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We work with the people who work the land.

Natural Bridge SWCD **DISTRICT MINUTES**

November 19, 2025

The Natural Bridge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting electronically on Wednesday, November 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 Vice Chairman, Herbie Huffman at 6:34 p.m. A total of twelve persons participated.

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present:

Robbie Beard
Tim Goodbar
Tom Stanley
Billy Grose
Herbie Huffman
Charles Winder

Associate Directors Present:

None

Directors Absent:

Rob Deyo

Associate Directors Absent:

Brian Jenkins
Larry Hurd

Others Present:

Beau Leech

AGENCIES REPRESENTED:

Tom Stanley, Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

DISTRICT STAFF:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order by District Vice Chairman, Herbie Huffman at 6:34 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 Vice Chairman. Directors unable to meet in person are allowed to fully participate in Board business per the District's adopted Remote Participation Policy.

Beau Leech was present at the meeting as a guest. District Director appointments will be on the December 10th VASWCD meeting Agenda and Beau's application and appointment will be considered.

MINUTES

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

(Stanley, Goodbar/ Unanimous)

TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the October 31, 2025 Treasurer's Report was distributed prior to the meeting for review, and there were no outstanding issues or questions. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

(Winder, Grose/ Unanimous)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

➤ **None**

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Lake Merriweather Advisory Group**

Tom Stanley informed the district board about the newly formed Lake Merriweather Advisory Group (LMAG) and what its goals were. Tom attended the first meeting of LMAG and was approached by Mr. Stan Pontz about the district getting involved. Tom also reminded the district board about the TMDL that was previously worked on by many agencies that the Boy Scouts failed to comply with in the past and a bit of the history between the District and Lake Merriweather. There was discussion on the matter. A motion was made that Natural Bridge SWCD agree to take part in the Lake Merriweather Advisory Group, in the capacity that Director Tom Stanley will attend their quarterly meetings for the 2026 year.

(Stanley, Grose/ Unanimous)

➤ **2026 Winter Forage Conference**

The Virginia Forage and Grassland Council will hold their 2026 Winter Forage Conference in Weyers Cave on January 30, 2026. The District will continue to sponsor a single-day for \$150.00. Staff will attend. Directors were informed they are welcome to attend.

➤ **District Audit Scheduled – January 5, 2026**

Jennifer informed the board that the District audit has been scheduled for January 5, 2026.

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 for contract #04-26-0044.

(Beard, Stanley/ Unanimous)

- 1) SL-6W/ Stream Exclusion with Wide Width Buffer. 15-year contract at 100% cost-share. The total estimated cost for this contract is \$142,687.98, with estimated cost-share amount the same and a buffer incentive payment of \$5,172.00. Total cost \$147,859.98. Contract #04-26-0044.

A motion was made to approve contract #04-26-0044.

(Grose, Winder/ 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.

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 November report was included in the electronic meeting packet and is attached as part of these minutes.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Dorian Perez, DC

No report from NRCS and Dorian was not present at the meeting.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Tom Stanley, Extension Agent

Tom did not provide a written report but briefly gave an oral report outlining an event on December 3, 2025 at the Raphine Fire Hall with topic of discussion being spring v. fall calving presented by Dr. Kern.

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

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

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Position Vacant

Lindsay Spotts is no longer with the CBF and no report was 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:

Herbie took a few moments to thank Beau for joining the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to address, Herbie Huffman adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm.

The next district business meeting will be held Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexington USDA Service Center Conference Room.

**Minutes Submitted by Board Secretary:
December 17, 2025**



**Minutes Approved by Board of Directors:
December 17, 2025**


Vice Chair

**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.