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We work with the people who work the land.

Natural Bridge SWCD DISTRICT MINUTES

April 15, 2026

The Natural Bridge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting electronically on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 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 6:36 p.m. A total of fourteen persons participated.

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present:

**Rob Deyo
Tim Goodbar, Sr.
Herbie Huffman
Billy Grose, Jr.
Charles Winder
Robbie Beard
Charles Leech, V
Tom Stanley**

Associate Directors Present:

None

Directors Absent:

None

Associate Directors Absent:

**Brian Jenkins
Larry Hurd**

Others Present:

None

AGENCIES REPRESENTED:

**Tad Williams, DCR CDC
Dorian Perez, NRCS
Tom Stanley, VCE**

DISTRICT STAFF:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order by District Chairman, Rob Deyo at 6:36 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. Tad Williams participated through Zoom.

MINUTES

Minutes from the March 18, 2026 business meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Stanley, Leech/ Unanimous)

Minutes from the March 18, 2026 Cost-Share Committee meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Beard, Stanley/ Unanimous)

Minutes from the April 7, 2026 Personnel Committee meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Beard, Stanley/ Unanimous)

TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the March 31, 2026 Treasurer's Report was distributed for review, and there were no outstanding issues or questions. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

(Winder, Stanley/ Unanimous)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

➤ **Audit Subcommittee Recommendation Letter**

Robert reviewed the March 20th Audit Subcommittee Recommendation Letter with the board. He discussed the recommendations from the committee regarding the cost-share audit results. Tad added to the discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Personnel Committee Meeting 4/7/26 – Staff Evaluations**

The Personnel Committee met on April 7th to conduct annual staff evaluations. All evaluations were completed and the proper paperwork was reviewed and filed.

➤ **Spring Field Day**

Technical staff discussed plans for a spring Field Day. The proposed location is Leech's Dairy and Palmers Community Center for presentations. Beau will confirm a date for the field day in the next week.

SWCD COMMITTEE UPDATES/STAFF REPORTS

Ag BMP Cost-Share:

The following cost-share contracts were presented for approval:

A motion was made to approve the conservation plan CP-04-26-0007.

(Grose, Goodbar/ Unanimous)

1) WP-4/ WP-4C Animal Waste Storage Facility/ Composter. 15-year contract at 75% cost-share.

The total estimated cost for this contract is \$540,661.51, with estimated cost-share amount of \$405,496.13, capped at \$300,000.00 Contract #04-26-0043.

A motion was made to approve contract #04-26-0043.

(Goodbar, Huffman/ Unanimous)

A motion was made to approve the conservation plan CP-04-26-0055.

(Grose, Huffman/ Unanimous)

2) SL-1/ Long Term Vegetative Cover on Cropland. 5-year contract at 75% cost-share.

The total estimated cost for this contract is \$10,867.50 with estimated cost-share amount of \$8,150.63 and an incentive payment of \$450.00. Total cost-share \$8,600.63 Contract #04-26-0052.

A motion was made to approve the amended contract #04-26-0052.

(Beard, Stanley/ Unanimous)

Lastly, Buzzy presented an amendment to Contract #04-26-0048 increasing the total cost-share payment by \$5,000.00.

A motion was made to increase the cost-share payment for contract #04-26-0048 by \$5,000.00.

(Beard, Grose/ Unanimous)

Technical: Robert Hickman, District Manager

A copy of Robert's written 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.

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 April report was included in the electronic meeting packet and is attached as part of these minutes. Tad highlighted several items from his written report and reminded the district to have a budget by June 30th, submit carryover list by May 15th and approve the Average Cost List for PY27.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Dorian Perez, DC

Dorian provided a written report for April and a hard copy was provided to each member in attendance. The report is attached as part of these minutes. Dorian proposed the Local Working Group meeting be held May 20th. More information to follow.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Tom Stanley, Extension Agent

Tom provided an oral report for April and informed the board of an opportunity next week at McCormick farm for producers to bring their bulls to be examined for breeding soundness.

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

Sara did not provide a written report for April.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Position Vacant

No report provided.

Virginia Department of Forestry: Mitchell Kim

Michell Kim did not provide a written report and was not present at the meeting.

DIRECTOR & STAFF COMMENTS:

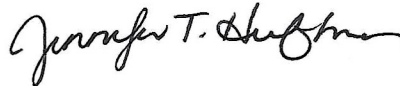
None.

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, May 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexington USDA Service Center Conference Room.

**Minutes Submitted by Board Secretary:
May 20, 2026**



**Minutes Approved by Board of Directors:
May 20, 2026**



**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
2026**

The NATURAL BRIDGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT will hold its monthly Board of Directors meetings for the year 2026 according to the following schedule:

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

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.