates, Staff and friends show on a daily basis. Of course, our success depends on the leadership and commitment of the District Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor attendance has been a prevalent topic of discussion, not only in our District office, but at a state level as well. Due to continuous decreased attendance at District, Area, and the Annual meetings, the Commission has developed a guidance policy stating "any supervisor, both elected and appointed, can be removed if they cease to discharge the duties of the office over a period of three (3) consecutive District Board Meetings." In accordance with Guidance provided by the NC Soil and Water Commission, the Wake District Board of Supervisors is providing this written notice of "failure of our Supervisor, William Cole to discharge his duties." Mr. Cole has been absent from five (5) consecutive District Board meetings: February, March, April, May and June of 2015. Wake SWCD has exercised due diligence in trying to communicate with Mr. Cole through phone calls, emails, and postal mail. Having not received a reply or resignation letter from Mr. Cole to date, Wake SWCD respectfully petitions the Commission to remove this Supervisor. Please find Feb - June District Board meeting minutes attached.

Again, we are grateful to have had Mr. Cole on our Board and we wish him all the best. However, the work of the Wake District requires the full attention and work efforts of a complete and functioning board. Wake County is now home to more than one million residents. The conservation work needed to protect the natural resources is greater than ever. Watershed protection, erosion and sediment control measures, and governance by an active Board of Supervisors is crucial.

Sincerely,

Thomas Dean, Chairman

Jenna Wadsworth, Vice Chairman

cc: William Cole, Wake SWCD Supervisor

Attachments

**This item is
pending state
budget
approval.**

Consideration of delegation of reference update authority

As the Division reviews Soil and Water Conservation Commission cost share program best management practices, several practices are referencing older standards. The Cost Share Committee recommends delegating authority to the division to update and revise standard references for all approved best management practices as these references are updated by their source.

For example: ACSP Long-Term No Till BMP

- Current reference includes NRCS Standards:
 - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
 - Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till, and Strip Till (329A)
 - Cover Crop (340)
 - Long Term No-Till (778)
- Proposed revisions to references includes using the current names of the NRCS standards and only including the correct standards as references:
 - Conservation Crop Rotation (328),
 - Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329A)
 - Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345)
 - Cover Crop (340)

Agriculture Cost Share Program Technical Assistance Allocation

The Cost Share Committee reviewed the Agriculture Cost Share Program technical assistance allocation at their September 3, 2015 meeting. This year, there is additional recurring funding available that was created by the reduction in the number of positions requested by districts. The committee recommends the Soil and Water Conservation Commission consider increasing technical assistance allocations with a goal of increasing all currently funded positions to the existing cap of \$25,500 per full-time equivalent position. Since current appropriation for technical assistance is not sufficient to achieve this goal, the Committee recommends increasing the allocation for each position, to the highest percentage of requested funding possible, not to exceed the \$25,500 cap.

The allocation will be provided for action once the state budget is adopted.

**This item is
pending state
budget
approval.**

Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program

The Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) Review Committee will be meeting on September 8, 2015 from 1:00pm-4:00pm to prepare recommendations for the FY2016 Detailed Implementation Plan and Average Cost List. This meeting will be held at the NCDA&CS Ballentine Building, Conference Room located at 2109 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. Participants are also able to attend through teleconference (919)250-4221 and webinar: <https://ncag.adobeconnect.com/arc/>

Based on guidance received during the August Commission meeting, all options will include a competitive regional application process for best management practices. The Detailed Implementation Plan and Average Cost List will be emailed for your review and consideration following AgWRAP Review Committee meeting.



Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District

PO Box 309 - 65 East Chatham Street - Pittsboro, NC 27312-0309

Phone: (919) 542-8240 - Fax: (919) 542-8267

September 2, 2015

RE: Mr. Talley attending Commission meeting

To: Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Mr. Talley wishes to speak before the Commission and ask to be given leniency on his maintenance agreement on ACSP contract #19-2010-005-02.

Due to health and financial problems, Mr. Talley had to sell his farm in 2012 at a loss. The sale of the farm did not include a Substitution of Parties Agreement for the dry stack under contract. Mr. Talley says that all funds from the sale were used to pay off debt and a new place to live.

