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MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, September 19, 2024
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
Jenny Reed, Director – Vice-Chairman
Nancy Vehrs, Director – Secretary
Harry Glasgow, Associate Director
Duane Mohr, District Manager
Debbie Cross, Conservation District Coordinator - DCR
Alex Murphy, Conservation Specialist
Seth Hatfield, Conservation Specialist
Josie Anderson, Water Quality Specialist
Veronica Tangiri, Water Quality Manager

Guest Speakers:

Harry Wiggins, member of the Chesapeake Bay Review Board
Bonnie Fulford, GrantWeaver Consulting

Absent:

Thomas Bolles

Virtual Zoom Meeting Attendees:

Mansimran Kahlon, Director - Treasurer

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Per the Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.2, the board approves the virtual attendance of Mansimran Kahlon, Treasurer, at today's board meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Vehrs with a 2nd by Ms. Reed and passed

Board of Directors Meeting, September 19, 2024

3. Continued monthly update sessions with Department BMP Engineering Services Program staff and, if available, the Agricultural Programs Incentive Manager and the Conservation District Coordinator; and
4. Attend trainings related to the implementation of the VACS Program including trainings on the management of cost-share files and trainings related to engineering job approval authority or engineered practices.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

September 19	12:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting, Wetland Studies & Solutions
September 19	1:00 p.m.	BOD Meeting, Wetland Studies & Solutions
September 21	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Fall Festival at Leopold's Preserve
September 24	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	MWEE Teacher Training (H.S. Teachers)
September 28	9:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m	Upper Occoquan River Cleanup
September 29	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Latino Fest in Manassas Park
October 5	9:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m	Occoquan River Cleanup
October 9 - 10	All Day	Farm Field Days
December 11	12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Follow Up MWEE Teacher Training

Meetings/Events Attended

See attached August staff reports

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

Ms. James unable to attend. Ms. Cross stated that NRCS will hold a Halloween open house on Thursday, October 31st from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 98 Alexandria Pike, Suite 11 & 12, Warrenton, VA 20186. See attached for complete report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension Office – Thomas Bolles, Associate Extension Agent

Mr. Bolles unable to attend.

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

Ms. Cross stated that FY 24 SWCD Annual Reports for 7/1/23 – 6/30/24 should to be completed by September 30th.

The meeting minutes training on October 2nd and October 7th are for those that take board and committee meeting minutes.

1st quarter FY 25 reports are due October 15th.

FOIA training for all elected SWCD Directors needs to be completed every two years commencing on the date on which they last completed the training session.

OAG Training – October 1 – Ms. Cross highly recommends that Directors and staff attend this meeting.

Manassas Park MOU – Mr. Mohr stated that he has not received communication from representatives from Manassas Park.

Conservation

Approve recommendations from the Technical Review Committee on September 12 - The motion to approve was made by Ms. Reed with a 2nd by Ms. Vehrs and passed by a roll call vote with the following members voting “yes.” Mr. Price, Ms. Reed, Mr. Kahlon, and Ms. Vehrs. No members voted “no.” Passed by a 4/0/0 vote.

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- 1 Recommended Approval of Plans by BOD Motion: Second: Vote:
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- 2 Recommended Approval of VACS BMPs by BOD Motion: Reed Second: Vehrs Vote: 7-0-1

BMPs

Viar, James

BMP ID: 589190

Tracking Program #: 35-25-0002

Stream Exclusion with Wide Width Buffer and Grazing Land Management

Practice	Total Est. Cost	Est. State C/S	Acres	Estimated Reductions		
				N. Red. (lbs.)	P Red. (lbs.)	Sed Red. (Tons)
SL-6W	\$94,464.00	\$86,577.60				
BMP Stream Exclusion			1.3	3.675	0.497	0.096
BMP Grazing Land Management			10.0	9.466	1.270	0.393
Totals			11.3	13.141	1.767	0.489

Mauck, Mary

BMP ID: 589202

Tracking Program #: 35-25-0003

Extension of Watering Systems

Practice	Total Est. Cost	Est. State C/S	Acres	Estimated Reductions		
				N. Red. (lbs.)	P Red. (lbs.)	Sed Red. (Tons)
SL-7	\$19,402.20	\$15,521.76				
BMP Watering System			11.7	16.474	2.191	0.447
Totals			11.7	16.474	2.191	0.447

Grand Totals:	Total Est. Cost	Est. State C/S	Acres	N. Red. (lbs.)	P Red. (lbs.)	Sed Red. (Tons)
	\$113,866.20	\$102,099.36	23.0	29.615	3.957	0.936

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Presentation by Harry Wiggins, member of the Chesapeake Bay Review Board

Mr. Higgins discussed his concerns regarding the increase of salt levels in the Occoquan Reservoir.

See attached for complete report.

Water Quality Programs Update – Veronica Tangiri

Ms. Tangiri thanked the board for funding her attendance at the 2024 Ecological Society of America conference in Long Beach Island, CA. The upper Occoquan River Cleanup is scheduled on Saturday, September 28th at 9 a.m. It is the largest cleanup in the county. She invited Directors to attend. Chemical monitoring interest has increased. She is researching grants in order to purchase an additional chemical monitoring probe. See staff report for further information.

Presentation by Bonnie Fulford – Grant Weaver Communications

Ms. Fulford provided a presentation regarding her services that include researching and applying for grants that relate to water quality programs.

Education Programs Update – Duane Mohr

Mr. Mohr stated that volunteers are still needed in the soils station at Farm Field Days. Please contact Ms. Lowther if interested. Ms. Lowther will be conducting MWEE training on Tuesday, September 24, 2024. Ms. Lowther has registered for the Virginia Environmental Education certification program. See attached for complete staff report.

VCAP Update – Alex Murphy

Mr. Murphy stated that he is working on a VCAP rainwater harvesting project for Marie Weathersby. Mr. Hatfield stated he is working on two projects; one for rain gardens for Dave Larsen.

Directors' Time –

Mr. Bolles – unable to attend

Ms. Vehrs – Ms. Vehrs stated that Charles Smith, an ecologist with the Prince William Wildflower Society, led a walk at Deep Cut Meadow. She recognized Mrs. Lowther and Mrs. Slazinski for attending.

Mr. Kahlon – not in attendance

Mr. Price – no further comments

Ms. Reed – Ms. Reed stated that the Little Seed Library has launched. Mr. Bolles presented at the first event. Several individuals stated they would like to donate seeds.