

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 5 (District Meeting)

Date: June 3, 2024

Meeting Number: 10 (for State reporting purposes)

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

**Others Present (In person):** Eddie Culberson- *Director*; Lisa Marochak- *Senior Administrative officer*; Sherry Scully- *Ag Development Coordinator*; Dustin Brewer- *Natural Resources Coordinator*, Jack Brown- *Agri Business & Environmental Services Manager*; Ken Parks- *Regional Coordinator*.

*A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, June 3, 2024, and called to order at 8:03 am by the Financial Officer, David Harris. The meeting was in person and held at 1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham, NC.*

- 1) **Conflict of Interest**– (*Read by Sherry Scully*) 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 May 6, 2024. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 4) **Acceptance of the Financial Report**- A motion was made by Mark Waller to accept the financial report as presented. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 5) **Approval of Agenda**- Approved agenda by common consent as printed.
- 6) **Business**
  - A. **Environmental Affairs Board (EAB)**- No report.
  - B. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update**- David Harris reported the following:
    - Next meeting is June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.
    - No new updates.
  - C. **Directors Report**- Eddie Culberson reported the following:
    - **FY24-25 County Budget**- The Board of County Commissioners will approve the FY24-25 County Budget on June 10th.
    - **Awards Committee**- The committee consisting of Anjali Boyd, David Harris and Eddie Culberson will meet on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at the Soil and Water office.
    - **Breakfast for Commissioners**- Staff will work on finding a date and time that works for most.
  - D. **Administrative Report**- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:
    - **Election Term**- Anjali Boyd’s elected term will end on the last day of November 2024. The filling period to run for the position is June 5-July 4, 2024. Also, Kenyon Browning’s appointed term ends on the last day of November 2024. The Durham SWCD Board will vote on the reappointment during their October meeting and submit the recommendation to the NC Soil & Water Commission.

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

- **Application for Assistance (AFA)-** A motion was made by Kenny Browning to batch and approved the following 5 contracts as presented. Anjali Boyd seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 32-2024-515 got vegetated swale/conveyance.
  - 32-2024-516 for stormwater conveyance.
  - 32-2024-512 for a raingarden.
  - 32-2024-513 for a raingarden.
  - 32-2024-514 for stormwater conveyance and a raingarden.
  - Sq footage area in practice- 400 sq ft
  - Number of classroom hours that students participated with the BETC Program- 48 hours
  - Number of plants grown by students- 400
- **Application for Assistance**

A motion was made by Mark Waller to batch and approve the three AFA listed below. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

  - 32-2024-514 (EPA 319) for Stormwater Conveyance and Downspout Disconnect (Northeast Creek)
  - 32-2024-517 (City Interlocal Funds) for Stormwater Conveyance and Raingarden (New Hope Creek)
  - 32-2024-518 (EPA 319) for Downspout Disconnect and Stormwater Conveyance (Falls Lake/Crooked Creek)
- **Contracts**
  - 1) A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve 32-2024-514 for \$2100 (EPA 319) for Stormwater Conveyance and Downspout Disconnect: ranking 125. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 2) A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve 32-2024-515 for \$6750 for Stormwater Conveyance and Downspout Disconnect (EPA 319 grant funds): ranking 125. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 3) A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve 32-2024-516 for \$5250 for Stormwater Conveyance & Raingarden (Interlocal grant funds): ranking 120. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 4) A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve 32-2024-517 for \$6000 for Stormwater Conveyance & Raingarden (Interlocal grant funds): ranking 110. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - 5) A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve 32-2024-518 for \$3750 for Stormwater Conveyance & Downspout Disconnect (EPA 319 grant funds): ranking 105. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **In Engineer Review/Design Phase** (informational only)
  - Streambank Stabilization (1), Stream Restoration (1), Stormwater Conveyance (1)
- **BETC Update** (informational only)
  - BETC was a major success this Spring!
    - Raingardens installed- 5
    - Number of students that participated – 57
    - Impervious area treated by Raingardens- Approximately 3500 sq ft
  - The awards Ceremony for BETC students at Southern High School was held on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. The students really appreciated the pizza and certificates.

**F. Ag Cost Share and AgWRAP- *Dustin Brewer***

**ACSP**

**Request for Payments (RFP)**

- A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve the RFP for 32-2022-001 for \$9,444 3-year Residue and Tillage Management. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.
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**AGWRAP**

**Contract Extension Request**

- Contract - A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve the 6-month contract extension for 32-2022-802 (Water Well). This contract was delayed due to cooperator health issues and trouble finding contractors to do the work. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OTHER - Informational Only**

- **JAA list for Strategic Plan-** No new JAA since last approved
- **Drone Contract with NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation-** A motion was made by Kenny Browning to approve for the District Board to enter into the contract with the NC Foundation For Soil & Water Conservation to purchase a drone. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

- **Eagle/Honeycutt Stream Restoration Project –** (Ellerbe Creek) Total project cost will be \$1.1 million.
  - **CREP:** meeting with the CREP Manager on Wednesday at the Eagle/Honeycutt Project.
  - **StRAP:** \$250K was requested for the Eagle/Honeycutt Project and \$250K for the Charlestowne Apartment Project. Award selection is supposed to be announced soon.

**H. Ag Development/Farmland Protection Advisory Board- *Sherry Scully reported the following:***  
**(Informational Items)**

**Agriculture Economic Development (AED)**

- AED Committee met on May 29 to discuss past program year successes and upcoming plans for FY 2025. Highlights include Annual Report provided to Committee and Program Dates:  
**Training Date:** July 16 at 6:00pm at Farm Bureau  
**Application Deadline:** 11:59pm, August 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**Allocation of Funds Reviewed and Allocated:** September 12
  - Application will be available in online format
  - Expected allocation of \$250,000
- **Farmland Protection Advisory Board (FPAB)**
  - Farmland Board met with Farm Campus Focus Group contractor on May 30<sup>th</sup> in lieu of monthly meeting
  - Next meeting – June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Farm Bureau, 1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham
- **GIS -** Working with GIS Department and contractor, Elicia Senff, to create an SWCD Easement data layer on the Durham County online interactive mapping portal.
- **Farmland Plan contractor** will be attending September Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting.

**I. Environmental Education Report- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:**

- **2024 NC Envirothon School**– will be held next week for advisors at Blue Jay Point in Raleigh.
- **2024 Durham SWCD Conservation Awards Celebration**- Was held on May 14<sup>th</sup> 6pm at Durham Technical Community College. We had 92 people in attendance. Lisa thanked Mark Waller, Ken Parks and the Durham Soil & Water staff for helping with this year’s celebration.
- **Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW)**—The student that the district sponsored to attend the 2024 RCW will be attending the Durham SWCD Board meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup> to give the board an update.
- **NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation Donation Request**- A motion was made by Mark Waller to donate \$750 to the NC Foundation For Soil & Water Conservation. Kenny Browning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**J. NRCS Update**- Written report provided.

**K. Regional Coordinator**- Ken Parks provided a written report and highlighted some of the important things for the board and staff

**L. Other Committees/Board Reports** – No reports

**7) New Business**

**Adjourn:** The Financial Officer adjourned the meeting at 9:33 am.

**Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting – July 1 at 8:00 am.**- TENTATIVE ONLY (1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham, NC 27705).

\*Only if staff has items to vote on. Otherwise, the next meeting will be held on August 5, 2024 at 8am.

Talmage Layton  
Chair

Lisa Marochak  
Senior Administrative Officer

June 25, 2024  
Approval date