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MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, August 17, 2023
WSSI, 5300 Wellington Branch Dr., #100, Gainesville, VA 20155

(Zoom virtual option for Associate Directors, Partners, District Staff, and Citizens)

In-person Attendees:

John Price, Director – Chairman
Will Lintner, Director – Vice Chairman
Mansimran Kahlon, Director - Treasurer
Tiziana Bottino, Director - Secretary
Thomas Bolles, Director – VCE Representative
Harry Glasgow, Associate Director
Nancy Vehrs (Prince William SWCD Director candidate)
Amy Connelly, Director, Wetland Studies & Solutions, Inc.
Debbie Cross, VA Conservation District Coordinator – DCR
Melina Cienski, Urban Forester, VDOF
Veronica Tangiri, Water Quality Program Coordinator
Josie Anderson, Water Quality Program Assistant
Seth Hatfield, Conservation Specialist
Alex Murphy, Conservation Specialist
Jenny Reed (Prince William SWCD Director candidate)

Virtual Zoom Meeting Attendees:

Sonnie Cuffey, Associate Director
Casey James, District Conservationist – NRCS
Nicole Slazinski, Conservation Specialist

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Chairman's Comments – Chairman Price asked the Directors if they wanted to make any changes to the agenda. None were requested. He reminded the board members of the Graves Mountain training that will be held August 22 – 24, 2023 at Graves Mountain Lodge.

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Mr. Lintner made the motion to approve funding for Jenny Reed, Prince William SWCD Director candidate, to attend the Graves Mountain training. The 2nd was made by Mrs. Bottino with a 5/0 vote.

Chairman Price stated that the Annual Meeting will be held December 3-5, 2023 at the Norfolk Marriott in Norfolk, VA. Current and elected directors are welcome to attend. He also stated that the Board will review the FY 21 – FY 24 Strategic plan at the September 21st board meeting. He recommends that the board members meet to discuss ideas for the FY 25 – FY 28 Strategic plan. He plans to ask Mr. Gehlsen (who is not in attendance) if the members can meet at Cedar Run Brewery.

Amy Connelly, Director, Wetland Studies & Solutions, Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation explaining the history of WSSI and their efforts in land use goals and environmental protections.

Potomac Council Update – Will Lintner:

- The Potomac Council is preparing the agenda for the Friday, October 6, 2023 meeting. No updates at this time.

Citizen's Time – None present

Minutes of July 20 meeting – The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Lintner with a 2nd by Mr. Kahlon and passed by a 4/0 vote. Mr. Bolles not in attendance at the time of the vote.

Treasurer's Report for July 2023 Financials – The motion to file the Treasurer's report for audit was made by Mr. Price with a 2nd by Mrs. Bottino and passed by a 4/0 vote. Mr. Bolles not in attendance at the time of the vote.

July 2023 Financials

Income

The 1st qtr. Prince William County and DCR Operating Funds were not yet received for FY 24

Cash Reserves Money Market Interest \$670.82

There were no "Other Income" funds received in the 1st qtr. of FY 24

Managers Time – presented by Alex Murphy (written report below)

1. July was a slow month for Cost share and Conservation Plans as we were recovering from the end of FY23 rush to complete FY2020 cost share projects and get as many Conservation Plans complete to meet our requirements from the County.
2. Kim expanded the education program to support a Homeschool program in Gainesville.
3. The staff assisted one of the Water Quality monitors by clearing brush and tree limbs on of the path to the stream.

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4. Linda, John and Duane worked very hard to complete all end of year reports for DCR and PWC, to include the Attachment D and the 4th quarter PWC report.
5. Had many VCAP visits and new applications.
6. Met with one new possible Cost Share farm and continued to complete projects at the Nichols Farm, Lauster Farm and Heaton Farm.
7. Competed the write up for the 2023 Clean Water Farm Award, which went to Evergreen Bend Farm, see Award write up in your BOD package

Upcoming Meetings/Events

August 11 - 19	All day	Prince William County Fair
August 17	1 - 2 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting, Wetland Studies & Solutions, 2nd Floor Conference Room
August 22 - 24	All day	Graves Mountain Training, Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA
Sept. 14	1 - 2 p.m.	Technical Review Committee Meeting, 8033 Ashton Avenue, Conference Room D
Sept. 16	9 - 4 p.m.	Virginia Citizens for Water Quality, Ashland, VA
Sept. 21	1 - 2 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting, Wetland Studies & Solutions, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Sept. 23	9 - 12 noon	Upper Occoquan Annual Cleanup by PWTSC
Sept. 23	11am -3pm	Fall Festival at Leopold's Preserve
Oct 6	9am - 1:30pm	Potomac Round Table Meeting
Oct. 11, 12	9am - 1:30pm	Farm Field Days
Oct. 19	12 - 1 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting, Wetland Studies & Solutions, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Oct 24	All day	NOAA Plastic Action Plan Mid- Atlantic Meeting
Oct. 28	10am - 2pm	PWC Service Authority Trick or Treatment Event
Dec 6-7	All day	Mid- Atlantic Marine Debris Summit

Meetings/Events Attended

See attached July staff reports

Partner reports

Casey James, NRCS District Conservationist (*written report submitted*)

Ms. James stated that NRCS has several new pre-approvals – 2 Livestock in Fauquier County, 4 wildlife: one in Prince William County, 3 in Fauquier County, and 1 high tunnel in Prince William County. See attached for Ms. James's report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension Office – Thomas Bolles, Associate Extension Agent

Mr. Bolles stated that he is attending the Prince William County fair. The number of attendees is down this year.

