



## *GUILFORD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT*

*3309 Burlington Road, Greensboro, North Carolina, 27405-7605 / (336) 641-2440*

**FY 2023 – 2024 Meeting Number 1**      August 2, 2023 Minutes

### **Supervisors Present:**

George Teague, Chair  
Josh Myers, Vice Chair  
Ray Briggs, Member

### **Others Present:**

Jamey Walker, S&W Conservation Manager  
Gary Cox, S&W Conservation Technician  
Nicole Carolan, Soil & Water Coordinator  
Millie Langley, Soil Conservationist  
Brandon King, NRCS Sup. Soil Conservationist  
Jordyn Rosichan, NRCS Soil Conservationist  
Leslie Bell, Guilford Co. Planning Director  
Rick McSwain, NC-DSWC Reg. Coordinator

The board meeting was called to order by Chairman, George Teague, at 9:00 AM at the Guilford Agriculture Center Barn Kitchen Meeting Room. George Teague welcomed everyone in attendance.

*He then read the Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any conflicts of interest; none were stated. He then noted the Statement of Professionalism that the Commission recently recommended including at each board meeting.*

### **Agenda**

George Teague asked everyone to review the agenda as presented. *Josh Myers moved to approve the agenda. Ray Briggs seconded, and the motion was approved.*

### **Minutes**

George asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes from the June 2023 meeting. *Ray moved to approve the June minutes as presented. Josh seconded, and the motion was approved.*

George Welcomed Rick McSwain to the meeting, he is the new NC-DSWC Regional Coordinator, taking Ralston James' position since his retirement.

### **Comments from County**

Leslie reported that the BMAP contract was processing through county finance and should be sending the check by next Friday, 8/11/23. He also reported that intern Jordyn Davis had been hired and would be starting on August 14<sup>th</sup> with county orientation and should be ready to start (in the office) on Tuesday, Aug.15. Millie will be working with her and getting her set up to begin work on the VAD files. Leslie also mentioned that the board would be meeting with Finance next Friday, 8/11/23.

### **NRCS**

Brandon King gave the NRCS update. He mentioned that he should have more to report next month as applications/contracts are being finalized. Jamey asked if NRCS had done anything concerning the Farm Bureau building. He said that they have not, as the USDA group handling that won't be working on that until later in the year; this fall perhaps. Leslie also mentioned that the county doesn't appear to be interested in the building either.

### **Division Report**

Rick McSwain reported that, as we probably already knew, David Williams was promoted to fill Vernon Cox's position as Director of the Division of Soil & Water Conservation. He also reported that Ken Parks

will be filling the vacancy for the other Central Region Coordinator (Brandy Myers' position). David will be making some changes, but pretty much building on the work Vernon had accomplished with JAA and Training District Employees. The Area 3 Fall meeting is being planned in Rockingham county.

**District Conservation Programs**

- Gary Cox presented the Cost Share Program update including the following contract extensions which were approved by the NC S&W Commission. All have work underway except 41-2019-803, which is pended for Engineering approval:

41-2019-803	Aaron Sink	Irrigation Pond	35,000 (Pended for Engineering)
41-2021-001	Ryan Blankenship	CAT, Field Borders	13,259
41-2021-002	Colton Perdue	Well, Waters	13,918
41-2021-010	Colton Perdue	Supplement	6,453
41-2021-801	Mike Morgan	Well	8,993
41-2021-803	Craven Smith	Micro-Irrigation	24,967

Gary thanked Ray for attending the meeting virtually, as required by the commission to qualify for approving the extensions.

- Gary presented an Ag Cost Share Request for Payment for approval:

41-2023-007	Cobb & Black	Cover Crop	\$2,573
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Josh moved to approve the RFP for Cobb and Black, #41-2023-007 for \$2,573. Ray seconded and the motion was approved.

- The county approved two new VAD applications for Eric and Cristy Minnis of Burlington for 16.38 acres; two parcels for Sam and Tomasita Jacobowitz of Whitsett for 20.12 acres. Guilford County's Voluntary Ag District totals are now VAD, 397 parcels and 17,420.70 acres and EVAD 43 parcels and 1,765.68 acres; total of both VAD and EVAD is 440 parcels and 19,186.38 acres.

**District Education**

- Nicole noted that the Foundation report showed no income since the June report, but we did have the expense of the tree purchase for next year's tree sale. She was able to get everything on our list except the persimmon.
- She reported that she had a "Rack Card" made up to advertise the Cost Share Programs. She went through the City/County print shop. These were mailed and emailed (digital format) out. She is using a free version of a presentation/social media design tool called Canva. Hopefully we can purchase the full pay version soon.

**District Operations**

- Jamey gave an update on the Munis Report for the regular and foundation district expenses.
- Jamey also reported that he is already receiving applications for the intern position that will focus on an audit of the VAD and EVAD program. He and Millie will be working on the Scope of Work, interviews and potential timeline for the intern position. Leslie mentioned that the county previously only had interns who only needed the experience that interning provided. They not have funds available for funding interns and that no funds were pulled from our regular budget for our new paid intern.
- The staff has been working with the division staff preparing for the Conservation Employee Training (Sept. 18-21, 2023) in Greensboro at the Embassy Suites Hotel, out near the airport. The staff took DSWC staff Sydney Mucha, Josh Vetter and Bryan Evans to see the potential sites last week.

- Millie will be attending the SE RC&D Conference in Cherokee Sept. 10-12.
- Millie reported that she attended the NCF-Envirothon in New Brunswick, Canada July 23-28. It was a very successful event and our NC Team (Enloe High School from Wake Co) came in sixth!

### **New Business**

George reported that he had received info from Wake SWCD about their Friends of Wake SWCD program. This is a separate non-profit 'group' to hold donated funds. After some discussion, it was decided to pursue creating a Friends of Guilford SWCD by consensus.

### **Adjournment**

*With no other business to discuss, Josh moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 am. Ray seconded, and the motion was approved.*

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 9:00 am in the Guilford Ag Center Barn Kitchen Meeting Room**



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Secretary/Treasurer