



# NORTH CAROLINA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2015

Ground Floor Hearing Room  
Archdale Building  
512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC

Commission Members		
John Langdon	David Williams	Mike Bowman
Craig Frazier	Natalie Woolard	Keith Tyson
Charles Hughes	Julie Henshaw	Tim Etheridge
Tommy Houser	Kelly Hedgepeth	Tom Ellis
Ben Knox	Dick Fowler	Chester Lowder
Manly West	Ralston James	Toby Bost
Bill Yarborough	Tom Hill	Joe Hudyncia
	Ken Parks	Tina Hlabse
	Lisa Fine	Keith Larick
Commission Counsel		
	Kristina Fischer	Stephen Kilette
Phillip Reynolds	Davis Ferguson	Kirsten Frazier
	Eric Pare	
Guests		
	Rob Baldwin	
Tim Beard	Sandra Weitzel	
Dr. Richard Reich	Eric Galamb	

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. 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. Commissioner West declared that he would recuse himself for Item 9. Commissioner Hughes announced that he would recuse himself for items 10B and 10C.

**1. Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon reviewed the agenda. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West. The motion carried.

**2. Approval Of Minutes – March 18, 2015 Meeting:** The minutes of the Commission meeting held on March 18, 2015 were presented. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the minutes with a grammatical change previously shared with staff. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

- Highlighted the current “Dig It” exhibit at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences and encouraged the Commission members and others to take advantage of the unique opportunity to take-in this Smithsonian-Level exhibit. The Division is a Platinum Level sponsor.
- Noted that the Division is nearing the end of the fiscal year. She announced that the supervisor travel funds are nearly depleted.
- Updated the Commission on Human Resources status in the Division
  - Currently interviewing for the CREP Environmental Specialist position in Mocksville
  - Scheduling interviews for the Environmental Senior Specialist position in Mocksville
  - Introduced Eric Galamb, the new CREP Manager. Eric comes to the Division from DENR – Conservation and Community Affairs
- Provided a Legislative update
  - House has released its version of the Draft Budget for 2015-17
    - Currently includes non-recurring reductions in the Lagoon Conversion Program and the CREP Program
  - S.L. 2015-7 passed, includes an extension to the deadline for emergency action plans to December 31, 2015.
  - S513 NC Farm Act of 2015 includes language specifying procedures for termination/modification of conservation agreements. This bill addresses one of the Association’s legislative priorities.
  - H904 Drainage Study Bill will establish a study commission to evaluate improvements in drainage concerns for low-lying counties. The bill as now proposed includes a \$1 million appropriation to the Division for the Commission to award to districts to address drainage concerns related to storms and beavers.

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

Ms. Harris asked if the Commission has any additional guidance to the Division on handling federally protected information included in cost share contracts coming before the Commission.

Commissioner Yarborough moved that the Division identify approximately 3 districts with varying structures to find a way to remove federally protected information from contracts. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Commissioner Yarborough also moved the Commission Chair send a letter of support for the current language in Section 12A of S513 on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Director Harris noted that the Division had already offered a recommendation to limit modifications to 1 acre or 5% of the easement area, once in the life of the easement. The motion carried.

Chairman Langdon recognized and welcomed Dr. Richard Reich to the meeting and thanked him for his support.

**4. Association Report:** Commissioner West, NCASWCD President, presented a brief overview on the following:

- Announced that the Association has contributed over \$6,000 in support of the Dig-It exhibit.

- Announced that H378 has been introduced in response to concerns from districts. This bill will replace the current eligibility requirements for Ag. Cost Share and AgWRAP with the requirements to qualify as a Bona Fide Farm.
- Directed attendees to read the written report distributed as Attachment 4

Chairman Langdon thanked Commissioner West for his presentation.

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 that is included as Attachment 5 and included as an official part of the minutes. He emphasized the following items.

- Described NRCS support for Dig-It exhibit
- Described efforts to share NRCS plans for restructuring. There will be four regional meetings (Statesville – June 9, Greenville – June 11, Lumberton – June 25, and Hillsborough – July 7) to receive feedback on the proposed restructuring.
- Announced that NRCS will be accepting pre-proposals for RCPP through July 8.
- Applications for ACEP closed on May 18
- NRCS is reviewing pre-proposals for CIG grants
- Making final push to get the word out about conservation compliance and the June 1 deadline for farmers to complete an AD-1026 form.
- Highlighted upcoming training opportunities

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Beard for his presentation.

**6. Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West, and it passed unanimously.

**6A. Appointment of Supervisors**

- J. Wayne Packard; Burke SWCD; filling an unexpired term previously held by Jack H. Huss, who resigned effective April 5, 2015.
- Mark McGee; Northampton SWCD, filling an unexpired term previously held by Michael S. Taylor.

**6B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts**

Contract No.	District	Supervisor Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
06-2015-801	Avery	William B. Beuttell	Pond Repair/Retrofit	\$20,000
13-2015-003	Cabarrus	Vicky Porter	Dry Stack	\$36,855
20-2015-005	Cherokee	Jamie Cook	Livestock Feeding Area/Stock Trail, Tanks	\$7,359
57-2015-013	Madison	Jeremy Fox	Well, Fence, Heavy Use Area,	\$11,399

			Pipe	
69-2015-009	Pamlico	Elbert Lee, Jr.	Cropland Conversion	\$3,602
72-2015-101	Albemarle - Perquimans	H. Wayne Hurdle	Precision Agrichemical Application	\$2,250
73-2015-020	Person	Russell Horton	Grassed Waterway	\$712
73-2015-020	Person	Russell Horton	Grassed Waterway, Diversion	\$1,084
96-2015-020	Wayne	Donna Mills	Cropland Conversion – Grass	\$4,728
96-2015-021	Wayne	Donna Mills	Cropland Conversion – Grass	\$2,695
97-2015-802	Wilkes	Zach Myers	AgWRAP water supply well	\$4,150

**6C. Technical Specialist Designation Recommendation**

**Waste Utilization/Nutrient Management**

**On verification of training and experience:**

Scott Kiser, Edgecombe SWCD

**6D. Job Approval Authority Recommendations**

**Sediment Removal Planning and Certification**

Matt Lowe, Gates SWCD

**Pond Site Assessment**

Dennis Wiles, Yadkin SWCD

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

**7. Letter to Poultry Interests Regarding Site Stabilization for New Construction:** Director Harris reminded the Commission that it charged the Division to draft a letter to poultry interests encouraging greater stewardship for new poultry house construction. The Division has drafted a letter for the Commission’s approval to send to poultry integrators and the Poultry Federation.

Commissioner Frazier moved to table the letter until early 2016 in light of the current concerns about Avian Influenza. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Commissioner Frazier stated that the Commission remains committed to addressing the concerns described in the letter, but he feels that a delay in the letter is warranted.

Chairman Langdon thanked Director Harris for drafting the correspondence on the Commission’s behalf.

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

8. **Supplemental Allocation of Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program funds for 2015:** Ms. Julie Henshaw referred to the handout for Item 8 and presented the recommended supplemental allocation of AgWRAP funds. The proposed supplemental allocation of regional funds is necessary because the Stanly SWCD is now requesting additional funds for engineering for a new agricultural water supply pond and the Lincoln SWCD needs additional funds to support a contract that qualifies for 90% cost share rate. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the supplemental allocation, and Commissioner Hughes seconded. The motion was approved.

The handout provided for item 8 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

9. **Consideration of a Cost Share Contract for a Commission Member:** The subject contract is for Cedar Crest Plantation operated by Commissioner West. Commissioner West recused himself from the discussion and vote on this item. Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for Item 9, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that contract number 27-2015-003 in the amount of \$2,430 is for a water control structure. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the contract, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Ms. Hedgepeth noted that Commissioner Troxler would also have to approve the contract per G.S. 139-4e.

## 10. District Issues

**10A. Request for Exception for Program Eligibility:** Ms. Hedgepeth called attention to the letter included in the packet for item 10A, which is included as part of the minutes. Mr. Toby Bost, Supervisor from Forsyth SWCD, and Mr. Mike Bowman, district technician, were present to answer any questions from the Commission. The district is seeking Commission approval for a contract is with the Children's Home, Inc., which operates a 25-head beef operation on 75 acres. As a non-profit, they are not required to file income taxes and do not have any of the other eligible forms of documentation for eligibility. The contract involves installation of a stream protection system through Ag Cost Share. Ms. Hedgepeth added that the district has provided a copy of the conservation plan that is required for the Commission to approve the eligibility for the contract. She stated that the Division has recommended some additional narrative language for the conservation plan, but recommends approval.

