



# NORTH CAROLINA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

## August 16, 2011

North Raleigh Hilton  
Salon E  
3415 Wake Forest Road  
Raleigh, N.C. 27609

Commission Members	Others Present	
Manly West	Pat Harris	Ken Parks
Craig Frazier	David Williams	Michelle Raquet
Vicky Porter	Shelly Baird	Sandra Weitzel
Bobby Stanley	Steve Bennett	Natalie Woolard
James Ferguson	Vernon Cox	Other District Guests
Donald Heath	Davis Ferguson	
Bill Yarborough	Lisa Fine	
	Dick Fowler	
<b>Commission Counsel</b>	Dewitt Hardee	
Jennie Hauser	Julie Henshaw	
<b>Guest</b>	Kelly Ibrahim	
Commissioner Steve Troxler	Ralston James Jr.	
Dr. Richard Reich	Dottie Jones	
	Michelle Lovejoy	
	J. B. Martin	

Chairman Manly West called the meeting to order at 3:42 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 to be considered by the commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. Two conflicts were noted as follows: Item 11-D-1-c, Vicky Porter, and Item 14, James Ferguson. Chairman West welcomed special guests, Commissioner Steve Troxler and Dr. Richard Reich, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) for attending the Commission meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The meeting agenda was approved with minor changes to remove Item 3 “Statements of Economic Interest Evaluations for Commission Members”, Item 6B “Cost Share Updates”, Item 9C “CCAP Job Approval Authority, and Item 11D-1b “Contract# 11-09-56-05”. Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Commission Meetings held on May 18, 2011 and July 20, 2011 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Bill Yarborough and seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.

#### IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

**5. Report from the Commissioner of Agriculture:** Commissioner Steve Troxler thanked the Commission members for the opportunity to participate in this meeting and officially welcomed the Commission and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation to the Department. He talked about the commonalities and synergy generated by the transition. He also stated the Department is looking forward to working with the commission members, division employees and districts supervisors and staff. Commissioner Troxler introduced Dr. Richard Reich who will supervise activities by the division.

**Comments from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Chairman West commented he looks forward to working with Commissioner Troxler and his Department.

**6. Division Report:** Mrs. Patricia Harris, Director for Soil and Water Conservation, presented the division report. Mrs. Harris introduced Dottie Jones, Program Assistant IV, as the newest staff member to the Division of Soil & Water Conservation. Ms. Jones joined the division as temporary assistant as part of the ATAC agreement with NRCS in January 2011 and has acquired permanent status with the division as of this past month. Mrs. Harris also announced Mrs. Daphne Pinto promotion to the division's Administrative Secretary. Lastly, she introduced all the division staff.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Harris noted the following:

- Mission Statement for NCDA&CS: "To provide services that promote and improves agriculture and agribusiness, protect consumers and businesses, and preserve farmland and natural resources for the prosperity of all North Carolinians."
- Mrs. Harris thanked Commissioner Troxler for making the Division of Soil & Water Conservation feel welcome and part of his team.
- The NCDA&CS organization chart was reviewed.
- Transfer of the employee database will be conducted on August 17, 2011 from DENR to the NCDA&CS.
- FY 2011-2012 & 2012-2013 division budget was reported as follows: No reduction to Ag. Cost Share financial assistance; reduce matching funds to districts by \$40,000 (10%) with each districts receiving \$3,600 (new forms will be available in the near future); reduce subsistence for supervisors by \$28,000; abolish 12 positions (including Public Information Officer, Area 7 Coordinator, three soils specialists, and seven Operation Review specialists); Reduce division's operating funds by \$28,719; General Assembly abolished the Operation Review Program but continue the Pilot Program for Columbus, Jones, Pender, & Brunswick Districts. Mrs. Harris introduced the animal waste management specialists and noted that they will be available to work with districts by providing technical assistance with animal waste management, especially during storm events (e.g. emergency action plans to lower lagoon levels).
- Agriculture Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP):
  - Establish AgWRAP – purpose: to identify opportunities to increase water use efficiency, availability & storage; implement best management practices (BMPs) to conserve and protect water resources;
  - Division received a nonrecurring appropriation of \$1,000,000 (up to \$150,000 can be used for engineering & technical assistance).
  - Administered by the Commission with program delivered through districts
  - Mrs. Julie Henshaw, NPS Programs Section Chief, is taking the lead for the developing program. She is forming three work groups - Rules & Policies, Best Management Practices, and Technical Assistance & Training. Management will meet on Thursday, August 18, 2011.

- Professional Conservation Employees Program (PCEP) – the technical employee training template is complete and will be distributed on August 17, 2011 at the District Employees Workshop. Mrs. Harris read a letter on behalf of PCEP Chairman, Mr. Mike Pardue. This template serves as a guide for employee development to allow for custom fit to each individual district’s needs. It provides guidance through the employee’s career and as a road map to assist supervisors for providing training to their staff. The administrative workgroup has developed its template and is releasing the draft to the administrative professionals during the workshop. Future plans include training templates for managerial employees, educational employees, and district supervisors. Mr. Pardue extends his appreciation to all those who made it possible. The final technical training template is a tool that will assist staff with their jobs, and enable them to assess where they are professionally so they can take the needed action to improve their skills. Mrs. Harris noted that technical staff must be prepared to accept a greater role as conservation districts are looked upon to provide leadership in the protection of their natural resources.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Chairman West asked Mrs. Harris if she was going to comment on the Summary of 2011 Legislative Session. Mrs. Harris noted that she included the information in the budget and noted that other presenters would be addressing different parts of the budget in their presentation.

**6B.** *This item was deleted.*

**6 C. 2011 ACSP Spot Checks:** Mrs. Michelle Raquet, ACSP Manager for Soil and Water Conservation, presented this item. She noted that the Commission policy requires 5% of all active contracts be spot checked annually. She referred to the handout provided and noted that all 100 counties have submitted their spot check reports. A total of 1,094 site visits were conducted with an average of 9.6% sites visited. The 5% was exceeded in many of the counties because waste management BMPs are required to be spot checked for the first five years after installation. On average, a total of 93% on average were in compliance which is an outstanding record. Seventeen spot checks were out of compliance (1.6%), mostly related to structural BMPs that had equipment stored underneath them or vegetative practices that were no longer there and needed to be reinstalled. 63 of the sites visited needed maintenance most of it was related to vegetation and reestablishment of vegetation. Mrs. Raquet noted that she was pleased with the overall spot check report. She thanked all the Districts for taking the time to write such excellent notes on their spot check reports. It was stated that the notes will be important for maintenance and the “out of compliance” issues. She added that many Districts had more than one supervisor participate. She thanked the supervisors in their participation. She noted it indicates to the Division that the Board of Supervisors acknowledge and understand the importance of maintaining the BMPs for the lifetime of their contracts. She concluded that ACSP has a new brochure. It was announced that Districts should pick them up and mark off their names from the check list on their way out. Mrs. Raquet thanked all of the cost share administrative staff who helped put the brochure together.

**6D. 2011 CCAP Spot Checks:** Mrs. Shelly Baird, Community Conservation Assistance Program for Nonpoint Source Programs Section presented this item.

**Discussion:**

- Mrs. Baird informed the Commission that for the Community Conservation Assistant Program (CCAP), Districts are required to Spot Check 25% of the active contracts.
- Spot Checks were completed on 103 projects (36% of the total installed CCAP projects).
- Eighty eight of the 103 projects were completely functional.

- Fourteen were in need of minor maintenance. Issues included were invasive species, loss of plants, lack of mulch, and minor erosion. It was stated that these were vegetative issues.
- One project was out of compliance (pet waste receptacle was destroyed by vandalism).
- A total of one hundred & four supervisors participated.

