

ATTACHMENT 17

COMMISSION HEARING RE: INQUIRY COMMITTEE DETERMINATION AND REFERRALS

Grounds for removal of District Supervisors are set forth in G.S. 139-7; any supervisor may be removed by the Commission upon notice and hearing for neglect of duty. Under 02 NCAC 59A .0301 (a), evidence of neglect of duty shall include, but is not limited to, the failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled district meetings, except when prevented by illness.

The Inquiry Committee outlined in 02 NCAC 59A .0302 met on January 9, 2026, and has sent one supervisor to the Commission for a hearing for neglect of duty.

Non-attendance at local board meetings, George Pegram – Vance SWCD:

02 NCAC 59A .0301(c) requires District boards to notify the Commission in writing of any member that has failed to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, except when prevented by illness of the Supervisor. Notification from the District shall include explanation for non-attendance and the actions that the District board has taken to address the Supervisor's attendance.

District	Name	Explanation	Details
Vance SWCD	George Pegram	None provided	Has missed all meetings since being appointed to the board by the SWCC in May 2025

The Inquiry Committee did not receive correspondence from Supervisor Pegram. The Committee met in January 2026 and determined that there was evidence of neglect of duty. Correspondence related to this hearing was sent to Supervisor Pegram and to his SWCD Board Chair. The letter sent Supervisor Pegram was signed for upon delivery, but no return correspondence has been received.

Fischer, Kristina

From: noreply@fs3.formsite.com on behalf of Formsite <noreply@fs3.formsite.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 5:48 PM
To: Fischer, Kristina
Subject: [External] Supervisor Failure to Attend Result #15867583

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Reference #	15867583
Status	Complete
District name	Vance
Name of supervisor that has failed to attend meetings	George Pegram
Number of regularly scheduled meetings missed consecutively	3
Date of first meeting missed (month/year)	08/2025
Reason for non-attendance (if prevented due to illness of the supervisor, reporting not required)	Supervisor, George Pegram, hasn't provided a reason to the District staff or the board regarding his non-attendance at board meetings.
Actions the district board has taken to address attendance (the Commission has guidelines to encourage participation in their District Supervisor Removal Guidance)	The Vance District staff has tried to notify Supervisor, George Pegram about his non-attendance at board meetings. The Vance District staff hasn't received a response from Supervisor, George Pegram, regarding his non-attendance at board meetings.
Contact name for questions regarding this submittal	Larry West II
Last Update	2025-10-23 17:48:24
Start Time	2025-10-23 17:13:44
Finish Time	2025-10-23 17:48:24
IP	199.146.252.162



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

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

David B. Williams
Director

Via Certified Mail: 9590 9402 6134 0209 3729 73

January 28, 2026

George Pegram
Vance SWCD
905 Daniel-Harris Road
Henderson, NC 27537

Dear Supervisor Pegram,

As you are aware, pursuant to Rule 02 NCAC 59A .0301, the Soil and Water Conservation Commission received a report indicating that you had failed to attend three consecutive meetings of the Vance Soil and Water District beginning August 2025, and the matter was referred to the Commission's Inquiry Committee. By letter dated November 21, 2025, notice was sent notifying you of the referral and of your opportunity to provide documentation for the Committee's consideration; no correspondence was received.

The Committee met on January 9, 2026, and based on the information before it, the Committee found that a neglect of duty had occurred and referred the matter to the full Commission for a hearing pursuant to Rule 02 NCAC 59A .0302.

The hearing is scheduled to take place during the Commission's Business Meeting at the following location, date, and time:

Soil & Water Conservation Commission Business Meeting
Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.
Cunningham Research Station – Conference Room
200 Cunningham Road
Kinston, North Carolina

Pursuant to Rule 02 NCAC 59A .0301(h), you will be given an opportunity to address the Commission at the hearing and to provide any information to it that might be relevant to the matter. While you are encouraged to attend in person if you are able, you may also attend remotely via Microsoft Teams through a link that will be provided prior to the meeting. Please note that the manner in which you choose to attend, whether in-person or remotely, will not be held against you and no negative inferences will be

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

Telephone: 919-707-3770

LOCATION
Division of Soil and Water Conservation
216 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

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drawn from it. However, please also be aware that the failure to attend the hearing may be considered evidence by the Commission that you have no objection to being removed pursuant to Rule 02 NCAC 59A .0301. A copy of the Commission's Rules can be found on the Division's website at <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/soil-water-conservation/district-supervisors/supervisor-training#ProgramRules-2204>.

Please let the Division know of your intent to participate and additional meeting details will be communicated. Communication can be sent to david.b.williams@ncagr.gov and kristina.fischer@ncagr.gov.

Finally, please note that the Committee's determination is not a final decision and that you continue to serve as a District Supervisor, along with the full rights, duties, and responsibilities of your position, unless and until the Commission makes a final determination on this matter. As such, you are strongly encouraged to ensure that you comply with the requisite attendance requirements for district meetings.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. You should not, however, contact any member of the Commission to discuss the matter prior to the hearing. Any written documentation or information you would like to submit prior to it should be directed to my attention, and it will be provided to the Commission prior to the hearing.

Sincerely,



David B. Williams, Director
NCDA&CS DSWC

Cc: Vance Soil and Water Conservation District Chair, Thomas Farmer
Vance Soil and Water Conservation District
NC Soil & Water Commission members; Bleiweis, Baker, Harris (incoming), Hughes, Kilpatrick (outgoing), Lamb, Parker (outgoing), Reynolds (incoming), Spence
Taryn Thompson, NCDA&CS DSWC

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

George Pegram
Vance SWCD
905 Daniel-Harris Road
Henderson, NC 27537



9590 9402 6134 0209 3729 73

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7022 0410 0003 1130 2743

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X *Carolyn*

- Agent
- Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: No

3. Service Type

- Adult Signature
- Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- Certified Mail®
- Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- Collect on Delivery
- Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- Insured Mail
- Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)
- Priority Mail Express®
- Registered Mail™
- Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- Return Receipt for Merchandise
- Signature Confirmation™
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