



# NORTH CAROLINA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

July 20, 2011

Archdale Building  
Fifth Floor Conference Room  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, N.C. 27604

Commission Members	Others Present	
Manly West	David Williams	Jeff Parker
Vicky Porter	Pat Harris	Lloyd Phillips
James Ferguson	Julie Henshaw	Michelle Raquet
Donald Heath	Dick Fowler	Lance Bullard
Bobby Stanley	J. B. Martin	
Bill Yarborough	Davis Ferguson	
	Kristina Fisher	
<b>Commission Counsel</b>	Donnarie Hales	
Jennie Hauser	Dewitt Hardee	
	Kelly Ibrahim	
	Michelle Lovejoy	
	Chester Lowder	
	Joann McCall	

Chairman Manly West called the teleconference meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Chairman West charged the commission members to declare any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest that may exist for agenda items to be considered by the commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. No conflicts were noted.

**PRELIMINARY – Business Meeting:**

**1. Approval of Agenda:** The meeting agenda was approved. Commissioner Vicky Porter made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM:**

**2. Nomination of supervisors:** Ms. Donnarie Hales, Area V Coordinator of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the following information:

**Discussions:**

Chairman West made note of the correction in item 6 for the appointment of Laura H. Parker of Wake Soil & Water Conservation to read as “yes”, as per the July 18, 2011 email from Dale Threatt-Taylor, District Director of Wake Soil & Water Conservation District.

- A. District Recommendations for Appointment of Supervisors:
1. Laura H. Parker, Wake District; replaces John Y. Phelps, Jr.
    - ❖ Commissioner Bill Yarborough made a motion to approve Ms. Parker's appointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.
  2. Robert A. Lyon, Pamlico District; replaces Garland Cahoon
    - ❖ Commissioner Donald Heath made a motion to approve Mr. Lyon's appointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.
  3. Dennis C. Loflin, Davidson District; replaces Clarence H. Loflin.

It was announced that Mr. Clarence Loflin passed away yesterday, July 19, 2011.

    - ❖ Commissioner Vicky Porter made a motion to approve Mr. Dennis Loflin's appointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.
    - ❖ David Williams, Deputy Director for Soil and Water Conservation, noted that Mr. Dennis Loflin previously served on the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) representing the Division of Agriculture since the mid 1990s.

### **3. Proposed allocation for ACSP Technical Assistance for 2011**

#### **Discussions:**

Mrs. Julie Henshaw, NPS Section Chief of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the proposed allocation for ACSP Technical Assistance for 2012 as follows:

**PY 2012 Technical Assistance:** A handout was provided.

- Full time equivalent (FTE) includes funding for 111.35 positions. This does not provide support for positions in Greene, Jones, Nash, and Rockingham Soil and Water Conservation Districts since they were funded as non-recurring last year.
- Districts Camden and Vance have requested technical positions. It was noted that these Districts did not have cost share supported positions in the past years. They are included in the proposed allocation.
- References were made to the Technical Assistance Funds Rule (15A NCAC 06E.0106): N.C. Agriculture Cost Share technical assistance funds may be used for each FTE technical position when the district matches at least 50% of the total funding. Priorities for funding positions are: "Subject to availability of funds and local match, and they must provide support for one FTE technical position for every district."
- Since the new technical assistance positions for Camden and Vance are being funded with no increase in funding from state appropriations or other sources this year, three positions are being proposed to be moved to non-recurring funding. It was noted that all these positions are in Districts that have more than one full time equivalent position.
- Mrs. Henshaw provided reference to the rule which stated:

"Priority for funding positions beyond one FTE per District shall be based on the following parameters:

  - a) Whether the position is presently funded by program technical assistance funds.
  - b) The number of program dollars encumbered to contracts in the highest three of the previous four completed program years (2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011)

- c) The number of program dollars actually expended for installed BMPs in the highest three years of the most recent four-year period for which the allowed time for implementing contracted BMPs has expired as reported on the NC Agriculture Cost Share Database (2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009)”
- Mrs. Henshaw informed the Commission that all of the proposed positions have been funded by program technical assistance funds. It was noted that performance parameters were used to determine which positions should become non-recurring positions. The data was compared to the FTEs in the District, and an effective rating was calculated.

**Technical Assistance Allocation Approach – Result for PY 2012:** A handout was provided.

- The positions in Lenoir, Pamlico, and Edgecombe were proposed to become non-recurring funding this year. Mrs. Henshaw pointed out that these positions will not be funded in PY 2013, resulting in a reduction of 2.5 FTEs for the program in PY2013.
- The proposed allocation will use the funding as follows:
  - Recurring ACSP state appropriations, \$2.4 million
  - Recurring CCAP state appropriations to support positions in Dare and New Hanover Districts, \$24,000
  - Carry Forward from PY 2011, \$143,677
  - Federal 319 Funds, \$195,733 (to absorb 60% of the cost of six Neuse/Tar river Basin technicians)
  - NRCS Funds, \$9,000
  - Total allocations available for technical assistance in PY 2012, \$2.8 million
  - Total non-recurring operating, \$152,677.
  - This allocation funds 102 positions at less than 50% match. The average match is 43.2%.
- Mrs. Henshaw concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Bill Yarborough requested clarification on non-recurring funds.
- ❖ Mrs. Henshaw confirmed that staff will be working with Districts through the year to do their best to maintain these positions through local funding or grant funding at the state level.
- ❖ Mr. Williams clarified that the funds are available this year, however the Districts will have a year to replace the state funding.
- ❖ Commissioner Bill Yarborough requested a detailed report for all Districts.
- ❖ Mrs. Henshaw noted that a financial assistance allocation report will be presented at the next meeting in August.
- ❖ Commissioner James Ferguson made a motion to approve the technical assistance allocation approach for PY 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.

**CLOSING ITEMS**

**4. Public Comments:**

- Mr. Dick Fowler, Executive Director for NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, informed the Commission that Mr. Marvin Cavanaugh, Supervisor for Stokes County, was recently appointed to the Environmental Management Commission (EMC). He indicated that it

was a positive move and will benefit the Division of Soil & Water Conservation. He congratulated Mr. Cavanaugh.

- Mrs. Henshaw expressed that the division was receiving inquiries from Soil & Water Conservation Districts about when they can begin contracting PY 2012 funds. It was noted that in previous years Districts were able to encumber 40% of last year's allocation. Since the General Assembly provided the same level of funding for PY 2012, the districts will be able to submit contracts for up to 40% of their PY 2011 state appropriated allocation. The new forms will be sent out to Districts following this meeting.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further items to discuss the meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

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

  
Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary

*These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on August 16, 2011.*

  
Patricia K. Harris, Director  
(Sign & Date)