Mrs. Baird concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**7. Association Report:** Commissioner Craig Frazier, President, NCASWCD presented the following:

**Discussion:**

- **2011 Leadership Initiative:**  
The second session for the 2011 Leadership Initiative will be held on August 25-26, 2011 at the Sheraton Imperial, RTP.
- **Ag Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Grant:**  
The ADFP grant secured by the Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation to help build the capacity of the Association was closed out in June 2011. The grant included the establishment of the Association office, development of a strategic plan, and development of a communication plan.
- **Association Communication Plan:**  
The Association recently completed a final draft of their Communication Plan which will be presented to the Executive Committee for adoption on September 20, 2011.
- **SE NACD Meeting:**  
Twenty five district supervisors, staff, and spouses from North Carolina recently attended the SE NACD meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama, on July 31 through August 2, 2011. The meeting included a Leadership Roundtable with NRCS; state showcases from three states (including North Carolina) on innovative conservation projects; financial responsibility of districts and district officials.
- **Conservation Farm Family Celebration:**  
On June 17, 2011 a celebration was held in Transylvania County to honor and recognize George and Carrie Lenze, Owners of Everett Farms, for their accomplishments as the State's Conservation Farm Family for 2011.
- **Grain Sorghum Field Day:**  
On July 28, 2011, the Lee and Harnett SWCDs joined together for a very successful grain sorghum field day on the farm of Mike Gaster, Lee SWCD supervisor. Through the initiative of the Association's Research and Technology Committee, the field day was conducted to encourage landowners to consider alternate crop rotations as an effective strategy for controlling weeds that have become resistant to glyphosate.
- **Market Based Conservation:**  
Planning efforts involving the Association, Foundation, Farm Bureau, NCDACS, NCSU, and the Marines to initiate a contractual program with private landowners to protect the integrity of the landscape under the Marine's military training route (MTR) in eastern North Carolina continue. This pilot project will potentially touch 16 counties. The project will provide opportunities for local soil and water conservation districts to work with private landowners through long term contracts to keep lands under the MTR in agriculture or forestry uses. Economic incentives are planned for local districts, the Association, the Foundation, and private landowners. Basic orientation training was provided to SWCD supervisors and staff on August 10-11, 2011.
- **NCASWCD Annual Meeting:** The NCASWCD annual meeting will be held January 8-10, 2012 at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons. Mr. Frazier extended the invitation to all Districts to attend the meeting, if their budget permits.

The complete written Association report is attached as part of the actual minutes.

**8. NRCS Report:** Mr. JB Martin, State Conservationist for NRCS presented an overview of the following:

- **NRCS Budget:** Mr. Martin noted that NRCS has to submit budget proposals from the State. There is a projection of a 50% increase in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) with 13.5 M dollars obligated over the last three years. They would like to see an increase to 22M, which would increase the Technical Assistant (TA) funding. Due to the election year, a trim in the deficit would be implemented. Mr. Martin noted that a preliminary strategic plan would be shown in the upcoming fall meetings to show its progress. Due to the lack of funds, NRCS needs to think collectively about how to increase the TA to all Districts. Mr. Martin ensured the need to provide excellent service to farmers, producers, and land owners in the State of North Carolina.
- **Compliance issues with the Piedmont Region** were discussed. This was due to lack of communication, understanding the procedures and process that was implemented. NRCS will be meeting with individuals next week to address this situation. Mr. Martin noted that conservation plans must be updated. He added that it is NRCS responsibility to provide best service to producers and farmers.
- **Accomplishments:** ARRA projects – The Swan Quarter Watershed Work Plan began 45 years ago. The funding for this is about \$6M. The project would provide a way to help protect Swan Quarter Watershed from wind tides from the Pamlico Sound, and would help impede saltwater intrusion.

Mr. Martin concluded his presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commission members thanked Mr. Martin for his presentation.
- ❖ Mr. Martin thanked Commissioner Bill Yarborough for pointing out some flaws in their policies and procedures. He noted that NRCS has amended the policy and procedures that was identified.
- ❖ Mr. Martin added that if there is anything he can do to make things easier, it should be brought to his attention. He will try to accommodate their request. He referred to his motto “if you cannot bring it to the table, then NRCS cannot address it”.

**V. Action Items**

**9. Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter and it passed unanimously.

**A. Nomination of Supervisors**

- Stuart Askew, Gates SWCD
- Wayne Parker, McDowell SWCD

**B. Approval of NCACSP Supervisor contracts**

- Contract 59-11-03-03; McDowell SWCD; Stock Trail; \$7,831
- Contract 67-11-03-15; Onslow SWCD; Mortality Incinerator; \$10,895
- Contract 77-11-09-16; Richmond SWCD; Waste Application System; \$12,600
- Contract 93-11-19-13; Warren SWCD; Grassed Waterways and Field Borders; \$3,996
- Contract 93-11-20-13; Warren SWCD Grassed Waterways and Field Borders; \$3,208

C. CCAP Job Approval Authority

- *This item was deleted.*

D. Approval of Technical Specialist Designation

- Anthony Dial
- William F. Burke

10. District Supervisor Policies

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Harris presented the update on appointed supervisors and the UNC School of Government training (SOG). The policy states: "As part of the appointment process the candidate has to agree to go to SOG training within one year of becoming a district supervisor". At the commission's December 2011 meeting, several supervisors were identified as not meeting the SOG training requirement however the division was unable to confirm through its records. After some research, the division updated its records including the following:

A. Training obligation for appointed supervisors

- Charles Carroll; Brunswick SWCD; appointed November 2010; no longer a supervisor
- J. Ben Knox; Rowan SWCD; appointed January 1994; attended 1999 (plans to attend 2012 SOG training)
- Chad Spencer; Hyde SWCD; appointed May 2010; attended 2011 SOG training
- Donna Moffitt; New Hanover SWCD; appointed March 2010; attended 2011 SOG training
- Heath Myers; Clay SWCD; appointed July 2009; attended 2011 SOG training
- Jack Lee Boone Jr.; Yancey SWCD; appointed December 1982; attended 2007 SOG training
- Terri Kirby Hathaway; Dare SWCD; appointed December 2010; plans to attend 2012 SOG training
- David Roy Bowman; Guilford SWCD; appointed May 2010; plans to attend 2012 SOG training
- Barry A. Clark; Burke SWCD; appointed March 2011; first opportunity is 2012 SOG training
- Henry T. Fowler; Jackson SWCD; appointed March 2011; first opportunity is 2012 SOG training
- Donna C. Mills; Wayne SWCD; appointed March 2011; first opportunity is 2012 SOG training
- Dennis A. Simmons; Caswell SWCD; appointed May 2011; first opportunity is 2012 SOG training
- Karen J. McAdams; Orange SWCD; appointed May 2011; first opportunity is 2012 SOG training

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner James Ferguson made a motion to approve Terri Kirby Hathaway, and David Roy Bowman to continue serving as supervisors and to meet their SOG training obligation in 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bobby Stanley. Motion carried.

B. Travel Reimbursement Policy

Mrs. Harris presented the following.

