

NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – 78th Annual Meeting – Sheraton Imperial RTP
Education Committee Meeting - January 10, 2022

◇ Call to Order, Welcome:

David Harris, Chairman

◇ Recognize 2021 Area Standing Committee Representatives:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Charles Boyd, Haywood | 5. James Pugh, Bertie |
| 2. James Booth, Stokes | 6. Frank Meares, New Hanover |
| 3. Richard Hayes, Chatham (Vice Chair) | 7. Jim Chandler, Richmond |
| 4. David Harris, Durham (Chair) | 8. John Peeler, Davie |

A. Election of 2022 Vice Chairman: _____

B. National and Southeast Meetings Committee Representatives:

NACD February 12 – 16, 2022 – Orlando, Florida

Representative _____ Alternate _____

SE NACD July 17-19, 2022 – San Juan, Puerto Rico

Representative _____ Alternate _____

◇ Resolution Consideration – No resolution received that had been approved at an Area Fall Meeting.

- A resolution to realign the school contest types by grade level was circulated after the last Fall Meeting, and several District Boards across the state have voted to support it. Ms. Lena Simmons, Cumberland SWCD Supervisor, plans to bring this contest resolution from the floor. See proposed action item wording at end of this agenda or on separate resolution document.
- Other resolutions will be considered throughout this committee meeting if brought forward by a District Supervisor.

◇ Action Items Review and Updates:

Proposed changes originated at the Education Committee’s mid-year December meeting.

1. Mobile Soils Classroom (MSC) Program:
 - a. Suggested Revisions: (c.) Develop displays & handouts on activities for school classes and for adult field days.
 - b. Updates:
 - i. Host Districts continued to administer the MSC program locally, did annual trailer content inventories, and kept demographic usage records.
 - ii. Each Host District successfully completed MSC lesson training workshops in November & December. Plan is to have this annually at each Host location.
 - iii. A new soil fertility lesson was introduced. Future new lessons planned are soil parent material (rocks) and soil health BMPs.

2. Soil Displays Across the State: North Carolina Soils Trail:
 - a. Suggested Revisions: None
 - b. Updates: The sub-committee needs to be renewed. It needs to pursue locating staff member who can create a GPS state map that can be used as promotional material for the North Carolina Soils Trail. A small inventory of publicly available soil education sites/displays was previously compiled from information received from NC State Parks and NCFS Educational Forests. Further work needs to be done on this. The Foundation has shown some interest in pursuing grant funding to aid in creating the North Carolina Soils Trail.

3. Conservation Volunteer Corps:
 - a. Suggested Revisions: Repword and move to Education Committee Policies & Positions section as number 18, "The Association encourages Districts and Areas to support Conservation Volunteers, the AmeriCorps Member Program, the Earth Team Volunteer program, and internships."

4. State Fair Booth permanent building:
 - a. Suggested Revisions: None
 - b. Updates: The Soil and Water Conservation booth was housed in the new Bob Stanfield Resource Conservation Center building during this year's State Fair. Additional funds will be necessary to design and create a more permanent display. The display design will be administered by a small subcommittee. See the action item for more details.

5. Specialty License Plate – 'North Carolina – First in Conservation':
 - a. Suggested Revisions: Delete final paragraph of this action item.
 - b. Updates: The Association is counseling patience with this project. It is worthwhile.

◊ **Special Presentations** – 1-hour STC available:

-- Learn about the Mobile Soils Classroom Program – Rich Hayes

--Lesson from CET Share Faire – Celeste Maus

◊ **Other Items for Discussion:**

Proposed Wording for Potential NCASWCD Education Committee Action Item

(Please see resolution and proposed grade level contest changes)

The Education Committee requests that the Association increase funding for its school contest program to \$4,500.00 per year. This increase will fund prizes for increased competitions (essay, slide show, and speech) for grades 6-12th. The Association will update its Contest Book to reflect the changes to the 6th to 12th grade contests presented by the ad hoc Contest Task Force of District Educators.