Mr. Bost shared that the farm does have a farm/tract number with FSA. Livestock are now drinking from a stream.

Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the contract, and Commissioner West seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**10B. Requests for Payment for Lenoir SWCD Contracts:** Ms. Hedgepeth recognized Mr. Keith Tyson, Lenoir District Supervisor, and Mr. Stephen Kilette, district technician, who were present to answer any questions from the Commission. Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Lenoir District has submitted Requests for payment for three cost share contracts totaling \$13,399 and for the technical assistance position in the amount of \$2,777.79, referring to the handout for item 10B, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that the Division has reviewed the requests for payment and recommends approval. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to

approve the requests for payment, and Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

**10C. Lenoir SWCD Cost Share Contracts:** Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for item 10C, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that the Lenoir District has submitted requests for the Division and Commission to approve eight program year 2015 cost share contracts. Two of the contracts involve cropland conversion, two involve grassed waterways, two involve incinerators, one involves a field border, and one is for 3-year conservation tillage and precision nutrient management.

Ms. Hedgepeth noted that contract 54-2015-013 is with Craven SWCD supervisor, Dietrich Kilpatrick. This contract is for 3-year conservation tillage and precision nutrient management, in the amount of \$6,104.

Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Division has reviewed the contracts and recommends approval for all eight. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the seven contracts other than 54-2015-13, and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve contract 54-2015-13, and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the discussion nor vote.

Commissioner West proposed a motion to rescind the interim procedures imposed on the Lenoir SWCD since March 2014 and to allow the board to return to normal procedures. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Commissioner Frazier and Chairman Langdon both congratulated the Lenoir district for its progress in making improvements in the district's operation of the cost share programs.

Commissioner Yarborough moved that the Commission Chair send a letter to the Board informing them of the Commission's decision, with a copy to the County Commission. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Commissioner Frazier moved to direct staff to restore Lenoir SWCD's technical assistance allocation as it prepares its recommended allocation for PY-2016. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was approved.

**11. Periodic Rules Review:** Director Harris, reviewed the requirements for periodic rules review set in place by Session Law 2013-413. She referred to the handout for item 11, which is included as part of the official minutes of this meeting. She noted that the public comment period on the Commission's classification approved at the November 2014 meeting has closed with no comments being received.

The Commission must now consider whether to make any changes to its initial classification and submit its classification report to the Rules Review Commission (RRC). The RRC will review the Commission's report and submit a determination to the Administrative Procedures Oversight Committee.

Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve submitting a report to the RRC, retaining the Commission's initial classification for the set of rules included in report approved in November. Commissioner West seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Director Harris stated that she will transfer the report to Ms. Chrissy Waggett who will submit it to the Rules Review Commission.

**12. Request for Support for REPI Challenge Grant:** Director Harris referred to the handout for agenda item 12, which is included as an official part of the minutes of this meeting. She stated that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will be submitting an application for a 2015 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Challenge Grant. The Department is requesting the Commission to provide a letter of support pledging its willingness to consider prioritizing the areas targeted in the Challenge Grant proposal.

Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve sending the letter with slight revision to include the word "consider" and remove the word "points" in the first sentence of the second paragraph. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chairman Langdon asked if anyone had any public comments.

Dr. Reich reiterated appreciation to everyone who supported the effort to bring the Dig-It exhibit to North Carolina. We should all be proud to have the exhibit here. He encouraged everyone to visit and to encourage others, as well. We raised over \$95,000 to help support the exhibit.

Chairman Langdon thanked district supervisors and staff and Division staff. He also thanked the Association president and NRCS.

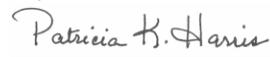
**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Commissioner Houser moved to adjourn, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. The motion passed and Chairman Langdon declared the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

  
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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 August 11, 2015.***

  
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Patricia K. Harris, Director

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

**WORK SESSION**

Archdale Building  
Ground Floor Hearing Room  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
May 19, 2015  
6:00 p.m.

**BUSINESS SESSION**

Archdale Building  
Ground Floor Hearing Room  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
May 20, 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 March 18, 2015 minutes  | Chairman John Langdon |
| 3. | Division report                     | Ms. Pat Harris        |
| 4. | Association report                  | Mr. Manly West        |
| 5. | NRCS report                         | Mr. Tim Beard         |
| 6. | Consent Agenda                      |                       |
|    | A. Nomination of Supervisors        | Ms. Kristina Fischer  |
|    | B. Supervisor contracts             | Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth   |
|    | C. Technical Specialist Designation | Ms. Natalie Woolard   |
|    | D. Job Approval Authority           | Ms. Natalie Woolard   |

- 7. Letter to poultry interests regarding site stabilization for new construction Ms. Pat Harris
- 8. Additional PY2015 AgWRAP Allocations Ms. Julie Henshaw
- 9. Consideration of Commission Member Contract Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
- 10. District issues Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
  - A. Request for exception to eligibility requirement Forsyth SWCD
  - B. Lenoir SWCD Request for Payments Lenoir SWCD
  - C. Lenoir SWCD ACSP Contract Approvals Lenoir SWCD
- 11. Rules Review – Agency Report to Rules Review Commission Ms. Pat Harris
- 12. REPI Challenge Grant request for support Ms. Pat Harris

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

DRAFT

**NORTH CAROLINA  
 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION  
 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
 March 18, 2015**

Ground Floor Hearing Room  
 Archdale Building  
 512 N. Salisbury Steet, Raleigh, NC

<b>Commission Members</b>		
John Langdon	David Williams	Charles Davenport
Craig Frazier	Natalie Woolard	Brian Chatham
Charles Hughes	Julie Henshaw	Janie Poe
Ben Knox	Kelly Hedgepeth	Nancy Carter
Manly West	Dick Fowler	Chester Lowder
Bill Yarborough	Ralston James	William Powell
	Tom Hill	Jimmy Mason
	Ken Parks	Chris Hogan
	Lisa Fine	Tom Best
<b>Commission Counsel</b>		
	Kristina Fischer	Dewitt Hardee
Phillip Reynolds	Louise Hart	Jenna Wadsworth
	Eric Pare	Linda Milt
<b>Guests</b>		
	Leanna Staton	Kirsten Frazier
Tim Beard	Tom Ellis	Harvey Roberts
Dr. Richard Reich		

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. 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. Chairman Langdon declared that he would relinquish the chair to Vice-Chairman Frazier and recuse himself for Item 11. Commissioner West announced that he would recuse himself for Item 8. Commissioner Hughes announced that he would recuse himself for items 10A and 10B.

**Statement of Economic Interest**

Chairman Langdon read a summary of the Statement of Economic Interest for Commissioner J. Ben Knox. He announced that Commissioner Knox had previously taken the oath of office for the Commission seat.

Chairman Langdon welcomed Commissioner Knox to the Commission.

**1. Approval Of Agenda:**

Chairman Langdon reviewed the agenda, and suggested to move item 10 after item 8. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the revised agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West. The motion carried.

**2. Approval Of Minutes – January 4, 2015 Meeting:** The minutes of the Commission meeting held on January 4, 2015 were presented. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the minutes with a grammatical change previously shared with staff. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

**3. Division Report:** Mr. David Williams, deputy director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the division report. His presentation included the following:

- Reminded the Commission members of the required Statements of Economic Interest due April 15 and the availability of ethics training.
- The Division and Association are working to affect changes to the requirement to establish Emergency Action Plans for all intermediate and high-hazard dams by March 1, 2015 that was included in the Coal Ash Law from the 2014 Legislative session. Senate Bill 14 has been approved by both the Senate and House and is now headed to a Conference Committee. This bill includes changes to extend the deadline to December 31, 2015 and to clarify that the plan and inundation map does not require a Professional Engineer to seal it.
- The Division is working with the Department and the UNC School of Government to develop guidance to districts on managing public records and responding to public records requests.
- All supervisors who were reappointed conditionally, pending participation in the UNC School of Government training, attended the training.
- Provided an update on the status of the Western Soil Scientist, CREP Manager, and CREP Program Specialist vacancies
- Described some opportunities for the Commission to promote pollinators through its programs.
- Announced the awards to ten districts for the AgWRAP Technology Grants program (presented by Natalie Woolard).