- District Supervisor subsistence travel was reduced by \$28,000
- FY2009-2010 appropriation \$290,000, expended \$293,803. Mrs. Harris noted that this was not an accounting error; the supervisor travel fund was depleted. The division transferred the difference from other division accounts.
- FY 2009-2010 Mrs. Harris sent an email to districts that the division could not honor the travel reimbursements after May 28, 2010. Funds were depleted June 19, 2010.
- FY 2010-2011 appropriation \$290,000, expended \$293,898. Mrs. Harris sent an email to the districts that the division could not honor the travel reimbursements after March 28, 2011. Funds were depleted in April 13, 2011.
- FY 2011-2012 appropriation \$261,690 (reduction of \$28,000)
- Comparisons of FY 2009-2010 & FY 2010-2011 was presented as follows:

FY 2009-2010	FY 2010-2011
District Meetings \$172,062 (58%)	District Meetings \$126,656 (43%)
2010 Annual/State Meeting \$91,236 (31%)	2011 Annual/State Meeting \$113,481 (39%). More staff attended, cost of travel was high.
SOG Training \$4391 (1.5%)	SOG Training \$12,553 (4.3%)
Area Meetings \$27,867 (9.3%)	Area Meetings \$27,440 (9.3%)
No reimbursements for breakfast for local district meetings	No reimbursements for breakfast for local district meetings

- Consideration for FY 2011-2012 was presented as follows:
  - Supervisor subsistence reduced by \$28,000.
  - Highest priority placed on local district meetings.
  - Project SOG training costs lower due to following non-election year.
  - Prefer reimbursement continue through May (after spring meetings).
  - Unlikely division can backfill account due to its own reduced operating budget.
  - 2012 state meeting registration cost increasing by \$5 (capped at \$100).
  - State subsistence rate is changed for "Lodging and Meals".
  - Inconsistent reimbursement for area meetings (registration range from \$23 to \$30).
- Recommendations for FY 2011-2012 was presented as follows:
  - Highest priority continued to be placed on local district meetings.
  - Continue elimination of reimbursement for breakfast for districts meetings; and
  - Discontinue reimbursement for \$10.45 lunch for district meetings (projected savings of \$31,500 based on average of FY 2009-2010 & FY 2010-2011); and
  - **Option 1:** Area meeting registration capped at \$25 plus reimbursement for breakfast only (projected \$4,000 savings based on # per diem for FY 2010-2011 & savings of \$10.45 lunch) = total savings of \$35,500.
  - **Option 2:** Area meeting registration capped at \$30 with no other meal reimbursement = total savings of \$37,000

Mrs. Harris concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

The presentation is attached made an official part of the minutes.

**Comments & Action from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to accept option 2. Chair Manly West clarified option 2 included the commission's stance to place highest priority placed on local district

meetings, continue to not reimburse supervisors for breakfast, and discontinue reimbursement for lunch. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.

## **11. ACSP Approval Items:**

### **A. TRC Recommendations**

Mrs. Julie Henshaw, NPS Section Chief presented this item. The Technical Review Committee met on August 8, 2011 and request that the following recommendation be brought to the Commission for consideration. A handout was provided.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **1. PY2012 average cost list**

- TRC recommend proposed changes to: Increase the component for vegetation (VEG-bulk lime, seed, fertilizer) by 100% to an average cost of \$550/acre, add aluminum two-piece anti-seep collars for water control structures (WCS) to match the size of the pipes that are currently cost shareable on the list (page 11 of 13).
- Several additional items were discussed but there is no change in the cost this year. Districts are required to send in their receipts with request payments for several components including wells, grading, and gravel. This will enable the TRC to create a database to more accurately assess the average cost.
- Recommendations were to remove some of the components under the temporary components from the Drought Response Program. TRC does not have funding available to pay for these items (reflected on revised page 14 of the handout)

Mrs. Henshaw welcomed comments from Commission members about average cost list.

#### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to accept the PY2012 average cost list recommendations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **2. Modifications to the abandoned tree removal practice**

- It was noted that the modifications were approved at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting. Commission requested changes to be made to include the apple tree into the BMP (original recommendation was for Christmas tree removal only). A handout included the language that was approved at the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The TRC reviewed the revised BMP, and provided additional clarifying language. There are concerns about the water quality benefits associated with the apple trees; this is noted in policy #2.

Mrs. Henshaw welcomed comments from Commission members about the modifications.

#### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion not to take action and requested that the recommendation be referred back to the TRC for further clarification. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.
- Commission members suggested that the TRC contact the NC Apple Growers Association for direction and referenced Mr. Michael L. Parker, Tree Fruit Extension Specialist in the Department of Horticultural Science, as someone who could be of assistance.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **3. Policy for review of private Professional Engineer Designs for ACSP BMPs**

- Recommendations were made to adopt the following policy to clarify the division's role in reviewing designs by private Professional Engineers for cost-shared practices:  
 "Private professional engineers are allowed to design BMPs for Commission cost share programs. Division of Soil and Water Conservation engineers will review sealed designs from private engineers to ensure the design meets the required program standards and specifications for the practice prior to construction. After completing the review of the private engineers design, the division engineer will provide written documentation on whether the practice as designed, meets the required program standards and specification to the local soil and water conservation district. The private engineer/firm will be responsible for construction oversight and certifying the installed practice as built to complete the cooperators request for payment."
- Mrs. Henshaw indicated that this policy will help clarify the role of outside engineers and protect the investment of state resources through the cost share programs.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Billy Yarborough made a motion to accept the policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.
- ❖ Questions were asked if this would overload the engineers and inquired about the time factor.
- ❖ Mrs. Henshaw informed the Commission that the question was posed to the division engineers. The engineers weighed in on different options that would be best suit their needs. It was noted that the engineers feel that they can comfortably absorb the extra workload in a timely manner. TRC will work with engineers to come up with guidelines.

**Discussion:**

**Modifications to the odor control management system BMP**

- Policy #4 is to clarify requirements for authorize the use of unproven technology. It also includes updated NRCS standards and specifications as a reference.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Donald Heath made a motion to approve the modifications in Policy #4. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bobby Stanley. Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

**4. Modifications to erosion and sediment reduction BMPs general policies regarding fertilizer use**

- General policies for vegetation, erosion, and sediment reduction BMPs include policy 1(e):  
 "Cooperator may use other than 10-10-10 fertilizer and the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program will pay 75% of \$.22 per lb. of plant food based on soil test." It is recommended that this policy be removed from the general policies related to erosion and sediment reduction BMPs. This change is recommended because the cost for fertilizer is combined as one item on the cost list "VEG-bulk lime, seed, fertilizer."

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion not to accept this request and requested that the recommendation be referred back to the TRC for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.
- Questions were asked as to who will pay for the fertilizer.
- Mrs. Henshaw clarified that the TRC has not made any payment towards fertilizer as it relates to this general policy.

**11. B. Approval of 2012 ACSP Detailed Implementation Plan:** Mrs. Michelle Raquet, ACSP Manager presented this item. A handout was provided.

**Discussion:**

- It was noted that there were minimal changes for Program Year 2012; the BMPs and definitions will remain the same.
- The addition of the abandoned tree removal BMP that was approved at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting is included in the Detailed Implementation Plan. The definition was modified to include the addition of “the apple tree fields”; and the language related to “the field must have been abandoned for at least 5 years.”
- Mrs. Raquet informed the Commission that the changes approved by the Commission will remain in the definition even though the BMP is going back to TRC for review.
- Mrs. Raquet also recommended one temporary BMPs listed as part of the Drought Response Program be deleted from the Detailed Implementation Plan. The conservation irrigation conversion BMPs will be included as part of the Agriculture Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP). The Detailed Implementation Plan also includes a table of minimum life expectancy. Abandoned tree removal with a minimum life expectancy of 10 years was added. Under Temporary Practices for the Drought Response Program, Agricultural Water Supply Pond will remain on the table but Conservation Irrigation Conversion will be deleted.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the Definition of Practices as follows:
  - Add item 1
  - Delete item 47
  - Add Abandoned Tree Removal for Minimum Life Expectancy; 10 year practice.
  - Delete Temporary Practices for the Drought Response Program
  - Delete Conservation Irrigation Conservation for 10 year practice

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.

