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We work with the people who work the land.

Natural Bridge SWCD DISTRICT MINUTES

August 19, 2026

The Natural Bridge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting electronically on Wednesday, August 19, 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 6:32 p.m. A total of fourteen persons participated.

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present:

**Herbie Huffman
Tom Stanley
Charles Winder
Billy Grose, Jr.
Rob Deyo
Beau Leech
Tim Goodbar**

Associate Directors Present:

None

Directors Absent:

Robbie Beard

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
Lee Cummings, Conservation Technician**

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order by District Chairman, Rob Deyo at 6:32 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 June 29, 2026 special business meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Goodbar, Grose/ Unanimous)

Minutes from the July 15, 2026 business meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Huffman, Grose/ Unanimous)

Minutes from the August 11, 2026 Personnel Committee meeting were distributed for review. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.

(Goodbar, Grose/ Unanimous)

TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the June 30, 2026 Treasurer's Report was distributed for review, and there were no outstanding issues or questions. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

(Huffman, Winder/ Unanimous)

A copy of the July 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, Huffman/ Unanimous)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

➤ **PY27 Average Annual Cost List**

Lee presented the Average Annual Cost List for PY27 with a couple of amendments. There were no questions or discussions about the list or edits to the list, therefore a motion was made to approve PY27 Average Annual Cost List as presented.

(Stanley, Gross/ Unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Approval FY27 Amended Operations Budget**

Jennifer presented the amendments to the Operations Budget. The amendments were due to the increases from the state releasing their final figures. There were no issues or questions. A motion was made to approve the Amended FY27 Operational Budget as presented.

(Stanley, Grose/ Unanimous)

➤ **Telework Policy and Agreement**

Rob presented the Telework Policy and Agreement to the board. He went over what the Personnel Committee had discussed and reviewed the policy with directors. There was discussion on the matter. An amendment was suggested to include beginning and end dates not to exceed one year for individuals and for the policy and agreements to be reviewed annually at the Personnel Committee meetings held for staff evaluations. A motion was made to approve the Telework Policy and Agreement with the amendments stated.

(Stanley, Goodbar/ Unanimous)

➤ **Proposal for Office Desktop Computer Upgrades**

Jennifer informed the board that her desktop computer and Robert's desktop computer were in need of replacement. Discussion was had and three quotes were presented to the board for options. A motion was made to have J-Com purchase and install 2 Dell Desktop Towers, intel core i7 with windows 11.

(Stanley, Huffman/ Unanimous)

SWCD COMMITTEE UPDATES/STAFF REPORTS

Ag BMP Cost-Share:

Lee presented the following contracts for approval:

A motion was made to approve the conservation plan CP-04-26-0021.

(Stanley, Grose/ Unanimous)

- 1) CCI- SL-6W/ Continuous Conservation Initiative – Wide Stream Exclusion. 5 Year lifespan. The total payment for this contract is \$2,062.50

A motion was made to approve contract #04-26-0057.

(Grose, Stanley/ 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

Jennifer did not have a written report but reminded directors about upcoming FOIA training on October 20th at 1pm.

Finance: Charles Winder, Treasurer

Charles had nothing further to add to his report.

PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS

Department of Conservation and Recreation: Tad Williams, CDC

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

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Dorian Perez, DC

A copy of Dorian's August report was provided at the meeting and is attached as part of these minutes. He briefly went over his report with the board.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Tom Stanley, Extension Agent

Tom did not provide a written report but discussed drought and hay concerns. He also discussed the Lake Merriweather Advisory Group briefly.

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

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

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Position Vacant

No report provided.

Virginia Department of Forestry: Mitchell Kim

Michell Kim was not present and did not provide a report.

DIRECTOR & STAFF COMMENTS:

*Jennifer informed directors the Horse Center was not available to rent on the day of our typical October board meeting date, therefore a motion was made to have the Annual Awards Banquet and October meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2026.

(Stanley, Grose/ Unanimous)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to address, Rob Deyo adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

The next district business meeting will be held Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexington USDA Service Center Conference Room.

**Minutes Submitted by Board Secretary:
September 16, 2026**



**Minutes Approved by Board of Directors:
September 16, 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 20*
May 20	November 18
June 17	December 16
June 29 *Special Board Meeting	

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.