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

**4. Association Report:** Commissioner West, NCASWCD President, presented a brief overview on the following:

- Reported on the 71<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the Association, and provided some statistics on registration and the survey results from attendees
- Reported on the NACD national meeting in New Orleans
- Reported that 50 people attended the Basic Training for Soil & Water Conservation Districts, on February 10-11, 2015 at the UNC School of Government. Thirty of the attendees were supervisors
- Reported on the Legislative Breakfast held earlier in the day at the Legislative Building Cafeteria. Rep. Bob Steinburg was the keynote speaker. He thanked all who attended and were involved in planning.
- Announced that the 2015 FFA Land Judging contest will be held in Moore County on November 13-14.

Chairman Langdon thanked Commissioner West for his presentation.

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), presented a report on the following items.

- Resource Institute, Inc. received a Regional Conservation Partnership Program award to do streambank restoration work in Western NC
- First EQIP batching period included \$31 million in requests, but the NC allocation was just over \$16 million
- Conservation Stewardship Program renewal signup period ends March 31, and new CSP enrollments were due March 13
- There is a new challenge to meet conservation planning demand resulting from new farm bill requirements linking premium crop insurance to conservation plans. Many plans will need to be developed or updated.
- Mentioned that 2015 was declared the International Year of Soils
- Mentioned several upcoming training events and encouraged all employees to participate. There is still opportunity for attendees to request scholarships to cover part of costs of the training.

Chairman Langdon thanked Mr. Beard for his presentation and NRCS' support to the partnership. 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 Frazier, and it passed unanimously.

**6A. Appointment of Supervisors**

- Salvador Moreno; Clay SWCD; filling an expired term previously held by Heath Myers
- John Vining; Polk SWCD, filling an unexpired term previously held by Hubert McEntyre, who resigned effective February 27, 2015.
- Stephen G. Young; Warren SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Russell King, who resigned effective December 31, 2014 due to a change of residency to Ashe County.
- Joey Clawson; Watauga SWCD, filling an unexpired term previously held by Frank Bolick, who declined the elected seat due to a time conflict with his teaching job.
- Robert L. Hunt; Watauga SWCD; filling an expired term previously held by Tracy Taylor

**6B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts**

<b>Contract No.</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Practice(s)</b>	<b>Contract Amount</b>
15-2015-002	Camden	Don Lee Keaton	Crop Residue Management	\$7,193
15-2015-003	Camden	Don Lee Keaton	Crop Residue Management	\$7,638
25-2015-005	Craven	Donald Heath	5-year sod-based rotation	\$2,860

25-2015-802	Craven	Donald Heath	Water supply well - AgWRAP	\$5,000
48-2015-003	Hyde	Darren Armstrong	Water Control Structure	\$7,756

## **6C. Technical Specialist Designation Recommendation**

### **Waste Utilization/Nutrient Management**

#### **On verification of training and experience:**

Wally Walker, Alamance SWCD

The Commission also received notification that three individuals have requested to have their designation rescinded. These individuals are:

- Michael Bowman
- Curtis Fountain
- Jack Loudermilk

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

## **7. Recommendations on 2015 AgWRAP Region Applications**

Ms. Julie Henshaw referred to the handout for Item 7A and presented the recommendations from the AgWRAP Review Committee on the second batch of applications for the 2015 AgWRAP regional allocation for new ponds and pond repairs and retrofits. Twenty districts submitted 27 applications, including 16 new pond requests, and 11 pond repair/retrofit requests. Ms. Henshaw noted that the Review Committee recommends funding all 27 applications for \$589,500. Commissioner Knox offered a motion to approve the Committee's recommendation, and Commissioner Frazier seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Henshaw thanked the review team and the AgWRAP Review Committee for their work to review all the applications.

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

## **8. Supplemental Allocation of Agriculture Cost Share Program funds for 2015**

Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth referred to the handout for Item 8 and presented the recommended supplemental allocation of Agriculture Cost Share Program funds. Forty-eight districts requested nearly \$1.7 million, but only \$217,864 is available to allocate at this point. The Division has executed the allocation methodology as specified in 02 NCAC 2D.0103, but only considering requests from districts who have encumbered 75% of their previously allocated funds, per Commission policy. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the recommended allocation. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Commissioner West had earlier recused himself from this item, and he did not vote nor participate in discussion.

The handout provided for item 8 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

## 10. District Issues

Commissioner Hughes stepped down from the Commission to represent the Lenoir SWCD for items 10A and 10B.

### 10A. Lenoir Technical Assistance Request for Payment

Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Lenoir District has submitted the Request for payment for the technical assistance position in the amount of \$5,524.54, referring to the handout for item 10A, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that the Division has reviewed the request for payment and recommends approval. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the request for payment, and Commissioner West seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the vote.

### 10B. Lenoir SWCD Cost Share Contracts

Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for item 10B, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that the Lenoir District has submitted requests for the Division and Commission to approve four cost share contracts. Three of the contracts involve cropland conversion, and one is for a waste application system. Chairman Langdon requested to consider the three cropland conversion contracts separately from the waste application system contract.

Ms. Hedgepeth stated that the Division has reviewed the three contracts for cropland conversion and recommends approval. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the contracts, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the vote.

Ms. Hedgepeth called attention to contract 54-2013-004. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to deny the requested contract because it does not present a significant water quality benefit. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Mr. Hughes did not participate in the vote.

Mr. Hughes resumed his seat on the Commission.

## 9. Recommendations from the Technical Review Committee

Ms. Hedgepeth announced that the TRC had met on February 25 in Asheville. The TRC offers the following recommendations for the Commission's consideration.

### 9A. Recommended Changes to the Waste Application Systems Practice

Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for item 9A, which is included as part of the minutes. The TRC is recommending changes to clarify that it is not the Commission's intent to cost share to replace worn out equipment, particularly with equipment that is similar to the equipment being replaced, which does not demonstrate an improvement for water quality. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the TRC recommendation, and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### 9B. Recommended Changes to the Livestock Mortality Management System Practice

Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for item 9B, which is included as part of the minutes. The TRC is recommending changes to clarify that it is not the Commission's intent to cost share to replace the same type of mortality management system with a similar type system. This recommendation is similar to the recommendation for the Waste Application Systems practice.

Commissioner West offered a motion to approve the TRC recommendation, and Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Ms. Hedgepeth announced that the TRC's Precision Agrichemical Application Workgroup would meet via teleconference on April 14 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., and she invited any interested individuals to contact David Williams to participate in the teleconference.

Commissioner Yarborough asked that the Division invite a representative from the Research Stations Division to participate in the workgroup.

#### **11. Consideration of a Cost Share Contract for a Commission Member**

The subject contract is a supplement contract for Chairman Langdon's farming operation. Chairman Langdon relinquished the chair to Vice-Chairman Frazier and recused himself from the discussion and vote on this item. Ms. Hedgepeth referred to the handout for Item 11, which is included as part of the meeting minutes. She stated that the contract is a supplement contract in the amount of \$1,116 to a contract 51-2014-005 for a grade stabilization structure that the Commission and Commissioner of Agriculture Troxler approved in November, 2014. Commissioner West offered a motion to approve the supplement contract, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Langdon did not participate in the discussion nor the vote.

Ms. Hedgepeth noted that Commissioner Troxler would also have to approve the contract per G.S. 139-4e.

Mr. Langdon resumed his seat as chair of the Commission.

#### **12. Revisions of Supervisor Appointment Nomination Forms**

Ms. Kristina Fischer called attention to the handout for item 12, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. Ms. Fischer pointed out that the forms include revisions to consolidate the two previous certification statements for the Board Chairman. This revision is suggested to eliminate a source of frequent confusion for districts. The revised application also includes a new certification statement for the nominee to certify the information on the form is true and accurate. Commissioner West offered a motion to approve the revised nomination forms, and Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chairman Langdon asked if anyone had any public comments.

Commissioner Yarborough suggested the Commission explore opportunities for supervisors who live within 35 miles of the meeting location to be reimbursed for lodging expenses. Mr. Williams pledged that the Division would investigate and report back.

Commissioner West urged everyone to participate in the Agricultural Awareness Day activities.

Commissioner Yarborough urged everyone to support the Dig-It exhibit that is coming to the Museum of Natural Sciences, both financially and by attending the exhibit. Commissioner West echoed. Dr. Richard Reich called attention to a brochure about the Dig-It exhibit.

Commissioner Yarborough asked about the status of the letter to poultry stakeholders regarding construction site stabilization. Mr. Williams responded that the letter has not yet been prepared, but that the Division would initiate work on this immediately.