**11. C. Allocation of 2012 ACSP Financial Assistance Funds:**

Mrs. Michelle Raquet presented this item. A handout was provided.

**Discussion:**

- It was noted that Districts requested over \$22M for the installation of BMPs through Agriculture Cost Share Program.
- Recommendation was made to review and approve the proposed 2012 Ag. Cost Share Program Allocation.
- An update was made to all seven parameters. Total funds available \$5,941,457 need to be allocated.
- State Reversion 2010-2011 decrease \$26,358 due to non-recurring budget reductions
- An increase of \$400,000 from previous years, allocations, ear-marks and cancellations
- This year’s (2012) allocations include the following funding:
  - \$5,018,186 in regular cost share funds
  - \$300,000 for CREP earmark. This is a just-in-time allocation that is awarded to districts as contracts are submitted for Division approval.
  - \$400,000 for Impaired/Impacted earmark for 33 districts that have completed surveys on impaired or impacted streams in their counties. These funds help address the identified water quality concerns.
  - This is less than the \$500,000 allocated last year but matches the amount that the Districts encumbered for the 2011 contracts.
  - \$223,220 or 5% withholding for contingency reserve, as required by program rules

Mrs. Raquet concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

The allocation spreadsheet is attached as part of the actual minutes.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Vicky Porter made a motion to accept the 2012 ACSP Financial Assistance Funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.

**11. C. 1. Allocation of 2012 Drought Appropriated Funds:**

Mrs. Julie Henshaw presented this item. A handout was provided.

**Discussion:**

- Consideration of PY2012 Drought Appropriation Allocation: \$180,634 remains available from the Drought Appropriation (DA).
- Due to the current drought conditions, the division request authorization to allocate these remaining funds for redrilling of damaged wells, drilling of new wells, renovation of damaged or inadequate farm ponds, and building new ponds in the following manner:
  - Districts may submit contracts, and funds will be encumbered to contracts as they are approved. This will result in a just-in-time allocation approach as has been used with the annual CREP earmark.
  - Contracts must be ready for approval, and will not be pended due to design or other missing items.
  - Work done prior to division contract approval is not eligible.
  - BMPs must be installed by December 31, 2011
- This will enable the division to allocate the funds out to producers in a timely manner and increase their water supply.

Mrs. Henshaw concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the PY2012 Drought Appropriation Allocation Funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.

**11. D. Issues from Districts:**

Mrs. Michelle Raquet provided introductions to each of the items below. A handout was provided.

1. Extension Requests

**Discussion:**

- **Contract 01-09-06-02;** Alamance SWCD; Stream Protection System. Presented by Phil Ross, SWCD and Dean Rainey, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the extension request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.
- **Contract 11-09-56-05;** Buncombe SWCD; Stream Protection System  
*This contract was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.*
- **Contract 13-09-01-16;** Cabarrus SWCD; Stream Protection System Pasture Renovation.  
Presented by Daniel McClellan, SWCD and Vicky Porter, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the extension request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig Frazier. Motion carried.

- **Contract 36-09-232-03**; Gaston SWCD; Stream Protection System. Presented by Jason Cathey, SWCD and Michael Ferguson, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bill Yarborough made a motion to approve the extension request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig Frazier. Motion carried.
- **Contract 58-09-18-13**; Martin SWCD; Grassed Waterway. Presented by Lynn Whitehurst, SWCD and Eugene Mellette, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the extension request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.
- **Contract 82-09-201-02**; Sampson SWCD; Central Processing Facility (Lagoon Conversion Program) and
- **Contract 82-09-202-02**; Sampson SWCD; On-Farm Waste Treatment System (Lagoon Conversion Program). Presented by Gavin Thompson, SWCD and Craig Thornton, Supervisor.  
Commissioner James Ferguson made a motion to approve both the extension request (82-09-201-02 and 82-09-202-02). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.
- **Contract 93-09-14-12**; Warren SWCD; Grassed Waterways and Field Borders. Presented by Larry West, SWCD and Leonard Killian, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the extension request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig Frazier. Motion carried.

#### **11. D. Issues from Districts:**

Mrs. Michelle Raquet provided an introduction to the items. She noted that Commission Policy dictates that BMPs are not to be started until the district receives division approval. A handout was provided.

#### **2. Post Approvals**

#### **Discussion:**

- **Contract 37-07-07-04**; Gates SWCD; Installation of water control structure; \$1,405. Presented by Matt Lowe, SWCD and Rick Morgan, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the payment out of the 2012 allocation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.
- **Contract 37-10-03-04**; Gates SWCD; Purchase of waste application system – Poultry Litter Spreader. Presented by Matt Lowe, SWCD and Rick Morgan, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Donald Heath made a motion to approve the contract for design approval authority (payment was encumbered out of the 2010 allocation). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.
- **Contract 52-09-09-09**; Jones SWCD; Purchase of waste application system – Travelling Gun; \$16,095. Presented by Keith Jones, SWCD and Sam Davis, Supervisor.  
Commissioner James Ferguson made a motion to approve the 2009 contract for design approval authority (payment was encumbered out of the 2009 allocation). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.
- **Contract 80-08-09-16**; Rowan SWCD; BMP – Pasture Renovation; \$6,480. Presented by Chris Sloop, SWCD and Jim Summers, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the 2008 contract for Pasture Renovation (contract was completed in early 2011; payment will be encumbered out of the 2012 allocation). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.
- **Contract 58-09-02-12**; Martin SWCD; BMP - Cropland Conversion to Trees; \$1,591. Presented by Lynn Whitehurst, SWCD and Eugene Mellette, Supervisor.  
Commissioner Bobby Stanley made a motion to approve the extension of the 2009 contract for cost share assistance (Request for payment (RFP) received by DSWC on 8/3/2011, payment will

be encumbered out of the 2012 CREP earmark allocation). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.

## **12. CCAP Approval Items:**

### **A. Advisory Committee Recommendations**

Mrs. Shelly Baird presented this item. The CAC met on July 28<sup>th</sup> to approve the following recommendation for Commission consideration. A handout was provided.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **1. New BMP proposal: Structural Stormwater Conveyance; Carteret SWCD**

- A Structural Stormwater Conveyance includes various techniques to divert runoff from paved surfaces where a vegetated diversion is not feasible. Examples may include: curb cuts, trench drains, and raised concrete or asphalt areas. Runoff is diverted to an approved BMP or naturally vegetated area capable of removing nutrients and storing runoff. Reference was made to the handout 12A-1 (Definition/Purpose) that was discussed in several CCAP Committee meetings. Mrs. Baird pointed out that input was received from engineers from division of soil and water conservation, division of water quality, outside private professional engineers and firms.
- It was noted that the last two items on the handout listed as 12A-1 in terms of job approval. It is recommended that this practice be designed by an engineer.
- The cost that is being proposed to pay this BMP at 75% of actual cost, not to exceed a cost share cap of \$4,000.

Mrs. Baird concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

#### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the New BMP proposal - Structural Stormwater Conveyance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Ferguson. Motion carried.

##### **2. Program Year 2012 Average Cost List**

- The changes reflect additions and revisions based on district and partner experience. It was noted that minor changes were done. Language was added to clarify that the critical area planting cost includes mulch and seed. Minor changes were made to the diversion and grassed swale components which include the removal of filter cloth-pins as a separate component, and revised cost units on turf reinforced matting and temporary liners.
- It was stated that the approval of the new BMP this would be added to the PY 2012 cost list. She restated the cost that is being proposed to pay this BMP at 75% of actual cost, not to exceed a cost share cap of \$4,000.

#### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Bill Yarborough made a motion to approve the PY2012 Average Cost List. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.

