

March 27, 2019

**Minutes**

**Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District  
971 West King Street, Boone NC  
March 27, 2019 Meeting # 7**

**Present:**

**Denny Norris – Chair**

**Chris Hughes- New Supervisor**

**Bill Moretz-New Supervisor**

**Janie Poe- Admin**

**Isaac Hodges- Tech**

**Rick McSwain- Coordinator**

**Becky Wallace-NRCS**

**Denny Norris called the meeting at 8 am**

**Minutes from February 27, 2019 meeting.**

- **Chris Hughes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Bill Moretz seconded; all were in favor.**

**Agenda for March 27, 2019 was accepted as presented.**

**Conflict clause was presented – No conflicts noted**

**District Report – Isaac Hodges**

**Jeff Brown ACSP 95-2018-005 Progress Update- Access road is almost complete. They will be doing the seeding and a few other things and if weather permits, should be through by the next SWCD meeting.**

**Valle Crucis Park CCAP 95-2019-501 They will be starting construction at the end of April. After last month's meeting Isaac Hodges received an email from Jim Errante informing Soil & Water to move ahead with construction in that area.**

**Matt Duval ACSP 95-2019-005 Preliminary meeting -Isaac Hodges went out and met with Mat. He had some questions about the installation of some BMP's**

**Truck Tool Box- Chris Hughes made a motion to amend the motion previously adopted (2/27/19 \$275 allowance on tool box) to now read \$375 allowance on purchase of a tool box. Bill Moretz seconded; all were in favor.**

**Bob Shipley 95-2019-004 ACSP Update: Isaac Hodges informed the Board Mr. Shipley was out of compliance with livestock exclusion. The Board informed Isaac Hodges to write a non-compliance letter to Mr. Shipley.**

**Charles Norris 95-2016-002 heavy use area and road grading are complete. Drinkers is what Mr. Norris is working on next. Denny Norris asks Isaac Hodges to stop by and check on the project.**

**Isaac Hodges discussed Impaired & Impacted funds on the Beaver Dam. Board advised Isaac Hodges to call Jimmy South, and Scotty Corum an ask if they knew of anyone who might need our services.**

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**AgWRAP- Denny Norris ask Isaac Hodges if he went out and checked on Doug Carson. Mr. Carson has mentioned interest in our program. Isaac Hodges will go out and get in touch with Mr. Carson.**

**NRCS Report- Isaac Hodges for Rosie Grajales**

- **Ranking deadline was March 22,2019**
- **8 EQIP applicants eligible**
- **7 RCCP applicants eligible**

**NRCS has new updated applications as of 1/2019**

**Next deadline**

- **Quality Assurance Review March 27,2109**
- **Pre-approvals- April 3, 2019**

**Area 2 Coordinator- Rick McSwain**

**Partisans Election Act. Districts are sending letters voicing agreement or opposition.**

- **After discussion the Board decided to send a letter from the Watauga SWCD Board opposing the bill # H294 Partisan Elections Act. Janie Poe will draft a letter for Chairman Norris to sign opposing this bill. The Board asks that a copy be sent to Senator Deanna Ballard and Representative Ray Russell.**

**JAA- Farm act is up for review.**

- **Mr. Vernon Cox has added a section pertaining to JAA stating, the Division through the Commission can give Job Approval Authority. A committee has been approved and is taking care of the logistics, and will hopefully have it to present at the Annual meeting 2020. Rick McSwain is on the committee.**
- **Rick McSwain is in the planning stages of a Stream Crossing training in Wilkes. Information will be sent out to the districts soon.**

**RC&D- not present**

**Administration Report- Janie Poe**

- **Envirothon report- A few bumps, but that's to be expected with as many new ladies as we have.**
- **Reimbursement request for Research Institute**  
**Chris Hughes made a motion for Denny Norris to sign the letter from Resource Institute requesting reimbursement for \$125,595.00 for Administrative and design work. Bill Moretz seconded; all were in favor.**
- **Department head – Board discussed**

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- Document retention- Discussed
- Internship -Annon Blue  
Board agreed to offer an internship to Ms. Blue. Janie Poe will oversee the intern and do necessary paperwork. Annon Blue will be meeting with Janie Poe in July.
- April 8, 2019 budget meeting. Todd Combs Department head and Janie Poe will be meeting with Deron Geouque and Misty Watson to discuss requested budget. The administrative fee To the County will be discussed.
- Western NC Stream Initiative- Discussion by the Board. Area 2 is planning a DIC meeting tentatively April 11, 2019 in Morganton. Rick McSwain will let the districts know as soon as it is finalized.

With no further business meeting adjourned at 9:30

Next meeting will be April 24, 2019

Chairman Norris thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes submitted by: Janie Poe

 signed 4-24-19 date  
Denny Norris, Chair