After the first out of compliance in 2013, Mr. Talley brought the dry stack back into compliance and then had the new farm manager sign a hand written statement that they would honor the maintenance agreement. Mr. Talley thought this agreement would ensure compliance. After the second out of compliance, Mr. Talley tried to get the Substitution of Parties agreement signed but the new owner of the land refused to cooperate.

Mr. Talley has indicated that he does not have the money to repay the state. He has worried and prayed over this problem and wants to do the right thing. The Chatham SWCD Board has explained the Commission policy but, would like Mr. Talley to be able to plead his case as he wishes.

Respectfully,

Lynn Mann

Chatham SWCD Chairman



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Patricia K. Harris
Director

Date: September 3, 2015

To: Natalie Woolard, Section Chief

From: Cindy M. Safrit, Engineer

Subject: Doyle Neal (Fairoaks Farm)
ACSP # 60-2013-001
Stream Restoration

A brief description of the problem, the planned design to address the problem, quantities of material needed and an estimated cost are below.

I have enclosed pictures of the concerned site to help illustrate the problems which are threatening the horse barn located approximately 90 feet from the river. As shown in the pictures two large boulders/bed rock are causing a massive debris blockage which is splitting the flow with the majority of the flow being directed to the west bank (the Neal property). Splitting of the flow and widening of the stream is creating shallow, slower moving water which causes the sediment to settle out and debris to become lodged in the center of the channel behind the rock.

To correct the problem, all debris will be removed from the channel, including excess sand and sediment deposits. A large cross vane will be installed to direct the flow into the center of the channel and in between the boulders. This will increase the velocities in the center of the channel which will move sediment and the majority of the debris through the problem area. Due to extreme instability up stream, at times whole trees may become lodged behind the cross vane. Maintenance has been discussed with Mr. Neal and he understands it will be necessary to cut these trees into smaller sections so they can be moved down the channel. Approximately 70 feet of the Neal's' bank will be armored with boulders and the banks laid back and stabilized. Two small cross vanes will be installed in side channels on the Neal property to stabilize head cuts. Head cuts are caused from over land drainage/flow cutting down to meet the elevation of the lower channel. One of these head cuts is located directly behind the horse barn and is threatening the integrity of the structure. Therefore, prior to the stream restoration all drainage problems on the Neal farm needed to be addressed and corrected. Approximately 50 % of this has been completed.

MAILING ADDRESS

Division of Soil and Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Telephone: 919-733-2302
Fax Number: 919-733-3559

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LOCATION

Archdale Building
512 N. Salisbury Street, Suite 504
Raleigh, NC 27604

If the property owner on the left bank will agree to work on his side of the stream, the cut off channel that has been created on the left bank will be filled in to bank full elevation, so that all flows will be concentrated to the center of the channel.

Due to the size of the Rocky River (12.8 square miles drainage area at this site), the use of extremely large boulders will be needed. This increases the cost and the need for a highly experienced equipment operator.

Estimated quantities of boulders needed are:

41 Tons of 3' to 4' boulders

13 Tons of 2' to 3' boulders

45 Tons of 1' to 2' boulders

Due to the steep banks, size of boulders and equipment needed, I have estimated the cost to be around \$15,000 to \$17,000.

I was on the farm last week for technical assistance on the other drainage problem work being done and Mr. Neal indicated he has found an experience equipment operator and is ready to move forward with the project.



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

**North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services**
Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Patricia K. Harris
Director

Looking down stream, Horse barn on right.
Rock on left is causing most of the debris jams
which directs flow into the bank on the right
hand side. (Rocks are marked with white
arrows)



Looking down stream. Horse barn is on right
Wider view of the debris jam and split flow



Looking up-stream Horse barn on left, debris jam on right.



Looking upstream. Horse barn on left. View of the debris jam behind rock that is diverting flow into the Neal bank.



Looking down stream, Horse barn on right.
Large Boulder/Bed Rock that is causing debris
blockage and diverting flow





STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
 DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7000
 919-733-7000
 919-733-7000
 919-733-7000

Doyle and Lisa Neal Stream Restoration
 Site Over View
 Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

NO.	BY	DATE	REVISIONS	DESCRIPTION
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

PROJECT #	SCALE	NIS
DRAWN BY: ON S&W	DATE: 11/5/2014	
CHECKED BY:	DATE:	
SHEET NO. 1 OF	FILENAME: Spohn Detail	