##### **3. Policy for review of private Professional Engineer Designs for CCAP BMPs**

- It was discussed that this policy needs to be added to the CCAP program. PE designs would be reviewed by the division engineer to ensure that they meet the programs standards and specification. The CCAP Committee is requesting Commission approval.

#### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commission member clarified if this request is the same for cost share.
- ❖ Commissioner James Ferguson made a motion to approve the policy review of private professional engineer designs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Heath. Motion carried.

## **12. CCAP Approval Items:**

### **B. Approval of 2012 CCAP Detailed Implementation Plan**

Mrs. Shelly Baird presented this item. She informed that the handout provided does not include any changes for this year. Mrs. Baird pointed out that with the addition of the new BMP, a short summary of the BMP would be indicated in the Implementation Plan. CCAP is requesting Commission approval.

### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Donald Heath made a motion to approve the PY2012 Detailed Implementation Plan with the addition of the new BMP.
- ❖ Commission members noted that the language should be as stated in 12A-1 (Definition/Purpose) for consistency.
- ❖ Mrs. Baird noted that the addition on the new BMP would be listed as item #17 on the Implementation Plan.
- ❖ The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.

## **12. CCAP Approval Items:**

### **C. Allocation of 2012 CCAP Financial Assistance Funds**

#### **Discussion:**

- Mrs. Shelly Baird presented this item. She informed the Commission that 70 Districts requested over \$2.3M for the installation of best management practices (BMPs) through the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP). It was noted that a revised copy was submitted to the Commission for review. Mrs. Baird expressed that CCAP is requesting Commission approval.
- It was noted that three of the five allocation parameters based on new data available, a total of \$212,669 in state appropriations to allocate to 70 districts that requested funding. This is comparable to the amount allocated last year.
- Due to the limited funding for this program, 7 districts received the minimum allocation of \$1,500, and the largest allocation was less than \$5,000.
- The following allocations for PY2012 funding was noted:
  - \$212,669 for regular CCAP
  - \$23,958 for technical assistance funds for support of the technician positions in Dare and New Hanover Districts
  - \$125,000 for the Environmental Enhancement Grant CCAP. The division received a grant for CCAP best management practice implementation in 20 districts.
  - \$6,847 or 5% withholding for a contingency reserve, as required by program rules

Mrs. Baird concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

### **Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commissioner Bill Yarborough made a motion to approve the allocation of 2012 CCAP Financial Assistance Funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bobby Stanley. Motion carried.

## **12. D. Issues from Districts:**

### **1. Post Approvals**

a. Installation of cisterns; Wilkes SWCD

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Shelly Baird presented a short overview of this item as follows. She introduced Mr. Mike Pardue and Mr. Ted Carter, Supervisor from Wilkes SWCD.

- The original contract was approved for a 2200 gallon cistern.
- The RFP was submitted, a 1700 gallon cistern was installed.
- The RFP is pended for JAA, revised cost to reflect smaller cistern size, and receipts for actual cost items.
- Mrs. Baird noted that on June 6<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Barry Greer contacted the division and requested forms for CCAP supplement. Mr. Greer was informed to submit his request as "11" and "11A". It was noted that the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to submit PY11 contracts had passed. After consulting with ACSP staff, Mrs. Baird allowed the late submittal of the supplement.
- June 9, 2011, the division received RFP for contract #97-10-501, and request for proposed supplement. Upon review, it was determined that contract #97-11-501 did not qualify as a supplement. It included the addition of 3 (1700 gallon) cisterns. The supporting design documentation and design approval were missing.
- Mrs. Baird informed the Commission that the definition of a supplement was included in the packets. Definition stated as "Supplements are used when closing out a prior year contract and there are insufficient funds remaining to pay for the contracted BMPs". It was noted that Mr. Greer was informed of this definition and must submit as a PY2012 contract for post approval. Upon further discussion and requests to use PY11 funds, CCAP is requesting approval from the Commission. She indicated that a new contract was received. It is currently pended for design approval, cistern checklist, and few other items.

Mrs. Baird concluded her presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- ❖ Commission members asked clarifying questions
- ❖ Mrs. Baird expressed that staff recommends that the 2012 funds be used according to the timeline when they were received.
- ❖ It was noted that CCAP would like to clarify the definition of the supplement, staff would like to propose to defer this to the Cost Share Committee
- ❖ Commissioner Donald Heath made a motion to approve the post approval for the installation of cisterns using the 2012 funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bill Yarborough. Motion carried.

**13. Allocation of 2012 Lagoon conversion Program Funds**

Mr. David Williams, Deputy Director for the Division of Soil and Water Conservation presented this item. A handout was provided.

**Discussion:**

- Of the original \$2M appropriated to the Lagoon conversion Program (LCP) in 2007, \$109,161 remains unallocated.
- The purpose of this is to assist swine operations to convert to more innovative technology that will meet the high standards of environmentally superior technology.
- Two of the cost share projects approved for extension earlier are LCP Projects from Sampson SWCD.

Mr. Williams referred to the handout that listed the projects, LCP funding amounts, and cost per project. He noted that there were 7 projects that were currently underway using the funds. He added that this would be the funding recommendation for the last project.

- He noted that the division solicited proposals in April 2011, and informed that there was only one project that was submitted that met all the criteria for funding which was from Wayne SWCD; proposed technology – Terra Blue (formerly Supersoils). Staff is recommending allocating \$105,000 to support this project. Estimated total project cost \$500,000.
- Details of the project were discussed.

Mr. Williams concluded his presentation and welcomed comments and suggestions from Commission members.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- Commission members asked clarifying questions.
- Commissioner Craig Frazier made a motion to approve the allocation of Lagoon Conversion Program funds for 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bobby Stanley. Motion carried.

**14. Approval of NCACSP Commission member contracts**

Mrs. Michelle Raquet presented this item. A handout was provided.

**Discussion:**

- Mrs. Raquet noted that this contract is presented as a separate action item and must be approved by the Commission and the NCDA&CS Commissioner.
- Contract #44-2011-12-05; Haywood SWCD, Sediment Basin; \$1,652
- It was noted that staff has received all proper documentation for this contract, and is recommending to move forward. They are requesting approval from the Commission.

**Comments & Suggestions from Commission Members:**

- Commissioner Bill Yarborough made a motion to approve the contract for Haywood SWCD. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vicky Porter. Motion carried.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

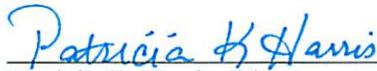
(1) Ann Coan, NC Farm Bureau Fed.

- Mrs. Coan appreciated the support and assistance her department has received from the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. She discussed the 2007 animal operations rule. She noted that at the July meeting the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) declined to adopt this rule. The EMC suggested a study need to be conducted to determine the water quality issues that need to be addressed. The US Geological Survey in cooperation with the Water Quality Department will be soliciting animal operation to participate. Ms. Coan informed that it was funded for at least two years and USGS is funding the third year. She noted that one addendum was made by the EMC that requested annual reports of the results.
- The transition of the Division of Soil & Water Conservation to the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services was discussed. Mrs. Coan shared concerns from the environmental community and other entities that the priorities of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation would change.
- She identified the priorities that read *“The priorities have always been to assist the citizens of the state for water quality protection, and to protect and conserve the land for future generations”*.
- Other items discussed: NC Agriculture Cost Share Program for Non Point Source Pollution Control (water quality and land conservation as its goals).

- Ms. Coan thanked the Commission members and the staff of Soil and Water Conservation.
- (2) Jerry Dorsett, Winston Salem. A handout was provided to the Commission before his presentation.
- Mr. Dorsett informed the Commission that he ended his long career of 30 years due to the state budget cuts. He gave a brief overview of his accomplishments within DENR.
  - He expressed congratulations on the move to NCDA&CS and noted that the DSWC would be valued and appreciated. He wished the division well in its future endeavors.
  - The presentation is attached as part of the actual minutes.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further items to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 21, at the Archdale Building.