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DCR – Debbie Cross, Conservation District Coordinator – (written report submitted)

Ms. Cross presented the FY 23 Administrative and Operational Support Grant Agreement and the FY 23 Cost Share and Technical Assistance Grant Agreement. The Districts' Annual Report needs to be completed by September 30, 2023.

See attached for Ms. Cross's complete report.

PWC Dept. of Public Works - Clay Morris, Natural Resources Section Chief, Watershed Mgmt. Branch

Mr. Morris unable to attend

VA Dept. of Forestry – Melina Cienski

Ms. Cienski stated that Jacob Zielinski will be moving to a new role and covering Fairfax County.

Associate Directors –

Jim Gehlsen – Mr. Gehlsen unable to attend.

Sonnie Cuffey – Mr. Cuffey stated that there was a great turnout at The African American Heritage Festival on Saturday, August 5th.

Harry Glasgow – Mr. Glasgow states he has nothing to report.

Clay Morris – unable to attend

Operations

Approve Evergreen Bend Farm for the 2023 Clean Water Farm Award - The motion to approve was made by Mr. Kahlon with a 2nd by Mr. Bolles and passed by a 4/0 vote. Mrs. Bottino not present at the time of the vote.

Approve Ms. Anderson's Internship through December 31, 2023– The motion to approve was made by Mr. Bolles with a 2nd by Mr. Kahlon and passed by a 4/0 vote. Mrs. Bottino not in attendance at the time of the vote.

Discuss Meeting Materials – Mr. Price stated that since the board documents are emailed to the Directors each month that only those requiring approval will be printed in hard copy to cut down on paper usage.

Other Business:

Attendance at the Annual Meeting. Current Directors / Elected Directors / Associate Directors / Staff are invited to attend the Annual Meeting.

Conservation

Approve recommendations from the TRC meeting August 10, 2023 – The motion to approve was made by Mr. Bolles with a 2nd by Mr. Lintner and passed by a 5/0 vote.

1 Recommended Approval of Plans by BOD		Motion: Lintner		Second: Mohr		Vote: 4-0-1	
Crops							
Plan	GPIN	Crop	Acres	Nut. Reduction			RPA
				N. (lbs)	P. (lbs)	Sed. (T)	
Queen's Ransom - Ghadban Property	7894-45-9338	Pasture	3.1	2.386	0.810	0.043	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grand Totals:			3.1	2.4	0.8	0.0	
Livestock							
Plan	GPIN	Livestock	Num	Manure (lbs/day)	Manure (Tons/Year)	RPA	Manure Stockpiles?
Queen's Ransom - Ghadban Property	7894-45-9338	Horses	2	108.80	19.9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grand Totals:			2	108.8	19.9		

Education Programs Update – Kim Lowther

Ms. Lowther unable to attend. See Manager’s comments.

Water Quality Programs Update – Veronica Tangiri

Ms. Tangiri thanks the Directors for approving funding for her to attend the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. Ms. Tangiri met with the trash sculpture Artists, Angela Pozzi and Frank Rocco, from ReUPit. The Water Quality Program received \$6,500 from Fairfax Water towards the purchase of an additional water probe.

VCAP Update – Nicole Slazinski

Ms. Slazinski stated that Mr. Clifford Allison’s VCAP practice was denied reimbursement funding from the VCAP Steering Committee, as he did not plant the plants that were required according to his application.

VACS Update – Alex Murphy

See Manager’s comments.

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Directors' Time –

Mr. Bolles – No further comments.

Mrs. Bottino – Mrs. Bottino stated that she and her family will be moving to Romania by June 2024.

Mr. Lintner – No further comments

Mr. Kahlon – Mr. Kahlon stated that he is running for Director re-election for the Prince William SWCD board. He also stated that he has changed careers from running a trucking business to becoming a real estate broker.

Mr. Price – no further comments

Motion to adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. was made by Mr. Bolles with a 2nd by Mr. Kahlon and passed by a 5/0 vote.

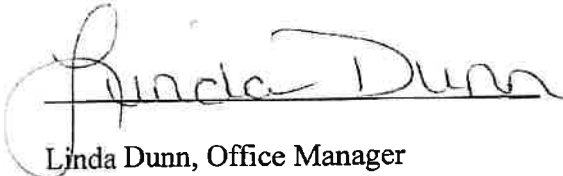
Next TRC meeting – Thursday, September 14, 2023, 1 p.m., 8033 Ashton Avenue, Conference Room D, Manassas, VA 20109


Next Board meeting – Thursday, September 21, 2023, 1 p.m., WSSI, 5300 Wellington Branch Dr., #100, Gainesville, VA 20155, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Next Finance Committee meeting – Thursday, October 19, 2023, 12 p.m., WSSI, 5300 Wellington Branch Dr., #100, Gainesville, VA 20155, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:


Linda Dunn, Office Manager


Tiziana Bottino, Secretary