

# ATTACHMENT 8A

**Recommendations for Supervisor Appointment  
Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
March 18, 2026**

<b>District</b>	<b>Name of Nominee</b>	<b>Replacing Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Willing to attend Basic Training</b>	<b>Willing to attend other meetings</b>	<b>Reason for Vacancy</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Dare</b>	Sean Charles	Erin Fleckenstein	Appointed (24-28)	Yes	Yes (local, area, state)	Not reappointed; vacant seat	University Professor who leads his own laboratory at ECU's Coastal Studies Institute. Outreach and advocacy experience, as well as grant writing. Brings new connections and partnership opportunities.
<b>Lenoir</b>	Mark Clayton Rouse	Stephen Porter	Elected (22-26)	Yes	Yes (local, area, state)	Work obligations	Young farmer; poultry and 1,200 acre row crop operation; serves on the Deep Run Water Board, the Lenoir LAC, and frequently advises others on managing ag yields and shortfalls. Willing to assist with innovative conservation practices.

Revised 2/20/2026

**Fischer, Kristina**

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**From:** noreply@fs3.formsite.com on behalf of Formsite <noreply@fs3.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026 12:29 PM  
**To:** Fischer, Kristina  
**Subject:** [External] Nomination for Supervisor Appointment Result #16056141

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<b>Reference #</b>	16056141
<b>Status</b>	Complete
<b>Login Username</b>	charlie.sanders@darenc.gov
<b>Login Email</b>	charlie.sanders@darenc.gov
<b>Appointment or Reappointment</b>	New Appointment
<b>District:</b>	Dare
<b>Unexpired/Expired Term of Supervisor:</b>	Erin Fleckenstein
<b>Elected/Appointed</b>	Appointed
<b>Term of Office</b>	December 2024 to December 2028
<b>Name of Nominee:</b>	Sean Charles
<b>Nominee Mailing Address:</b>	850 NC 345
<b>City:</b>	Wanchese
<b>State:</b>	NC
<b>Zipcode:</b>	27981
<b>Nominee Email Address:</b>	charlesse20@ecu.edu
<b>Nominee Mobile or Home Phone:</b>	252-555-5555

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<b>Nominee Business Phone:</b>	2524755400
<b>Age</b>	45
<b>Occupation:</b>	Assistant Professor
<b>Education:</b>	PhD, Biology, Florida International University, 2018; M.S., Marine Science, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, The College of William and Mary; B.A
<b>Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:</b>	Coastal & Estuarine Research Fed, Soc. of Wetland Scientists, Currituck Sound Coalition. Research maximizes ecosystem services from coastal wetlands.
<b>Former Occupations or Positions of Leadership Contributing to Nominee's qualifications:</b>	Research prof at ECU's Coastal Studies Institute. Backyard Farmer: business promoted gardens, compost, & sustainable landscaping. Commercial crabbing
<b>Other pertinent information:</b>	Research includes Marsh ecology, wetland mitigation, maximizing ecosystem services, and he has extensive outreach experience.
<b>If appointed, I am willing to attend Basic Training for Soil &amp; Water Conservation District Supervisors within the first year after appointment?</b>	Yes
<b>The program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to me?</b>	Yes
<b>I am willing to attend and participate in (check all that apply)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local District Meetings</li><li>• Area Meetings</li><li>• State Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Nominee Signature:</b>	
<b>Typed/printed name:</b>	Sean Charles

District Board Chair  
Signature (or Vice Chair if  
Chair is being nominated):



<b>Typed/printed name:</b>	Matt Paulson
<b>Date:</b>	1/20/26
<b>Optional additional documentation (e.g, candidate resume').</b>	<a href="#">CV.Sean Charles.DareCountySoilandWater.pdf (257 KB)</a>
<b>Is the nominee actively engaged in, or recently retired from, an agricultural operation?</b>	No
<b>Number of current District Supervisors actively engaged in, or recently retired from, an agricultural operation.</b>	1
<b>Will the appointment provide an opportunity to engage a segment of agriculture not currently being served?</b>	No
<b>Will the appointment bring new leadership skills to the board?</b>	Yes
<b>Please describe the new leadership skills the nominee brings to the board:</b>	The nominee is a university professor with a unique set of skills in both academia and field research, as well as entrepreneurial experiences. He did crabbing as a youth and leads his own laboratory at ECU's Coastal Studies Institute.
<b>Will the appointment strengthen the political connection/influence of the</b>	Yes

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district, especially at the county level?

