

Minutes

Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District

971 West King Street, Boone NC

August 26, 2015 Meeting # 2

Present

Denny Norris- Chair

Angela Gragg –Vice Chair

Rob Hunt

David Tucker- NRCS

Al Childers

Becky Wallace- NRCS

Joey Clawson

Brian Chatham- Technician

Rob Baldwin- Area Coordinator

Janie Poe- Admin

Denny Norris opened the meeting

Minutes were accepted as presented

Brian – District Report

- Dana Millsap- 95-2014-005-14 RFP- Brian went out and the road looks good requesting payment of \$12,933 to complete this contract.
Angela Gragg made a motion to approve the RFP in the amount of \$12,933 to complete the contract # 95-2014-005-14. Al Childers seconded; all were in favor.
- Paul Gragg- 95-2015-001-14- Brian has received approval and is going to schedule a pre-construction meeting with Paul.
- Amy Fiedler- 95-2015-05-15- Drilled the well it went 75ft over. Jean Fiedler her mother, the land owner signed a supplement contract for the overage. Brian asks the Board to approve the supplement contract for \$731
Rob Hunt made a motion for approve the supplement application for \$731. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.
Amy Fiedler-95-15-004-14- Brian asks the Board to approve her supplement contract for \$731. Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the contract 95-2015-004-14 for \$731. Rob Hunt seconded; all were in favor.
- Scotty Eller- 95-2015-02-10- Brian informed the Board he has decided to cancel his contract. Scotty will be writing a letter to the Board with explanation.

1st Batching Period is up.

Applications received were-

- Andy Bryant- signed up for AgWRAP and ACSP
AgWRAP- Pump
ACSP- 2 permanent cattle and goat drinkers, 3 temporary drinkers, pasture rotations
Al Childers made a motion to approve the application for AgWRAP. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.
AL Childers made a motion to approve the application for ACSP. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.
- Charles Norris- ACSP- Brian is going over Lidar data and access road rules pertaining to flood plain. Brian asks the Board to approve the application for Feed pad area and access road.
Angela Gragg made a motion to approve the application for Charles Norris. Al Childers seconded; all were in favor.
- Billy Jo Main/ Paul Gragg (lessee)- ACSP
Angela Gragg recused herself from voting on anything pertaining to this application or Paul Gragg.
The application is for well, livestock watering system, livestock exclusion.
Rob Hunt made a motion to approve the application for Billie Jo Main/ Paul Gragg. Al Childers seconded; all were in favor. Rob Baldwin reminded Board that contract will have to be approved by the Commission.
- Robina Walker- ACSP she is a vet from Charlotte. She turned in an application for Christmas tree removal. However Brian went out and discussed the program with her and found out she is not eligible because she is a new land owner. So this application is null and void.

CCAP- Board of Education is waiting on the Division to approve the design. Brian has a meeting September 1, 2015 with principle, grounds keeper and Connor Boyle with Brushy Fork Environmental on what needs to be done and in what order. Kids will be participating with the project Horticulture, Construction and Mountain Alliance group. Daphne Cartner has everything she needs. Angela Gragg advised Brian to speak with Connor Boyle, PE with Brushy Fork Environmental and make sure he puts his Engineers seal on the design.

Wendy Patoprsty our Extension Agent along with Watauga River Keepers received a 319 grant for Beaver Dam Impaired & Impacted watershed. Soil & Water will be partnering with them. Brian will keep the Board informed.

CET – Brian informed the Board the training was good he had enjoyed it and felt it was very helpful.

Bird Flu- If you have chickens you need to register. It is voluntary and can be done online the process is very simple.

Pasture Forage- There will be a Field Day on September 15, 2015. Brian is unable to attend due to scheduled presentation.

Soil Health Team- Brian told the Board they are in the process of planning a tour to view cover crops in PA and VA. Brian was worried that he would have to pay for it out of pocket. The dates have not been decided yet, but Brian wanted to get approval from the Board because of the time it takes to get out of state approval on travel.

Angela Gragg made a motion for the Board to approve the out of state travel for Brian to participate in the Soil Health Team tour and for it to be added to the Commissioners agenda. Joey Clawson seconded all were in favor.

David Tucker – NRCS gave handouts introducing the New Service Delivery Model. Watauga is part of Team 3. David discussed the plan and how they want it to work. Fred Alexander has tenure and so he will have the opportunity to become the supervisor for the team if he should turn it down the opportunity for Supervisor would go to David Tucker.

David Tucker asks the Board to go over the handout as a Board. He will take one from each District and rank the needs accordingly. Al Childers made a motion to fill it out the same way Ashe has with the exception to pasture column 3,4,1,2. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

The Board then finished the discussion of the handouts with David Tucker (75/5/20). David asks Denny to sign it before he leaves today.

RC&D – Dale England has resigned due to health problems.

Rob Baldwin-

- Bird Flu- Board already discussed will keep all informed
- Envirothon- has new partner and volunteers
- Dick Fowler will retire October 1, 2015
- Commission is cracking down on extensions they denied some for the first time.

Angela Gragg- DIC – Janie will send email asking if anyone has any issues that needs to be brought before the committee in September. She will let Angela and Al know. Angela asks Janie to make sure to let Brenda know we need to be on the agenda for the fall meeting to vote.

Janie asks the Board for approval for herself and Brian to both attend the fall meeting in Ashe on October 8, 2015. She will stay in Ashe that day and help set up and clean up if that's ok.

Al Childers made a motion for Janie and Brian to both attend the fall meeting in Ashe on October 8, 2015 and Janie to help. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Janie –

- Envirothon will be September 10 & 11 at Valle Crucis Park we are expecting around 350 kids. Rain date is 17 & 18th we are going to do subs one day and pizza the next. I will get the snacks and drinks for presenters.
- CET – training was good I got 14 hours ee hours.

- EE classes there are 2 in November on are Nov 18 at New River Park, Aquatics Wild and the other is Nov 21 is Cherokee on Elk.
I would like to see if the Board will approve for me to travel to both those classes. I'm going to be going with Whitney Greene from Alleghany County we have gone to a few of these classes to gather.
Angela Gragg made a motion to approve the travel for Janie to go to both workshops in November. Al Childers seconded; all were in favor.
- Disclaimer- Janie contacted the County attorney and explained what the Board wanted him to draw up and he is working on it and when he has a draft of it he will let me know and I will bring it before the Board.

Next meeting will be September 23, 2015 at 8 am here at SWCD.

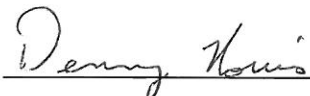
Brian also wanted the Board to know about a Land, Farm access workshop he is presenting at that same day from 6 to 8 pm.

Action Items:

- Angela performance Standards
- Brian will rank and do contracts
- Janie will send an email to Brenda to get DIC on the agenda for the fall meeting.
- Brian to check with Connor Boyle to make sure he seals the design.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45

Minutes submitted by: Janie Poe

 signed 9-23-15 date

Denny Norris, Chair