Chairman Langdon thanked everyone for attending and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chairman Langdon asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Yarborough offered the motion, and Commissioner West seconded the motion. The motion was approved, and Chairman Langdon declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.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 May 20, 2015.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia K. Harris, Director

DRAFT

**ASSOCIATION REPORT TO THE COMMISSION**  
**May 20, 2015**

**Envirothon** – A very successful state Envirothon was held at Cedarrock Park in Alamance County on April 24-25. Approximately 90 middle and high school teams competed in the contest which was supported by more than 100 volunteers. At the middle school level, the first place team was the High Rock Hoots from the Davidson County Homeschool; and the high school first place team was Vitreous Sense of Humor from the Woods Charter School in Chatham County. Thanks for all who worked hard to make this event such a success.

**Hall of Fame** – On May 4, the Wake Soil and Water Conservation District hosted a reception for 2015 Hall of Fame inductee John Phelps. Following the reception, the plaque was re-presented to John during a regular meeting of the Wake County Commissioners, bringing public attention to the significance of the award and to the importance of soil and water conservation. 2016 nominations for this important award are due in the Association office by June 1, 2015.

**Conservation Farm Family Program** – After three years of promotion and encouragement, the 2015 contest will include outstanding conservation farms in all three geographic regions of the state – mountains, piedmont, and coastal plains. State level judging will take place June 1-3. Thanks go to the NC State Grange for their continued financial support of this important program.

**Executive Director Position** – The process of advertising and selecting the Association's second Executive Director is progressing as planned. A core group of Association leadership and representatives from the Division, NRCS, and the Foundation met on April 2 to discuss the position requirements and a way forward for the Association. A concept paper was developed to summarize this meeting which was recently shared with all Districts through the list serve and with key North Carolina conservation partners. The goal is for the new Executive Director to enter on duty no later than the middle of September.

**2016 Annual Meeting** – Planning is already under way for the 2016 Annual Meeting to be held January 3-5 at the Sheraton Imperial, RTP. USDA Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and former NACD CEO Krista Harden has been invited to speak. Be on the lookout for new and exciting meeting plans which include a full dinner president's welcome, opportunities to support the Association through seed silent auctions, and expanded door prizes. Committee meetings and breakout sessions are being designed to include information that will help local soil and water conservation districts build their capacity and strengthen local programs.

## State Conservationist Tim Beard - Quick Notes

For more than a year, North Carolina NRCS has been compiling data and information to help identify, propose and support alternatives to our state's current service delivery model. The ultimate objective is to provide more efficient and reliable customer support to landowners and partners, while at the same time, build a stronger local NRCS support system. We are meeting with employees and partners to provide an overview of the data we've analyzed and our pre-proposal for our future service delivery model and strategy. In the coming months, more information and opportunities will be presented to learn more about this exciting opportunity for NRCS and our partnership in North Carolina. Below, you'll find additional information on "what's on the horizon for conservation" with NRCS and North Carolina. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any member of our NRCS Leadership Team.

## Highlights

### Programs

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** - The following data provides a breakdown of allocations after the first EQIP ranking period for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015.

State	Current Allocation
Ag Chem Mix Facility	\$46,630.00
Ag - 2nd Containment Facility	\$10,000.00
Associated Ag Lands	\$69,401.00
Closure of Waste Impoundments	\$241,825.00
Forestry	\$600,092.00
FY15 Certified Organic	\$80,817.57
FY15 On-Farm Energy	\$202,338.00
FY15 Organic Transition	\$65,727.00
Golden Wing Warbler WLFW	\$15,796.00
Irrigation Efficiency Center	
Pivot Conversion	\$144,519.00
Irrigation Efficiency Microirrigation	\$38,575.00
New-Beginning Farmer	\$847,989.00
SHTS	\$471,417.00
Socially Disadvantaged	\$616,727.00
Cropland:	\$2.4M
Pastureland:	\$1.6M
Confined:	\$4.9M

**Applications received: 2151 - Requesting: \$49.1M**  
**Current Contracts Awarded: 234 - Amount: \$5.5M**

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)-

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced an investment of up to \$235 million to improve the nation's water quality, combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat and protect agricultural viability. The funding is being made available through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), the newest conservation tool of the NRCS. RCPP helps NRCS build on already-record enrollment in conservation programs, with over 500,000 producers participating to protect land and water on over 400 million acres nationwide.

NRCS delivered first round RCPP funding to 115 high-impact projects, including one project in North Carolina. The North Carolina state project was awarded to Resource Institute, Inc. The project will help restore, enhance, and stabilize streams and wetlands degraded by agricultural land use. NRCS is now accepting proposals for the second round of funding through RCPP. RCPP pre-proposals are due July 8. For more information contact Greg Walker at [Greg.Walker@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Greg.Walker@nc.usda.gov).

### Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)-

North Carolina NRCS accepted applications for both ACEP components, Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) and Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE), until May 18, 2015, for FY 2015 funding consideration. ALE focuses on saving productive crop, grass, pasture, and non-industrial private forestland from conversion to non-agricultural uses. WRE eligible land includes farmed wetlands that can be successfully and economically restored and former or degraded wetlands with a history of agricultural use. For more information on ACEP for fiscal year 2015, contact Stephanie Goglia at [Stephanie.Goglia@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Goglia@nc.usda.gov).

**Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)** - NRCS is reviewing accepted CIG pre-proposals that were submitted for FY 2015 funding consideration. Through CIG, up to \$20 million in grant opportunities will be awarded to facilitate the creation of new, innovative markets for carbon credits, providing additional revenue sources for producers to use to address natural resource conservation challenges. For 2015, approximately half of the \$20 million is available for environmental markets and conservation finance projects that engage agricultural producers. In past years, CIG has helped fund the development of the basic infrastructure of these markets.

As in prior years, NRCS will be inviting entities to submit full proposals after the pre-proposal reviews are completed. CIG final selections will be made early summer.

### Conservation Compliance

**New Conservation Compliance Website** - On May 1, 2015, NRCS published the new National Conservation Compliance Website. The site covers the Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELCS) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions that aim to reduce soil loss on erosion-prone lands and to protect wetlands for the multiple benefits they provide. "Five Steps to Meet Conservation Compliance", is a new tool available on the national site. Also, landowners, employees, and partners will find helpful fact sheets, checklists, and information on compliance options, and an overview of the NRCS and FSA roles in making determinations. A link to the new site is available on the North Carolina NRCS Website on the "Homepage" at [www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov). For more information on the new Conservation Compliance Website, please contact Stuart Lee at [Stuart.Lee@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Stuart.Lee@nc.usda.gov).

**Reminder:** Farmers seeking federal crop insurance premium subsidies for the 2016 reinsurance year must comply by June 1, by filing form AD-1026. The 2016 reinsurance year runs from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016.

### Engineering Notes

**DamWatch** - NRCS is announcing that a new tool to help monitor dams is available to NRCS employees, partners and sponsors of watershed projects in North Carolina. As North Carolina's dams age, and homes, businesses and highways are constructed downstream, it becomes increasingly important to use all possible means to monitor and manage the dams to ensure they function as they were designed and that they remain safe. DamWatch® will assist watershed project sponsors and NRCS in monitoring efforts.

Timothy A. Beard  
State Conservationist  
919-873-2100  
[Timothy.Beard@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Timothy.Beard@nc.usda.gov)  
[www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov)

DamWatch® is a web-based solution monitoring tool that will provide real-time monitoring of potential threats to dam safety including rainfall events and seismic activity and will alert essential personnel with vital information. You can access DamWatch® from our national NRCS Watershed Rehabilitation website. For more information, please contact North Carolina State Engineer Terri Ruch at [Terri.Ruch@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Terri.Ruch@nc.usda.gov).

### Training opportunities between May and October

**Pasture Conservation Planning** - Date: July 21-23, 2015, Location: Butner, NC - Description: This training supports CCP certification by training on Conservation Planning Steps 5-9 for Pasture. Training will be a 3-day session, and enrollment is limited to 25 students. Priority for enrollment will be for 2014 BCP students, then other NRCS and SWCD staff, and finally to other Partners and TSPs.

**Toolkit 8 Training** - Dates: Tentative Dates (Subject to change following National Toolkit 8 deployment decision) July 20-24, 2015. More dates for Toolkit 8 training could be added. Location: Various locations will be offered for this training for small groups across the state. For more information please contact Matt Duvall at [Matt.Duvall@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Matt.Duvall@nc.usda.gov).