**Please describe the new advocacy skills the nominee brings to the board:**

Sean Charles has an incredible amount of experience in outreach and advocacy through his academic and research experiences. He is a member of multiple professional, civic, and conservation organizations, and regularly works with major organizations like DU and Audubon on collaborative projects.

**Will the appointment provide representation from a portion of the county not currently represented?**

No

**Will the appointment improve opportunities to work with non-traditional partners?**

Yes

**Please describe how the appointment improves partnership opportunities for the district:**

This will improve our relationship with the Coastal Studies Institute, and potentially open opportunities for other organizations he has experience with.

**Will the appointment improve the make-up of the board from an agricultural/nonagricultural perspective?**

No

**Will the appointment improve the diversity of the board?**

Yes

**Please describe how the appointment improves the diversity of the board:**

Dr. Charles is a conversational Spanish speaker and may improve inclusion of underserved groups.

**Has the nominee shown past involvement in an organization beyond the local level?**

Yes

**Describe how the nominee has been involved in an organization beyond the local level:**

He has participated in large collaborations with numerous organizations (Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Currituck Sound Coalition, Everglades Foundation, Ducks Unlimited) on major projects.

<b>Will the appointment strengthen the District's opportunity to raise funds?</b>	Yes
<b>Please describe how the appointment strengthens the District's opportunity to raise funds?</b>	Sean Charles is an experienced grant writer and will be able to help both direct and edit grant applications.
<b>Will the appointment strengthen the District's education, marketing, and outreach efforts?</b>	Yes
<b>How will the appointment strengthen the District's education, marketing, and outreach efforts?</b>	Sean Charles is a university professor and experienced with public outreach and conservation advocacy.
<b>Does the District wish to provide other justification in support of the nomination? If so, enter here:</b>	Dr. Charles is focused on connecting academia with the real world and educating the public about conservation and it's many opportunities and successes.
<b>Last Update</b>	2026-01-20 12:29:10
<b>Start Time</b>	2026-01-19 13:52:34
<b>Finish Time</b>	2026-01-20 12:29:10
<b>IP</b>	107.115.48.49
<b>Browser</b>	Safari
<b>Device</b>	Tablet
<b>Referrer</b>	N/A

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**Fischer, Kristina**

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**From:** noreply@fs3.formsite.com on behalf of Formsite <noreply@fs3.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2026 3:05 PM  
**To:** Fischer, Kristina  
**Subject:** [External] Nomination for Supervisor Appointment Result #16137086

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<b>Reference #</b>	16137086
<b>Status</b>	Complete
<b>Login Username</b>	janine.lloyd@lenoircountync.gov
<b>Login Email</b>	janine.lloyd@lenoircountync.gov
<b>Appointment or Reappointment</b>	New Appointment
<b>District:</b>	Lenoir
<b>Unexpired/Expired Term of Supervisor:</b>	Stephen Porter
<b>Elected/Appointed</b>	Elected
<b>Term of Office</b>	December 2022 to December 2026
<b>Name of Nominee:</b>	Mark Clayton Rouse
<b>Nominee Mailing Address:</b>	1553 John Green Smith Rd
<b>City:</b>	Kinston
<b>State:</b>	NC
<b>Zipcode:</b>	28504
<b>Nominee Email Address:</b>	mcrouse1991@yahoo.com
<b>Nominee Mobile or Home Phone:</b>	252-526-7070

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<b>Nominee Business Phone:</b>	2525267070
<b>Age</b>	34
<b>Occupation:</b>	Producer (Row Crop and Poultry)
<b>Education:</b>	Associates in Ag Business and Animal Science, Wayne Community College, 2012
<b>Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:</b>	Serves on the Deep Run Water Board, the Lenoir Soil & Water Local Advisory Committee, and frequently advises others on managing ag yields & shortfalls
<b>Former Occupations or Positions of Leadership Contributing to Nominee's qualifications:</b>	Nominee has farmed for 12 years, understands the need for conservation and implements/advocates for use of BMPs to conserve & manage natural resources
<b>Other pertinent information:</b>	Nominee is well aware of ag market fluctuations, environmental challenges, local agriculture inputs, and various issues affecting local farmers
<b>If appointed, I am willing to attend Basic Training for Soil &amp; Water Conservation District Supervisors within the first year after appointment?</b>	Yes
<b>The program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to me?</b>	Yes
<b>I am willing to attend and participate in (check all that apply)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local District Meetings</li><li>• Area Meetings</li><li>• State Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Nominee Signature:</b>	
<b>Typed/printed name:</b>	Mark Rouse