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



Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary  
(Sign & Date)

*These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on September 21, 2011.*



Patricia K. Harris, Director  
(Sign & Date)

**NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts**  
**Report to the Commission**  
**August 16, 2011**

**2011 Leadership Initiative** – The final session for the Leadership Initiative class of 2011 will be held on August 25-26, 2011 at the Sheraton Imperial, RTP. The session will be led by Dr. Mitch Owen who will facilitate discussion on effective leadership, conflict resolution, and group dynamics. Attendees will gain valuable information from several instruments that will help each participant learn more about their personal leadership style and how they handle conflict. This training is funded through a Altria grant which was secured by the Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation. The grant will be closed out in September.

**Ag Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Grant**–The ADFP grant secured by the Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation to help build the capacity of the Association was closed out in June, 2011. Much was accomplished through the grant with the establishment of the Association office to include office furniture, equipment, and supplies; the completion of the Association’s Strategic Plan, and the development of an Association Communication Plan. Appreciation is expressed to the Foundation and the ADFP Trust Fund for their support.

**Association Communication Plan** -- The Association recently completed a final draft of their Communication Plan which will be presented to the Executive Committee for adoption on September 20, 2011. Funding for plan development was provided through the ADFP grant, with contract services provided through Sheer Associates, a communication and marketing firm in Chapel Hill. A survey was used to establish baseline data for the plan. The survey revealed that only 42.67% of the respondents subscribe to the Districts Listserv and 48.3% use the internet only weekly or less, making internal communication a major challenge for the Association.

**SE NACD Meeting** – Some 25 district supervisors, staff, and spouses from North Carolina recently attended the SE NACD meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama, July 31 through August 2. The meeting included a Leadership Roundtable with NRCS; state showcases from three states (including North Carolina) on innovative conservation projects; financial responsibility of districts and district officials; interchange with Dr. Homer Wilkes, NRCS Acting Associate Chief; and a presentation on “Translating Science into Meaningful Changes”.

**Conservation Farm Family Celebration** – On June 17, 2011 a celebration was held in Transylvania County to honor and recognize George and Carrie Lenze, owners of Everett Farms, for their accomplishments as the state’s Conservation Farm Family for 2011. Everett Farms is a

grass fed Red Angus operation and 100% of the beef is marketed through local restaurants and outlets in the Brevard/Asheville area. Commission Chair Manly West spoke at the event with Association President Craig Frazier handling master of ceremony duties. The Transylvania SWCD is congratulated on a well-organized and successful event. Pictures of the event can be found on the Association web page at [www.ncaswcd.org](http://www.ncaswcd.org).

**Grain Sorghum Field Day** – On July 28, 2011, the Lee and Harnett SWCDs joined together for a very successful grain sorghum field day on the farm of Mike Gaster, Lee SWCD supervisor. Through the initiative of the Association’s Research and Technology Committee and chair Bill Yarborough, the field day was conducted to encourage landowners to consider alternate crop rotations as an effective strategy for controlling weeds that have become resistant to glyphosate. Over 36 participants heard technical specialists from the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, NRCS, and the Cooperative Extension Service. This very effective and successful field day was truly a partnership effort. Thanks go to the Harnett and Lee SWCDs for all of their efforts.

**Market Based Conservation** – Planning efforts involving the Association, Foundation, Farm Bureau, NCDACS, NCSU, and the Marines to initiate a contractual program with private landowners to protect the integrity of the landscape under the Marine’s military training route (MTR) in eastern North Carolina continues. This pilot project will potentially touch the following 16 counties – Pamlico, Beaufort, Martin, Bertie, Edgecombe, Halifax, Nash, Franklin, Wake, Johnston, Harnett, Sampson, Duplin, Lenoir, Jones, and Onslow. The project will provide opportunities for local soil and water conservation districts to work with private landowners through long term contracts to keep lands under the MTR in agriculture or forestry uses. Economic incentives are planned for local districts, the Association, and the Foundation, as well as the private landowner. Basic orientation training was provided to SWCD supervisors and staff on August 10 and 11.

 **NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

**Item #10 Travel Reimbursement Policy**

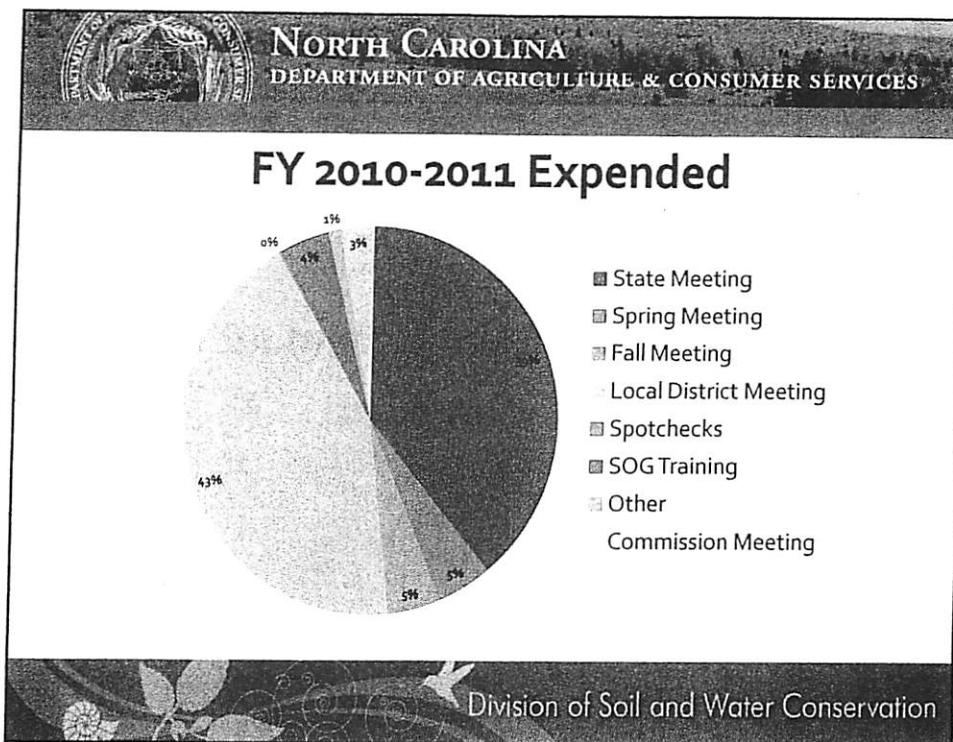
 Division of Soil and Water Conservation

 **NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

**District Supervisor Travel Funds  
Appropriated & Expended**

	Appropriated	Expended	Notice (Depleted)
FY 2009-2010	\$289,690	\$293,803	May 28, 2010 (June 19, 2010)
FY 2010-2011	\$289,690	\$293, 898	March 28, 2011 (April 13, 2011)
FY 2011-2012	\$261,690	---	

 Division of Soil and Water Conservation



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

### Comparisons of FY2009-2010 & FY 2010-2011

FY 2009-2010	FY 2010-2011
♦ District meetings = \$172,062 (58%)	♦ District meetings = \$126,656 (43%)
♦ 2010 state meeting = \$91,236 (31%)	♦ 2011 state meeting = \$113,481 (39%)
♦ SOG training = \$4,391 (1.5%)	♦ SOG training = \$12,553 (4.3%)
♦ Area meetings = \$27,867 (9.3%)	♦ Area meetings = \$27,440 (9.3%)
♦ No reimbursement for breakfast for local district meetings	♦ No reimbursement for breakfast for local district meetings