**Basics of Conservation Planning** - Date: October 5-9, 2015 - Location: Raleigh, NC (TBD) - Description: This training supports CCP certification by training on Conservation Planning Steps 1-4 for all land uses. Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Priority for enrollment is for SWCD staff, then other partners, and finally TSPs.

**Forest Conservation Planning** - Date: Nov. 4-5, 2015 - Location: Central NC location, TBD - Description: This training supports CCP certification by training on Conservation Planning Steps 5-9 for Forestry. Training will be a 2-day session. Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Priority for enrollment will be for 2014 BCP students, then other NRCS and SWCD staff, and finally other partners and TSPs.

**Pest Management Certified Specialist Training** - Date/ Location: Upon request, through NRCS Area Office for small group training sessions - Description: This training supports CCP certification by training on assessment and implementation of needed pest management risk mitigation techniques using the core-practice Integrated Pest Management (Code 595). JAA for 595 is needed to provide pest management technical assistance to producers. Classroom training based around applying the standard is required, in addition to completion of two national AgLearn online courses: "Introduction to Water Quality" and "NRCS Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations in Conservation Planning: Pest Management Track 2".



**INTERNAL USE ONLY:**  
 Appointed / Elected Seat  
 Current Term: 12-16

**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 Burke Soil and Water Conservation District of Burke 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 May 26, 2015 and ending 12-1-2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Jack H. Huss.

Name of nominee: J. Wayne Packard  
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 115 Parkland Street Morganton, NC 28655  
 Email address of nominee: wayne.packard51@gmail.com  
 Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile phone: 828.443.5951  
 Business phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: Retired NCDA Plant Protection Specialist; Owner High Country Christmas Trees  
 Age: 63  
 Education: BA Biology Elon University, MA Biology Appalachian St. University  
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Board of Equalization and Review Burke Co.  
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Rotary Club, Deacon and Sunday School Teacher First Baptist Church Morganton, N.C.  
 Other pertinent information: Former Chemistry Teacher and Football Coach Caldwell Co.

- 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 William F. Brown, III  
 SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated)  
 Printed name: William F. Brown, III

1 April '15  
 Date

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

X J. Wayne Packard  
 Individual recommended for appointment  
 Printed name: J. Wayne Packard

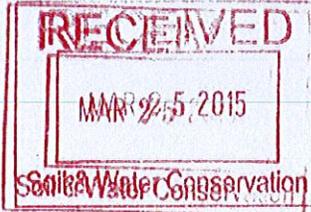
3/31/15  
 Date

**Lea Ann Branch**

---

**From:** Jack Huss <jhuss@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:42 PM  
**To:** bbrown@oakhillonline.org  
**Cc:** Lea Ann Branch  
**Subject:** Resignation as a Supervisor on the Burke County Soil & Water Board

Please accept my notice of resignation effective April 5 as an appointed supervisor. I have enjoyed and found satisfaction from my 30 year tenure as a Supervisor, both at the local level and to some degree, at the state level. The Carolina Land & Lakes wood pellet project has required much effort and much more is needed. That requires my full focus. I would like to continue on the Board as an associate member and would be willing to serve in a proxy capacity if needed.  
Jack Huss



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 Northampton Soil and Water Conservation District of Northampton 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 12/2014 and ending 12/31/18 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Michael S. Taylor. May 2015 KAF Dec 2018 KAF

Name of nominee: Mark McGee  
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: Margarettsville NC 27853  
 Email address of nominee: markmcgee82@hotmail.com  
 Home phone: 252-589-3741  
 Mobile phone: 578-3594  
 Business phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: Farm - self employed  
 Age: 33  
 Education: agronomy - business concentration NCSU '04  
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other pertinent information: \_\_\_\_\_

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 William M. Stephenson  
 SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated)  
 Printed name: William M. Stephenson

Mar 24, 2015  
 Date

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

x Mark McGee  
 Individual recommended for appointment  
 Printed name: Mark McGee

Mar 24, 2015  
 Date

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

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Avery	06-2015-801	William B. Beuttell	ag pond repair/retrofit	\$20,000	
Cabarrus	13-2015-003	Vicky Porter	dry stack	\$36,855	
Cherokee	20-2015-005	Jamie Cook	livestock feeding area, stock trail, tanks	\$7,359	
Craven	54-2015-013/Lenoir	Dietrich Kilpatrick	3 yr conservation tillage, precision nutrient management	\$ 6,104	supervisor in another county
Madison	57-2015-013	Jeremy Fox	well, fence, pipe, heavy use area	\$11,399	
Pamlico	69-2015-009	Elbert Lee, Jr.	cropland conversion	\$3,602	will supplement in PY16
Perquimans	72-2015-101	H. Wayne Hurdle	precision ag chemical application	\$ 2,250	
Person	73-2015-020	Russell Horton	grassed waterway	\$ 712	
Person	73-2015-021	Russell Horton	grassed waterway, diversion	\$ 1,084	
Wilkes	97-2015-802	Zach Myers	AgWRAP water supply well	\$ 4,150	

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: 10

Total           \$           **93,515**

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

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: ~~AG PRECISION - GPS Guidance system~~ Precision Ag Chemical Application

Contract number: 72-2015-101

Contract amount: \$2250.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 65

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

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

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: H. Wayne Hurdle

H. Wayne Hurdle  
(District Supervisor's signature)

4-6-15  
Date

Approved by:

Charles H. Mathews  
(District Chairperson's signature)

4-6-15  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Avery 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: Ag-Wrap

Best management practice: Ag Pond Repair/Retrofit

Contract number:06-2015-801

Contract amount: \$20,000.00

Score on priority ranking sheet:1

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

Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered):Ranked 1<sup>st</sup>-only eligible applicant for program

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

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

Supervisor name: William B. Beuttell (Daintrey Trees)

William B Beuttell  
(District Supervisor's signature)

4/16/15  
Date

Approved by:

Daniel L. B...  
(District Chairperson's signature)

4-16-15  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Cabarrus 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: NCA CSP

Best management practice: Dry stack

Contract number: 13-2015-003 Contract amount: \$ 36,855.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 22

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

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

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

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

---

Supervisor name: Vicky Porter

Vicky Porter  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(District Supervisor's signature)

2-3-15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by:

Jeff N. Gopowitz  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-3-15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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.

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

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

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: livestock feeding Area; stock Trail; watering Tanks

Contract number: 20-2015-005 Contract amount: \$ 7,359

Score on priority ranking sheet: 69

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 6  
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: Jamie Cook

Jamie Cook  
(District Supervisor's signature)

4-21-15  
Date

Approved by:

Edgar A Wood  
(District Chairperson's signature)

4/21/15  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Craven 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: North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program

Best management practice: Three year Conservation Tillage, Precision Nutrient Management

Contract number: 54-2015-013-09 Contract amount: \$ 6,104.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 135

Cost Share Rate : 100% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: Incentive practices

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 5th out of 8 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:

Dietrich Kupratrich  
(District Supervisor's signature)

05/04/2015  
Date

Approved by:

Chris Ar  
(District Chairperson's signature)

5-4-2015  
Date

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the \_\_Madison\_\_ 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: II/ ISI

Best management practice: Well, fence, pipe, watering facility, pipe, heavy use

Contract number: 57-2015-013

Contract amount: \$11,399

Score on priority ranking sheet: 31 of 35

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

Reason:

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

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:

*Jeremy Fox*

*Jeremy Fox*  
(District Supervisor's signature)

*3-12-15*  
Date

Approved by:

*Chad Hag*  
(District Chairperson's signature)

*3-19-15*  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Pamlico 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: Ag. Cost Share

Best management practice: Crop Land Conversion

Contract number: 69-2015-009

Contract amount: \$ 6300<sup>00</sup>  
This contract 3602<sup>00</sup>  
will Supplement 2698<sup>00</sup>

Score on priority ranking sheet: 35

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

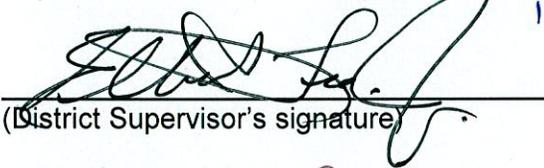
Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered):

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:

Elbert Lee, Jr

  
(District Supervisor's signature)

3-1-15  
Date

Approved by:

  
(District Chairperson's signature)

3-6-15  
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.

