

## MINUTES

### Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 201 E Main St/floor 5, Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 10 (District Meeting)

Date: November 12, 2024

Meeting Number: 4 (for State reporting purposes)

**Supervisors Present (In-person):** Talmage Layton- *Chair*; Mark Waller- *Supervisor*; **(Virtual)** Anjali Boyd - *Vice-Chair*; David Harris- *Financial officer* and Kenny Browning- *Secretary/Treasurer*.

**Others Present (In person):** Eddie Culberson- *Director*; Lisa Marochak- *Senior Administrative Officer*; Sherry Scully- *Ag Development Coordinator*; Jack Brown- *Agri Business & Environmental Services Manage*; Ja’Nell Henry- *guest*

*A regular Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board meeting was held on Monday, November 12, 2024, and called to order at 8:00 am by the Chair, Talmage Layton. The meeting was hybrid (in person at 201 E Main St, Durham, NC, and virtual on Zoom).*

- 1) **Conflict of Interest**– *(Read by Anjali Boyd)* No conflicts of interest.
- 2) **Statement of Professionalism** – was read by Supervisors in attendance.
- 3) **Minutes** – A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve the minutes from October 7, 2024. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 4) **Acceptance of the Financial Report**- A motion was made by David Harris to accept the financial report as presented. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 5) **Approval of Agenda**- David Harris motioned to approve the agenda as printed. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 6) **Business**
  - A. **Environmental Affairs Board (EAB)**- Mark Waller gave an update on the EAB October 9 and November 6<sup>th</sup> board meetings. There were three guest speakers at the October meeting and one at the November meeting.
  - B. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update**- David Harris reported the following:
    - On November 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting in downtown Durham for committee partners to help come up with the new Stage 2 rules that are due by 2026.
  - C. **Directors Report**- Eddie Culberson reported the following:
    - **Durham County Manager update**- Dr. Sowell resigned and Claudia Hager was appointed by the BOCC to be the new County Manager.
    - **FY24-25 County Budget** – We have started working on the budget request for next FY.
  - D. **Administrative Report**- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:
    - **Farmer Appreciation Dinner**- Will be held on December 10. Please RSVP by 11/29.
    - **Area IV Fall Meeting** (Wake SWCD)- November 21<sup>st</sup>.
    - **NCASWCD Annual Meeting**- Durham Sheraton Imperial January 5-7, 2025. Early registration is due by December 10.
    - **Larry West** – former Director of Warren SWCD passed away.

- **Annual Tree Sale**-The deadline to order is February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** – Invitations will be mailed out soon. The event will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at EPA. The board discussed gift ideas, caterers, and donations.

**E. Community Conservation Assistance Program**- Jack Brown reported the following.

- **Application for Assistance (AFA)**- A motion was made by David Harris to batch and approved the following 2 AFA as presented. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 32-2025-508 Raingarden and Backyard Wetland; Cape Fear River Watershed.
  - 32-2025-509 Raingarden; Cape Fear Watershed.
- **Contracts**
  - A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2025-508 Raingarden and Backyard Wetland for \$7,500: Cape Fear River Watershed. (Interlocal Agreement) District ranking 140. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2025-509 Raingarden for \$265: Cape Fear Watershed. Interlocal Agreement with a ranking of 150. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **In Engineer Review/Design Phase (informational only)**
  - Stream Restoration (1), Stormwater Conveyance (4)
- **ISIP**- Division Engineer plans have been submitted for a major Streambank Stabilization project in Walltown Neighborhood through Impaired Stream Improvement Program. Waiting on final contractor estimate.
- **BETC (informational only)**
  - The first fall cohort is complete! The students designed and built a 75 square foot raingarden. The raingarden was built at the Hub Farm in an area of eroded land near the lower stream which is a blue-lined unnamed tributary of Crooked Creek.

**F. Stream Restoration and Stormwater Projects** – *Eddie Culberson reported the following:*

- **Eagle/Honeycutt Stream Restoration Project** – (Ellerbe Creek) Total project cost will be \$1.4 million.
  - Start design phase now.
- **Piedmont Wholesale Flowers Project** – Eddie Culberson and Sherry Scully met with Peter Skillern who is planning to add a greenhouse to support 17 growers at the current location of Farmer Food Share. Durham SWCD is planning to help with stormwater runoff.
  - Applying for USDA grant funding. Applications are due in April 2025.

**7) New Business**

- **UDO** – The board discussed the proposed changes to the UDO and ways the community can express their opinions.

**Adjourn:** The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:32 am.

**Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting** – Tentatively on December 3, 2024 at 12:30 pm (In-person)

Talmage Layton  
Chair

Lisa Marochak  
Senior Administrative Officer

12-3-2024  
Approval date