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We work with the people who work the land.

Natural Bridge SWCD **DISTRICT MINUTES**

March 19, 2025

The Natural Bridge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting electronically on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 via ZOOM and in person at the Lexington USDA Service Center conference room. The meeting was open to the public in person and by request via telephone. The Ag BMP Cost-Share Committee met this evening. The meeting was called to order by District Chairman, Rob Deyo at 6:30 p.m. A total of thirteen persons participated.

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present:

Rob Deyo
Herbie Huffman
Tom Stanley
Charles Winder
Lee Cummings
Billy Grose
Tim Goodbar

Associate Directors Present:

None

Directors Absent:

Robbie Beard

Associate Directors Absent:

Brian Jenkins
Larry Hurd

AGENCIES REPRESENTED:

Tom Stanley, Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)
Tad Williams, DCR
Gus Wilkinson, Soil Conservationist, NRCS

DISTRICT STAFF:

Robert Hickman, District Manager
Jennifer Huffman, Office Administrator
Margaret Spencer, Administrative Assistant
Buzzy Reese, Conservation Technician

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order by District Chairman, Rob Deyo at 6:30 pm. Director attendance was recorded, and a quorum was declared. Those participating in person met in the conference room at the Lexington USDA Service Center in Lexington, Virginia.

A review of electronic guidelines was stated by the Chairman. Directors unable to meet in person are allowed to fully participate in Board business per the District's adopted Remote Participation Policy.

MINUTES

Minutes from the January 15, 2025 business meeting were distributed previously for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to accept the Minutes as presented.

(Stanley, Huffman/ Unanimous)

Minutes from the January 15, 2025 cost-share committee meeting were distributed previously for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to accept the cost-share Minutes as presented.

(Cummings, Stanley/ Unanimous)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the January 31, 2025 and February 28, 2025 Treasurer's Reports were distributed prior to the meeting for review, and there were no outstanding issues or questions. A motion was made to accept both Treasurer's Reports as presented.

(Winder, Grose/ Unanimous)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Schedule Personnel Committee**

It was noted that Jennifer will schedule a personnel committee meeting in early April for the purpose of conducting annual personnel evaluations.

➤ **Office Equipment Purchase**

Technical staff informed the board of their need of a new laptop with Arc GIS capabilities. Jennifer provided the board with three quotes that outlined the details of each option to the board. A motion was made to purchase the Lenovo 14th Gen Intel Core i9 in accordance with the quote provided at \$2,889.00 through J-COM.

(Goodbar, Huffman/ Unanimous)

➤ **2025 Field Day Announcement- May 22, 2025**

Jennifer announced the Spring Conservation Field Day as May 22, 2025 to be held at McCormick Farm in partnership with NRCS, VCE, VFGC and SVAREC. The event will showcase Native Warm Season Grasses.

➤ **Envirothon Update**

Jennifer gave an update on the status of the Area I Envirothon Competition.

SWCD COMMITTEE UPDATES/STAFF REPORTS

Ag BMP Cost-Share: Lee Cummings, Committee Chair

Lee presented the following cost-share contracts for approval along with the conservation plans:

- 1) SL-7/ Extension of watering systems. 10-year contract at 75% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$29,202.81 with estimated cost-share amount of \$21,902.11. Contract #04-25-0044.

A motion was made to approve the conservation plan for contract #04-25-0044.

(Cummings, Stanley/ Unanimous)

A motion was made to approve contract #04-25-0044.

(Cummings, Grose/ Unanimous)

- 2) SL-6W/ Stream Exclusion with Wide Width Buffer and Land Grazing Management. 15-year contract at 100% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$71,314.38 with estimated cost-share amount of \$71,314.38 and buffer incentive payment of \$5,016.00. Total cost \$76,330.38. Contract #04-25-0045.

A motion was made to approve the conservation plan for contract #04-25-0045.

(Cummings, Stanley/ Unanimous)

A motion was made to approve contract #04-25-0045.

(Cummings, Huffman/ Unanimous)

A brief discussion was had regarding the practice of approving conservation plans altogether in advance of each contract, therefore

A motion was made to approve the conservations plans for contracts 04-25-0046, 04-25-0047, and 04-25-0050.

(Cummings/Stanley/ Unanimous)

- 3) SL-7/ Extension of watering systems. 10-year contract at 75% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$32,083.56 with estimated cost-share amount of \$24,062.67. Contract #04-25-0046.

A motion was made to approve contract #04-25-0046.

(Cummings, Grose/ Unanimous)

- 4) SL-6W/ Stream Exclusion with Wide Width Buffer and Land Grazing Management. 15-year contract at 100% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$161,127.94 with estimated cost-share amount of \$161,127.94 and buffer incentive payment of \$18,000.00. Total cost \$179,127.94. Contract #04-25-0047.

A motion was made to approve contract #04-25-0047.

(Cummings, Huffman/ Unanimous)

- 5) SL-1/ Long term vegetative cover on cropland. 5-year contract at 75% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$7,019.03 with estimated cost-share amount of \$5,264.27 and incentive payment of \$325.00. Total cost \$5,589.27 Contract #04-25-0050.

A motion was made to approve contract #04-25-0050.

(Cummings, Grose/ Unanimous)

Technical: Robert Hickman, District Manager

A copy of Robert's report was included in the electronic meeting packet.

Administrative: Jennifer Huffman, Office Administrator

A copy of Jennifer's report was included in the electronic meeting packet.

TMDL Watershed

Buzzy mentioned there were no updates on the TMDL.

Finance: Charles Winder, Treasurer

Charles had nothing further to add.

PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS

Department of Conservation and Recreation: Tad Williams, CDC

A copy of Tad's February and March report was included in the electronic meeting packet and is attached as part of these minutes.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Gus Wilkinson, Soil Conservationist

NRCS provided an oral report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Tom Stanley, Extension Agent

Tom provided an oral report.

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality: Sara Jordan, Water Monitoring & Assessment Scientist

A copy of Sara's February and March report was included in the electronic meeting packet and is attached as part of these minutes.

Virginia Department of Forestry: Mitchell Kim

Michell Kim did not provide a written report.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Lindsay Spotts

A copy of Lindsay's February and March report was included in the electronic meeting packet and is attached as part of these minutes.

DIRECTOR & STAFF COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to address, Rob Deyo adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

The next district business meeting will be held Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexington USDA Conference Room and electronically via Zoom.

Minutes Submitted by Board Secretary:

April 16, 2025



Minutes Approved by Board of Directors:

April 16, 2025



**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
2025**

The NATURAL BRIDGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT will hold its monthly Board of Directors meetings for the year 2025 according to the following schedule:

January 15	July 16
February 19	August 20
March 19	September 17
April 16	October 15
May 21	November 19
June 18	December 17

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Lexington USDA Service Center Conference Room, 40 Magnolia Square Way, Suite 5, Lexington, Virginia, and via ZOOM until further notice. Cost-Share committee meetings are held each month prior to the regularly scheduled business meeting, as needed.