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

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

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: Grassed Waterway

Contract number: 73-2015-020 Contract amount: \$ 712.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 425

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

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

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? NO

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

---

Supervisor name: Russell Horton

Russell Horton  
(District Supervisor's signature)

4-22-15  
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]  
(District Chairperson's signature)

4-28-15  
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.

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

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

Program: ACSP

Best management practice: Grassed Waterway, Diversion

Contract number: 73-2015-021 Contract amount: \$ 1,084.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 425

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): #2 of 3

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? NO

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

Supervisor name: Russell Horton

Russell Horton  
(District Supervisor's signature)

4-22-15  
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]  
(District Chairperson's signature)

4/28/15  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Wilkes 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: NC-AGWRAP

Best management practice: Water Supply Well

Contract number: 97-2015-802

Contract amount: \$ 4,150.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 140

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

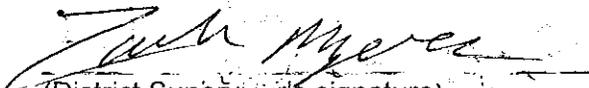
Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 9 projects considered.

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: Zach Myers

  
(District Supervisor's signature)

12-15-14  
Date

Approved by:

  
(District Chairperson's signature)

12-15-14  
Date

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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



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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Wayne 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: Cost Share

Best management practice: Cropland Conversion to Grass

Contract number: 96-2015-020

Contract amount: \$4,728.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 80

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 7<sup>th</sup> out of 8

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

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

Supervisor name: Donna Mills

Donna Mills  
(District Supervisor's signature)

5-11-15  
Date

Approved by:

Ronald W Park  
(District Chairperson's signature)

5-11-15  
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.

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

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Wayne 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: Cost Share

Best management practice: Cropland Conversion to Grass

Contract number: 96-2015-021

Contract amount: \$2,695.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 80

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

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

---

Supervisor name: Donna Mills

Donna Mills  
(District Supervisor's signature)

5-11-15  
Date

Approved by:

Ronald W Park  
(District Chairperson's signature)

5-11-15  
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.



## Technical Specialist Designation Recommendations

May 20, 2015

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission has authority to designate water quality technical specialists based upon specific criteria and procedures (02 NCAC 59G). This authority extends to individuals who have been assigned approval authority by USDA NRCS, NC Cooperative Extension, Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the Division. District staff is assigned the approval authority by the USDA NRCS. This process allows for each agency personnel to ensure an employee not only has completed the training requirements, but has also demonstrated proficiency prior to obtaining a technical specialist designation.

Mr. Scott Kiser, Edgecombe Soil and Water Conservation District Technician, has requested to be designated technical specialist for the Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management category.

Mr. Kiser has successfully completed the required training and his technical competency has been verified by NRCS staff. Therefore I recommend this designation for approval.



## SWCC Job Approval Authority Recommendations

May 20, 2015

The following individuals have submitted requests to obtain Commission Job Approval Authority for the respective categories.

1. Sediment Removal Planning and Certification  
Matt Lowe – Gates Soil and Water Conservation District
2. Pond Site Assessment  
Dennis Wiles - Yadkin Soil and Water Conservation District

Mr. Lowe and Mr. Wiles have successfully completed the requirements and acquired confirmation of demonstrated technical proficiency from a Division engineer; therefore I recommend that their job approval authority requests be approved.

#### 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

May 20, 2015

<Title> <First> <Last>  
<Address>  
<City>, NC <27889>

Dear <Title> <Last>,

The mission of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission (Commission) is to foster voluntary, incentive-driven management of soil, water and related natural resources for the benefit of the economy, environment and all citizens. The Commission also recognizes the financial importance of the poultry industry generating \$12.8 billion annually.

Our office has noted that when the poultry industry expands into areas of the state, the number of public complaints tend to increase. The concerns are often related to improper site stabilization of newly constructed poultry facilities. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service outlined in a 2007 technical note the following: *“Construction of agricultural facilities including animal feeding operations (AFO) can result in significant sediment loads to surface water if the proper erosion and sediment control practices are not utilized. Successful erosion control at these sites depends on the development and timely implementation of a comprehensive erosion control plan.*

*Inadequate erosion control planning during and after construction on agricultural facilities can result in:*

- *substantial off-site sediment in streams and rivers, negatively affecting the image of agriculture with downstream neighbors and increasing the producer’s liability,*
- *costly repairs (some have estimated the cost to repair a severely eroded site at 4 to 6 times the cost of prevention),*
- *potential serious damage to the houses or other structures on the site, and*
- *increased future operating costs.”*

I’m writing to make you aware that your local Soil and Water Conservation District has trained staff who can provide technical assistance to help determine and design conservation best management practices needed to best stabilize the site around your newly constructed buildings and improve the overall management of your poultry operation.

To find the address and phone number of your local Soil and Water Conservation District, go to:  
<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/findyourdistrict.html> or call the Division of Soil and Water Conservation Office at (919) 733-2302.

Your local conservation district can provide a range of services. For example, district staff can use your goals and objectives to tailor a comprehensive conservation plan for your farm to address resource concerns such as water quality; water storage and efficiencies; sediment and erosion control; nutrient and animal waste management; stormwater management; pasture management; soil health; forest management; and wildlife habitat loss and fragmentation.

The Commission feels very strongly that proper natural resource management is achieved through a voluntary approach and not by the implementation of additional regulations. We also believe that each of us has an inherent responsibility to conserve and protect our natural resources for the public benefit of all.

## ATTACHMENT 7

I thank you for your efforts to protect water quality. Please don't hesitate to contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District if you need them. They're available and always willing to help.

Sincerely,

John M. Langdon, Chairman

Additional PY2015 AgWRAP Allocations

Region	County	BMP	AgWRAP (AP) Allocation
Central	Stanly	Pond	\$ 7,500
Western	Lincoln	Pond	\$ 4,000



NCDA&CS  
DSWCNC-CSPs-1A  
(11/12)

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

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

Program: *NCAACSP*Best management practice: *Water Control Structure*Contract number: *27-2015-003-11* Contract Amount: *\$2,430.00*Score on priority ranking sheet: *55*Cost share rate: *75%* If different than 75%, please list percent:  
Reason:Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): *3 out of 3*Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? *NO*

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

Commission member name:  
*Redon Creek Plantation by*  
*Manly West, manager*  
(Commission member's signature)

*3/23/15*  
Date

Approved by:

*William L. Powell*  
(District Chairperson's signature)

*3/24/15*  
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

Approved by:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

Toby Bost, Chair  
Wes Schollander, Vice Chair  
Ed Wall, Secretary/Treasurer



James Knox, District Supervisor  
Beth Tucker, District Supervisor

---

**FORSYTH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

5-4-2015

To the members of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission:

The Forsyth SWCD Board of Supervisors hereby requests an exception to the rule pertaining to the necessity of filing a Schedule F in order to be eligible for funding through the NCACSP. The Board supports this exception for the following reasons: the applicant, The Children's Home Inc, has a Farm Serial Number and Tract Number provided by the USDA-FSA. They have 25 beef cattle and 75 acres of pasture and have been engaged in agriculture since the early 1900's. As a non-profit, they are not required by the IRS to file Income Taxes, therefore they do not file a Schedule F. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Toby Bost  
Chair

## 10B: Lenoir SWCD Request for Payments

Contract/Invoice Number	Amount	Name	BMP	Unit Amount
54-2013-005	\$8,044	Ronnie Waters	Lagoon Biosolids Removal	650,750 gallons
54-2015-005	\$4,500	Elwood Rouse	Cropland Conversion to Grass	20 acres
54-2015-004	\$855	Jimmie Outlaw	Cropland Conversion to Grass	3.80 acres
Technical Assistance Reimbursement	\$2,777.79			

## 10C: Lenoir SWCD Contracts for Consideration

Contract Number	Amount	Name	BMP	Unit Amount
54-2015-007	\$2,239	J.P. Anderson	Grassed Waterway	0.40 acres
54-2015-008	\$4,725	Bryan Pike	Cropland Conversion to Grass	17.50 acres
54-2015-009	\$7,627	Johnnie Tyndall	Field Border	1.43 acres
54-2015-010	\$2,025	Keith Jarman	Cropland Conversion to Grass	9 acres
54-2015-011	\$8,687	Ruth Varnell	Incinerator	1
54-2015-012	\$8,687	William Davis and Sons Partners	Incinerator	1
54-2015-013	\$6,104	Dietrich Kilpatrick	Precision Nutrient Mgmt. and 3Yr. Conservation Tillage	142.15 acres 66.24 acres
54-2015-014	\$2,658	Jerry Tyndall	Grassed Waterway	0.36 acres