**Date:** 2/18/26

**District Board Chair  
Signature (or Vice Chair if  
Chair is being nominated):**



**Typed/printed name:** Charles Hughes

**Date:** 2/18/26

**Is the nominee actively engaged in, or recently retired from, an agricultural operation?** Yes

**Please explain the nominee's connection to agriculture:** Nominee is a young, multi-generational farmer that has a poultry & 1200-acre row crop operation

**Number of current District Supervisors actively engaged in, or recently retired from, an agricultural operation.** 1

**Will the appointment provide an opportunity to engage a segment of agriculture not currently being served?** Yes

**Please describe how the nominee improves the ag diversity of the board:** Lenoir soil and water conservation district has a diverse board representing industries such as nurseries, sod production, landscaping and land management; agricultural, commercial, and industrial equipment supplies and distributing; and commercial construction and paving. The board currently has 1 producer with an active row-crop farm and CAFO, and addition of another producer from that sector would benefit the board, as Lenoir County has over 200,000 acres of active farmland.

**Will the appointment bring new leadership skills to the board?** Yes

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<b>Please describe the new leadership skills the nominee brings to the board:</b>	The nominee has a strong working knowledge and understanding of area soil resource concerns, and environmental factors that impact local agriculture. He has a close ear to the ag community and is willing to assist in the exchange of information regarding proven and innovative practices that conserve natural resources.
<b>Will the appointment strengthen the political connection/influence of the district, especially at the county level?</b>	Yes
<b>Please describe the new advocacy skills the nominee brings to the board:</b>	The nominee has expressed intent to advocate for natural resource conservation with county, state, and federal officials as needed, as well as the local community.
<b>Will the appointment provide representation from a portion of the county not currently represented?</b>	No
<b>Will the appointment improve opportunities to work with non-traditional partners?</b>	Yes
<b>Please describe how the appointment improves partnership opportunities for the district:</b>	Over the years, the nominee has developed strong working relationships with local chemical and ag supply companies. He intends to use those relationships to provide more opportunities for the district.
<b>Will the appointment improve the make-up of the board from an agricultural/nonagricultural perspective?</b>	No
<b>Will the appointment improve the diversity of the board?</b>	No
<b>Has the nominee shown past involvement in an organization beyond the local level?</b>	No

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<b>Will the appointment strengthen the District's opportunity to raise funds?</b>	Yes
<b>Please describe how the appointment strengthens the District's opportunity to raise funds?</b>	The nominee has strong working relationships with local chemical and ag supply companies. He intends to use those relationships to increase the district's opportunity for fund-raising.
<b>Will the appointment strengthen the District's education, marketing, and outreach efforts?</b>	Yes
<b>How will the appointment strengthen the District's education, marketing, and outreach efforts?</b>	The nominee has strong working relationships with local chemical and ag supply companies and will use those connections to increase the district's education outreach and marketing opportunities.
<b>Does the District wish to provide other justification in support of the nomination? If so, enter here:</b>	The nominee was a boy scout, which demonstrates his dedication to the service of his neighbors and country. He is well known and respected in the local community and is eager to assist the citizens of Lenoir with resolving their resource concerns. He has used his knowledge of local ag to assist Lenoir Soil and Water with completing their annual LAC report for the Neuse River. The energy and experience that he brings will be an asset for the board, and the Lenoir Soil and Water Conservation District hopes you favorably consider and approve this nomination.
<b>Last Update</b>	2026-02-19 15:05:00
<b>Start Time</b>	2026-02-19 12:19:49
<b>Finish Time</b>	2026-02-19 15:05:00
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<b>Browser</b>	Edge
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**Resignation Letter**

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**From** Stephen Porter <sporterfarms@yahoo.com>  
**Date** Mon 11/10/2025 10:01 PM  
**To** Janine Lloyd <janine.lloyd@lenoircountync.gov>

November 10, 2025

Lenoir County Soil Water Conservation  
Kinston, NC 28501

Dear Members of the Lenoir County Soil Water Conservations,

I am writing you to formally resign my position as a Supervisor on the Lenoir County Soil and Water Board, effective as of November 10, 2025.

Due to my busy farming schedule, I find that I am no longer able to dedicate time and attention required to fulfill my duties and responsibilities as a board member. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

Stephen Porter