Division of Soil and Water Conservation



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

### Considerations for FY2011-2012

- ◆ Supervisor subsistence reduced by \$28,000
- ◆ Highest priority placed on local district meetings
- ◆ Project SOG training costs lower due to following non-election year
- ◆ Prefer reimbursement continue through May (after spring meetings)
- ◆ Unlikely division can backfill account due to its own reduced operating budget
- ◆ 2012 state meeting registration cost increasing by \$5 (capped at \$100)
- ◆ State subsistence rate changed:
  - Lodging decreased by \$2.00 to \$63.90/night
  - Meals – breakfast \$8.00; lunch \$10.45; dinner \$17.90 (net increase of \$1.20)
- ◆ Inconsistent reimbursement for area meetings
  - Registrations range from \$23.00 to \$30.00
  - Area meeting with lunch = registration plus breakfast & dinner
  - Area meeting with dinner = registration plus breakfast & lunch

Division of Soil and Water Conservation



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

### Recommendations for FY2011-2012

- ◆ Highest priority continued to be placed on local district meetings
- ◆ Continue elimination of reimbursement for breakfast for districts meetings; and
- ◆ Discontinue reimbursement for \$10.45 lunch for district meetings (projected savings of \$31,500 based on average of FY2009-2010 & FY2010-2011); and
- ◆ Option 1: Area meeting registration capped at \$25.00 plus reimbursement for breakfast only (projected \$4,000 savings based on # per diem for FY2010-2011 & savings of \$10.45 lunch) = **total savings of \$35,500**
- ◆ Option 2: Area meeting registration capped at \$30.00 with no other meal reimbursement = **total savings of \$37,000**

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Action item 11c: Allocation of 2012 ACSP Financial Assistance Funds

DISTRICT	REGULAR ACSP (CS)		CREP EARMARK (CE)		Impaired/Impacted Earmark (II)		TOTAL PY 2012 ALLOCATION
	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	
ALAMANCE	\$ 168,307	\$ 58,363				\$ -	\$ 58,363
ALEXANDER	\$ 98,128	\$ 62,357			\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 68,357
ALLEGHANY	\$ 193,210	\$ 57,240			\$ 20,000	\$ 14,364	\$ 71,604
ANSON	\$ 670,000	\$ 58,511				\$ -	\$ 58,511
ASHE	\$ 1,123,000	\$ 54,830				\$ -	\$ 54,830
AVERY	\$ 169,206	\$ 51,692				\$ -	\$ 51,692
BEAUFORT	\$ 150,175	\$ 54,820				\$ -	\$ 54,820
BERTIE	\$ 439,845	\$ 38,245				\$ -	\$ 38,245
BLADEN	\$ 100,000	\$ 53,868				\$ -	\$ 53,868
BRUNSWICK	\$ 50,000	\$ 47,391				\$ -	\$ 47,391
BUNCOMBE	\$ 316,000	\$ 59,787			\$ 20,000	\$ 15,003	\$ 74,790
BURKE	\$ 49,673	\$ 48,558				\$ -	\$ 48,558
CABARRUS	\$ 73,000	\$ 59,054			\$ 25,000	\$ 14,819	\$ 73,873
CALDWELL	\$ 125,000	\$ 47,888				\$ -	\$ 47,888
CAMDEN	\$ 48,050	\$ 39,541				\$ -	\$ 39,541
CARTERET	\$ 30,040	\$ 30,040				\$ -	\$ 30,040
CASWELL	\$ 185,000	\$ 49,429				\$ -	\$ 49,429
CATAWBA	\$ 101,312	\$ 57,300				\$ -	\$ 57,300
CHATHAM	\$ 238,250	\$ 71,821			\$ 40,000	\$ 18,023	\$ 89,844
CHEROKEE	\$ 120,000	\$ 54,643			\$ 40,000	\$ 13,712	\$ 68,355
CHOWAN	\$ 83,500	\$ 48,397	\$ 15,000			\$ -	\$ 48,397
CLAY	\$ 165,000	\$ 35,264			\$ 30,000	\$ 8,849	\$ 44,113
CLEVELAND	\$ 60,314	\$ 55,801				\$ -	\$ 55,801
COLUMBUS	\$ 112,800	\$ 53,789	\$ 2,200			\$ -	\$ 53,789
CRAVEN	\$ 54,935	\$ 42,172				\$ -	\$ 42,172
CUMBERLAND	\$ 157,265	\$ 31,582				\$ -	\$ 31,582
CURRITUCK	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000				\$ -	\$ 45,000
DARE	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -	\$ -
DAVIDSON	\$ 55,600	\$ 55,600				\$ -	\$ 55,600
DAVIE	\$ 92,425	\$ 65,468				\$ -	\$ 65,468
DUPLIN	\$ 210,450	\$ 82,776				\$ -	\$ 82,776
DURHAM	\$ 257,434	\$ 47,420				\$ -	\$ 47,420
EDGECOMBE	\$ 169,128	\$ 43,878				\$ -	\$ 43,878
FORSYTH	\$ 120,250	\$ 42,666				\$ -	\$ 42,666
FRANKLIN	\$ 280,294	\$ 58,852	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 68,852
GASTON	\$ 162,228	\$ 56,244				\$ -	\$ 56,244
GATES	\$ 54,900	\$ 31,701				\$ -	\$ 31,701
GRAHAM	\$ 38,186	\$ 35,740				\$ -	\$ 35,740
GRANVILLE	\$ 84,970	\$ 62,832				\$ -	\$ 62,832
GREENE	\$ 142,000	\$ 53,082	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 58,082
GUILFORD	\$ 291,090	\$ 55,632			\$ 30,000	\$ 13,960	\$ 69,592
HALIFAX	\$ 919,819	\$ 53,708	\$ 30,000			\$ -	\$ 53,708
HARNETT	\$ 150,000	\$ 49,260				\$ -	\$ 49,260
HAYWOOD	\$ 210,000	\$ 48,284			\$ 60,000	\$ 12,116	\$ 60,400
HENDERSON	\$ 223,000	\$ 58,778				\$ -	\$ 58,778
HERTFORD	\$ 141,640	\$ 36,124				\$ -	\$ 36,124
HOKE	\$ 149,500	\$ 34,334				\$ -	\$ 34,334
HYDE	\$ 100,000	\$ 44,682				\$ -	\$ 44,682

DISTRICT	REGULAR ACSP (CS)		CREP EARMARK (CE)		Impaired/Impacted Earmark (II)		TOTAL PY 2012 ALLOCAT.
	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	
IREDELL	\$ 141,500	\$ 56,339				\$ -	\$ 56,339
JACKSON	\$ 64,349	\$ 45,323				\$ -	\$ 45,323
JOHNSTON	\$ 211,818	\$ 62,652	\$ 4,500		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 67,652
JONES	\$ 104,450	\$ 54,659	\$ 500			\$ -	\$ 54,659
LEE	\$ 68,200	\$ 53,946				\$ -	\$ 53,946
LENOIR	\$ 128,625	\$ 46,217				\$ -	\$ 46,217
LINCOLN	\$ 150,000	\$ 64,975			\$ 60,000	\$ 16,305	\$ 81,280
MACON	\$ 120,000	\$ 39,140				\$ -	\$ 39,140
MADISON	\$ 75,000	\$ 53,673			\$ 20,000	\$ 13,469	\$ 67,142
MARTIN	\$ 562,500	\$ 33,369	\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000	\$ 8,373	\$ 41,742
MCDOWELL	\$ 24,832	\$ 24,832				\$ -	\$ 24,832
MECKLENBURG	\$ 35,000	\$ 26,313			\$ 30,000	\$ 6,603	\$ 32,916
MITCHELL	\$ 284,500	\$ 56,450			\$ 14,250	\$ 14,165	\$ 70,615
MONTGOMERY	\$ 579,953	\$ 45,760				\$ -	\$ 45,760
MOORE	\$ 252,500	\$ 50,561				\$ -	\$ 50,561
NASH	\$ 1,081,000	\$ 60,850	\$ 20,000			\$ -	\$ 60,850
NEW HANOVER	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000				\$ -	\$ 20,000
NORTHAMPTON	\$ 609,350	\$ 42,873	\$ 25,000			\$ -	\$ 42,873
ONslow	\$ 125,000	\$ 54,335				\$ -	\$ 54,335
ORANGE	\$ 240,663	\$ 60,936	\$ 25,287		\$ 38,190	\$ 15,291	\$ 76,227
PAMLICO	\$ 121,000	\$ 55,990				\$ -	\$ 55,990
PASQUOTANK	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000			\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 60,000
PENDER	\$ 129,950	\$ 39,504				\$ -	\$ 39,504
PERQUIMANS	\$ 96,000	\$ 46,757			\$ 17,000	\$ 11,733	\$ 58,490
PERSON	\$ 180,725	\$ 51,365				\$ -	\$ 51,365
PITT	\$ 165,000	\$ 55,560	\$ 3,500		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 65,560
POLK	\$ 67,500	\$ 39,346				\$ -	\$ 39,346
RANDOLPH	\$ 354,800	\$ 64,639	\$ 25,000			\$ -	\$ 64,639
RICHMOND	\$ 173,950	\$ 40,447			\$ 35,000	\$ 10,149	\$ 50,596
ROBESON	\$ 191,300	\$ 68,946	\$ 5,000			\$ -	\$ 68,946
ROCKINGHAM	\$ 115,550	\$ 57,552			\$ 150,500	\$ 14,442	\$ 71,994
ROWAN	\$ 128,500	\$ 63,186				\$ -	\$ 63,186
RUTHERFORD	\$ 144,765	\$ 56,173				\$ -	\$ 56,173
SAMPSON	\$ 255,000	\$ 70,035	\$ 20,000		\$ 100,000	\$ 17,574	\$ 87,609
SCOTLAND	\$ 120,000	\$ 30,247				\$ -	\$ 30,247
STANLY	\$ 242,300	\$ 64,921			\$ 9,500	\$ 9,500	\$ 74,421
STOKES	\$ 249,669	\$ 41,773				\$ -	\$ 41,773
SURRY	\$ 902,550	\$ 72,476	\$ 100,000		\$ 50,000	\$ 18,187	\$ 90,663
SWAIN	\$ 68,883	\$ 27,412				\$ -	\$ 27,412
TRANSYLVANIA	\$ 41,266	\$ 41,266				\$ -	\$ 41,266
TYRRELL	\$ 150,000	\$ 51,898	\$ 30,000			\$ -	\$ 51,898
UNION	\$ 162,500	\$ 58,348				\$ -	\$ 58,348
VANCE	\$ 63,115	\$ 55,893				\$ -	\$ 55,893
WAKE	\$ 198,500	\$ 55,989			\$ 20,000	\$ 14,050	\$ 70,039
WARREN	\$ 100,300	\$ 49,860			\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 57,860
WASHINGTON	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000				\$ -	\$ 50,000
WATAUGA	\$ 321,350	\$ 52,750			\$ 125,000	\$ 13,237	\$ 65,987
WAYNE	\$ 601,279	\$ 54,873			\$ 32,400	\$ 13,770	\$ 68,643
WILKES	\$ 769,679	\$ 61,117			\$ 200,000	\$ 15,337	\$ 76,454
WILSON	\$ 217,736	\$ 42,905	\$ 500		\$ 20,000	\$ 10,766	\$ 53,671
YADKIN	\$ 493,500	\$ 60,722				\$ -	\$ 60,722

DISTRICT	REGULAR ACSP (CS)		CREP EARMARK (CE)		Impaired/Impacted Earmark (II)		TOTAL PY 2012 ALLOCATION
	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	REQUESTED	RECEIVED August 2011	
YANCEY	\$ 140,500	\$ 48,589			\$ 18,500	\$ 12,193	\$ 60,782
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 20,926,331</b>	<b>\$ 5,018,186</b>	<b>\$ 336,487</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,274,340</b>	<b>\$ 399,990</b>	<b>\$ 5,418,176</b>

SOURCE	AMOUNT
2012 Appropriation	\$ 4,464,413
Rollover from cancelations, releases and unencumbered Regular Cost Share funds	\$ 1,205,985
State Reversion 2010-2011	\$ (26,358)
Released 2011 CREP Earmark	\$ 43,612
Released 2011 Impaired/Impacted Earmark	\$ 105,326
Released 2011 Drought Earmark	\$ 148,479
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 5,941,457</b>
<b>Total Allocated August 2011</b>	<b>\$ 5,718,237</b>
<b>5% Contingency Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 223,220</b>

The appropriation for 2011 is \$26,793 less than for 2010.

The proposed allocation transfers \$256,388 of regular CS to CREP Earmark and \$294,674 of regular CS funds to Impaired/Impacted Streams Initiative Earmark. CREP Earmark funds will be allocated to districts as CREP contracts are received.

The proposed allocation transfers \$148,479 of released PY2011 Drought Earmark to PY2012 regular CS funds. It also transfers \$180,634 of released PY2011 Drought Appropriations to the new Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program.

August 16, 2011

NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission Chairman and Members,

Weeks ago prior to your established deadline I made an official request to be on the agenda for a few minutes of your meeting tomorrow, but I was told that no time was available. Mrs. Harris encouraged me to bring my comments to this session today, so that is what I am doing.

On June 30 due to state budget cuts I marked the end of a 30.5-year career with the NC Department of Environment & Natural Resources. Twenty-five of those years I was an area coordinator with the Division of Soil & Water Conservation as staff to the commission and up to 24 conservation districts at one time. The remaining balance of those years I served as DENR's Working Lands Coordinator.

During three decades of service I have worked on a wide range of SWCC and conservation district priorities. Most recently I worked on writing the Working Lands Manual, the two NC farm and forestry model conservation easements, helping most of the districts in the state with conservation easement roles and developing the first district - land trust MOU in the nation for Cabarrus County.

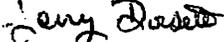
I have participated in 31 annual meetings of the state association, over 2,500 district meetings and 100's of SWCC meetings. Many times I have seen agency personnel and NGO's attempt to pull you like a rubber band in many directions. Not all of your initial decisions have been the ones I preferred, but you have always been approachable and you have always watched out for the interests of conservation districts. It has been an honor to serve the Soil & Water Conservation Commission.

My future plans are to continue as a member of the Community Cons. Committee, NC Voluntary Ag. District Work Group and several boards. Moving forward I plan to teach and do some consulting.

I want to close my comments with four challenge points.

- Congratulations on your move to NCDA&CS, based upon my own conversations with Commissioner Troxler, Zane Hedgecock and Bill Yarborough, I know that you are now valued and appreciated. I will continue to check in with NCDA leadership whom I count as friends. I challenge you to prosper and excel as a part of North Carolina's top agricultural agency!
- Holding and monitoring conservation easements is one of the newest and most important roles of districts in this state, over 1/3 have already assumed an easement stewardship role. I encourage you to continue to guide districts as new ones consider this perpetual role. Six (+) years have been invested into partnership with the 24 land trusts in the state keep it strong.
- Half of the 81 VADs are SWCD staff supported, value this role and bring more SWCD's on board.
- You are in an enviable role as the legal body for conservation districts with their stewardship role for natural resources in all 100 NC counties. Guard the authority and independence of conservation districts and let me know if I can be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

  
Jerry Dorsett

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