**Soil & Water Conservation Commission  
Periodic Review of Existing Rules Status Report  
May 11, 2015**

**Commission Rule Sets Subject to Periodic Review:**

- Periodic review for first set of rules - Commission final report is due in June 2015 and will be taken up by the Rules Review Commission (RRC) at its July 2015 meeting
  - 02 NCAC 59A Organization and Operation
  - 02 NCAC 59B District Programs: Reorganization and Expenses
  - 02 NCAC 59C Small Watershed Program
  - 02 NCAC 59E Nondischarge Rule For Animal Waste Management Systems Rule For Animal Waste Management
  - 02 NCAC 59F Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) - State Portion of The Program
  - 02 NCAC 59G Approval Of Technical Specialists and BMPs For Water Quality Protection
- Periodic review for second set of rules - Commission final report is due in Dec. 2016 and will be taken up by the RRC at its Jan. 2017 meeting
  - 02 NCAC 59D Agriculture Cost Share Program For Nonpoint Source
  - 02 NCAC 59H Community Conservation Assistance Program For Nonpoint Source Pollution Control

**Step 1 [§ 150B-21.3A(c)(1)]** for first set of Commission rules

- Commission reviews existing rules and classifies each rule as *unnecessary*, *necessary without substantive public interest* or *necessary with substantive public interest* (11.19.2014) ✓
- Commission accepts public comments for 60 days (01.30.2015 – 03.31.2015) ✓
- Commission determines if public comment has merit and address the specific substance of the rule. If public comment has merit as determined by the Commission, the Commission will designate the rule as *necessary with substantive public interest*. No comments were received for the first set of rules. ✓
- Commission makes determination classifying each rule in final report after consideration to public comment as *unnecessary*, *necessary without substantive public interest* or *necessary with substantive public interest* (05.20.2015)

**Step 2 [§ 150B-21.3A(c)(2)]**

- RRC reviews Commission report and written comments
- RRC submits final determination report to the Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee (APO)

**Step 3 [§ 150B-21.3A(c)(3)]**

- If APO does not meet within 60 days the RRC determination is effective, or APO may consult with Commission to answer questions. Ensuing actions include:
  - Recommendation for new review
  - Rules designated as *necessary without substantive public interest* remain in Code
  - Rules designated as *necessary with substantive public interest* must be re-adopted by the Commission through the permanent rulemaking process
  - Rules designated as *unnecessary* will expire
- Anticipate RRC report to be finalized for first set of rules by the Commission's Sept. 2015 meeting

**Agency - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Soil & Water Conservation Commission**  
**Summary of Proposed Agency Report to Rules Review Commission**  
**Comment Period - January 30, 2015 - March 31, 2015**

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59A, ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION**

<b>Rule Section</b>	<b>Rule Citation</b>	<b>Rule Name</b>	<b>Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]</b>	<b>Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]</b>
	02 NCAC 59A .0101	OBJECTIVES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0102	ADDRESS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0103	DEFINITIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0104	SUPERVISOR VACANCIES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 58B, DISTRICT PROGRAMS: REORGANIZATION AND EXPENSES**

<b>Rule Section</b>	<b>Rule Citation</b>	<b>Rule Name</b>	<b>Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]</b>	<b>Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]</b>
	02 NCAC 59B .0101	STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED IN DIVIDING LARGE DISTRICTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0102	AUTHORIZATION OF GENERAL EXPENSES FOR GRANT-MATCHING	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0103	REQUIREMENT FOR DISBURSEMENTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0104	LIMITATION OF FUNDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

## G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59C, SMALL WATERSHED PROGRAM

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
<b>SECTION .0100 - WATERSHED LOANS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0101	WATERSHED REVOLVING LOANS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
<b>SECTION .0200 - WATERSHED APPLICATIONS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0201	APPLICATION PROCEDURE	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
<b>SECTION .0300 - SMALL WATERSHED PLANS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0301	PROJECTS INVOLVING CHANNELIZATION	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0302	APPROVAL OF WORKPLANS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0303	APPROVALS TO EXERCISE THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
<b>SECTION .0400 - SMALL WATERSHED GRANTS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0401	APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0402	LAND RIGHTS ACQUISITION COSTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0403	ENGINEERING FEES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0404	WATER SUPPLY NEEDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0405	CONSTRUCTION COST FOR WATER MANAGEMENT PURPOSES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0406	ELIGIBLE PROJECTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

	02 NCAC 59C .0407	CONSIDERATIONS FOR REVIEWING APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0408	APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0409	PRIORITY CRITERIA	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0410	PREREQUISITE FOR DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0411	AUDIT OF PROJECTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59E, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT THE NONDISCHARGE RULE FOR ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59E .0101	PURPOSE	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59E .0102	DEFINITIONS	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59E .0103	REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59E .0104	APPROVED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59E .0105	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59G, APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS AND BMPS FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59G .0101	PURPOSE	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59G .0102	DEFINITIONS	Necessary with substantive public interest	Necessary with substantive public interest

	02 NCAC 59G .0103	APPROVAL OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59G .0104	APPROVAL OF WATER QUALITY TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59G .0105	APPLICATION OF BMP APPROVAL AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION TO WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAMS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59F, CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) - STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
<b>SECTION .0100 - CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) -- STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM</b>	02 NCAC 59F .0101	OBJECTIVES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0102	ELIGIBILITY	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0103	CONSERVATION PLAN	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0104	APPROVING STATE AGREEMENTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0105	PAYMENT	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0106	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>



Agency - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Soil & Water Conservation Commission  
 Summary of Proposed Agency Report to Rules Review Commission  
 Comment Period - January 30, 2015 - March 31, 2015

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59A, ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59A .0101	OBJECTIVES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0102	ADDRESS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0103	DEFINITIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59A .0104	SUPERVISOR VACANCIES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 58B, DISTRICT PROGRAMS: REORGANIZATION AND EXPENSES**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59B .0101	STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED IN DIVIDING LARGE DISTRICTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0102	AUTHORIZATION OF GENERAL EXPENSES FOR GRANT-MATCHING	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0103	REQUIREMENT FOR DISBURSEMENTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59B .0104	LIMITATION OF FUNDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59C, SMALL WATERSHED PROGRAM**

<b>Rule Section</b>	<b>Rule Citation</b>	<b>Rule Name</b>	<b>Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]</b>	<b>Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]</b>
<b>SECTION .0100 - WATERSHED LOANS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0101	WATERSHED REVOLVING LOANS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
<b>SECTION .0200 - WATERSHED APPLICATIONS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0201	APPLICATION PROCEDURE	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
<b>SECTION .0300 - SMALL WATERSHED PLANS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0301	PROJECTS INVOLVING CHANNELIZATION	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0302	APPROVAL OF WORKPLANS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0303	APPROVALS TO EXERCISE THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
<b>SECTION .0400 - SMALL WATERSHED GRANTS</b>	02 NCAC 59C .0401	APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0402	LAND RIGHTS ACQUISITION COSTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0403	ENGINEERING FEES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0404	WATER SUPPLY NEEDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0405	CONSTRUCTION COST FOR WATER MANAGEMENT PURPOSES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0406	ELIGIBLE PROJECTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0407	CONSIDERATIONS FOR REVIEWING APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

	02 NCAC 59C .0408	APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0409	PRIORITY CRITERIA	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0410	PREREQUISITE FOR DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59C .0411	AUDIT OF PROJECTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59E, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT THE NONDISCHARGE RULE FOR ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59E .0101	PURPOSE	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59E .0102	DEFINITIONS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59E .0103	REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59E .0104	APPROVED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59E .0105	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59G, APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS AND BMPS FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION**

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]
	02 NCAC 59G .0101	PURPOSE	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59G .0102	DEFINITIONS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59G .0103	APPROVAL OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>

	02 NCAC 59G .0104	APPROVAL OF WATER QUALITY TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>
	02 NCAC 59G .0105	APPLICATION OF BMP APPROVAL AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION TO WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAMS	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC Subchapter 59F, CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) - STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM**

<b>Rule Section</b>	<b>Rule Citation</b>	<b>Rule Name</b>	<b>Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]</b>	<b>Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]</b>
<b>SECTION .0100 - CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) -- STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM</b>	02 NCAC 59F .0101	OBJECTIVES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0102	ELIGIBILITY	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0103	CONSERVATION PLAN	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0104	APPROVING STATE AGREEMENTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0105	PAYMENT	Necessary without substantive public interest	Necessary without substantive public interest
	02 NCAC 59F .0106	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>	<b>Necessary with substantive public interest</b>







**May 11, 2015**

**TO:** Soil and Water Conservation Commission members  
**FROM:** Pat Harris  
**SUBJECT:** Request for REPI Challenge Grant support letter

The NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is submitting an application for a 2015 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Challenge Grant. The purpose of the application is to secure federal funding to protect landscape that encompasses the compatible land use goals between the military (e.g. protection of training areas and buffers around military bases) and agriculture (protection of agricultural land). More information about the REPI program and the 2015 Challenge Grant is pasted at the end of this memo.

Over the last few weeks, I've been working with Robert Hosford, Dewitt Hardee and others to develop the proposal. Our group has been working towards capturing the state's tool box of programs including ADFP, VAD/EVAD, Present Use Value and state cost programs as potential match and/or leverage, and to make the department's application more competitive for potential REPI grant funds of up to \$8 million. At this time I believe the potential exists to bring resources to local conservation districts within part or all of the 38 eastern county Sentinel Landscape Area.

I'm respectfully requesting the Commission consider supporting the department's proposal by pledging its willingness to consider cost share priority for the targeted areas through a letter of support. I drafted the attached letter that I hope reflects this commitment and includes the needed caveats to allow the Commission the flexibility to participate or not participate should a grant be awarded. The department is in process of securing support letters from other partners. I've attached Commissioner Troxler's support letter for your information.

The department's application will be more developed by the time you meet on May 20 and I'll be able to better describe the proposal.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

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### **What is the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program?**

The Department of Defense (DoD)'s REPI Program is a key tool for combating encroachment that can limit or restrict military training, testing, and operations. The REPI Program protects these military missions by helping remove or avoid land-use conflicts near installations and addressing regulatory restrictions that inhibit military activities. The REPI Program is administered by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

A key component of the REPI Program is the use of buffer partnerships among the Military Services, private conservation groups, and state and local governments, authorized by Congress at 10 U.S.C. § 2684a. These win-win partnerships share the cost of acquisition of easements or other interests in land from willing sellers to preserve compatible land uses and natural habitats near installations and ranges that helps sustain critical, at-risk military mission capabilities. For more information on REPI buffer partnerships, review the primer here.

REPI also supports large landscape partnerships that advance cross-boundary solutions and link military readiness, conservation, and communities with federal and state partners through a common, collaborative framework. Such partnerships include the Southeastern Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and the Western Regional Partnership (WRP), and REPI also participates in the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership among DoD and the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior.

Since its first partnerships in 2003, REPI has grown and fostered a sea-change in how DoD responds to conservation and military training issues and engages in outside-the-fence land use planning. Engaging with all stakeholders at the federal, state, and local level, REPI continues to explore policy and regulatory solutions to incompatible development, off-installation species habitat, and other mission sustainability issues.

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### NEWS

#### 2015 READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM CHALLENGE --REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS--

**U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Greenville, SC**  
For IMMEDIATE RELEASE (March 13, 2015)

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) today announced that it is accepting proposals for the *2015 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program Challenge*. The 2015 Challenge Request for Proposals and the downloadable PDF proposal form are now available on the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Community's (the Endowment) [webpage](#). This information is also available by contacting [Peter@usendowment.org](mailto:Peter@usendowment.org). The deadline for submissions is 8 p.m. EDT, Friday, May 29, 2015. Up to \$8 million is available for the 2015 REPI Challenge.

"The REPI Challenge Program is an effective way to generate innovative, high-impact land transaction projects that maintain compatible land uses and conserve habitats around DoD installations in support of military readiness," said Peter Stangel, Senior Vice President at the Endowment. "The increase in potential funding available in 2015 from \$5 million to \$8 million should result in even better projects this year." The Endowment helps administer the REPI Challenge for DoD.

The 2015 REPI Challenge seeks to harness the creativity of the private sector to facilitate land transactions at any DoD installation that limits incompatible development in the vicinity of the bases or that relieves current or anticipated environmental restrictions on military testing, training, or operations.

The REPI Challenge is particularly effective at stimulating partnerships which advance the Sentinel Landscapes Program, which seeks to promote large-scale land protection with significant conservation and working lands benefits by leveraging the resources of the Departments of Agriculture (primarily Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the U.S. Forest Service) and Interior (primarily the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

In 2014 two REPI Challenge grants were awarded. Fort Huachuca, Arizona, received \$4 million for a dynamic partnership that includes Arizona Land and Water Trust, Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, NRCS, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, who are working together to reduce land and water development between the post and the Las Cienegas National Conservation

Area. Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, received \$1 million to protect land under the Atlantic Test Range airspace heavily used by planes for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation missions. The Chesapeake Conservancy, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NRCS, and the states of Maryland and Delaware are collaborating on this effort.

For more information contact: Peter Stangel, 404-915-2763, [peter@usendowment.org](mailto:peter@usendowment.org)

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (the Endowment) is a not-for-profit public charity working collaboratively with partners in the public and private sectors to advance systemic, transformative, and sustainable change for the health and vitality of the nation's working forests and forest-reliant communities – [www.usendowment.org](http://www.usendowment.org)

May 20, 2015

Mr. Peter Stangel  
U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities  
Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1400

Dear Mr. Stangel,

While the missions are different, the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission (Commission) recognizes the commonality of goals to protect the state's working lands that is shared between agriculture and the military. It is because of this recognition that the Commission fully supports the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) *Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Projects* application for the 2015 REPI Challenge Grant.

John Langdon  
Chairman

Craig Frazier

Tommy Houser

Charles Hughes

J. Ben Knox

Manly West

Bill Yarborough

The Commission is willing to assign priority points for conservation projects located within the application's target areas that are consistent with both the Commission and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts' cost share and conservation easement programs. The Commission's long standing commitment to protect the state's working lands is well documented and leverages well with the objective of the REPI Challenge. Within the 38 county Sentinel Landscape Area, the Commission has directly invested financial resources in the following acreage that is currently under active maintenance:

- \$5,260,471 in landowner payments to protect 7,246.84 acres of *perpetual* conservation easements in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- \$3,748,271 in landowner payments to protect 17,596.19 acres of *term* conservation easements through CREP
- \$11,390,133 in landowner payments to convert 649.66 acres of active swine farms and waste management systems to *perpetual* low impact agricultural easements through the Swine Buyout Program for 100-year Floodplains.
- \$14,275,548 in landowner payments for installation for best management practices (BMPs) currently under 10 yr. maintenance agreements through the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP). BMPs include cropland conversion, diversions, field borders, filter strips, critical area planting, pasture renovation and riparian buffers.
- \$1,738,881 in landowner payments for installation for BMPs currently under 5 yr. maintenance agreements through the NC ACSP. BMPs includes sod based rotations, nutrient management, prescribed grazing and conservation tillage.

The Commission fully supports the NCDA&CS REPI Challenge Grant application. We look forward to expanding our efforts in support of common goals.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Langdon, Chairman



Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

## North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

April 30, 2015

Peter Stangel  
U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities  
Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1400

Dear Mr. Stangel:

I fully support the protection of land resources to address the military's concerns of friendly land resource uses, provided these activities also serve the interests of the landowner and encourage the growth and development of compatible agriculture and agribusiness activities. Federal-state partnership to encourage the development and continuance of military training areas is a positive step in maintaining the \$78 billion agribusiness and \$48 billion military industries in North Carolina.

As a commitment to support the North Carolina Partnership in securing the 2015 REPI Challenge Grant, compatible N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services resources for the selected award areas will be given priority or preference if the Challenge Grant is awarded. Eligible REPI Challenge Grant projects will be allowed additional evaluation points or weight, provided all other measures of evaluation are equal in the evaluation of assistance requests for such programs as the NCDA&CS Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund and other land management resource programs. A public awareness emphasis will also accompany the use of NCDA&CS resources in the partnering efforts in the use of the 2015 REPI Challenge Grant funding to maintain the essential military training landscape in North Carolina.

I look forward to partnering with REPI in the protection of North Carolina lands for the betterment of the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven W. Troxler".

Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner

