

MINUTES

Yadkin Soil and Water Conservation District, held at Yadkinville NC.

Meeting Number 1

Date: July 25, 2013

Supervisors Present:

Lenuel Chamberlain

Van Hemric

Grady Shore

Bobby J. Matthews Jr.

Others Present:

Jason Walker (Department Head)

Leigh Calloway (Technician)

David Harrison (Division staff)

Rob Baldwin (Regional Coordinator)

Minutes of meeting held May 16, 2013 approved as: read () corrected ()

The Yadkin Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors met at the Yadkin Cooperative Extension kitchen in Yadkinville at 7:10 pm July 25th, 2013. Chairman Chamberlain called the meeting to order. The agenda was reviewed. Van Hemric made a motion to approve the agenda and Bobby J. Matthews Jr. seconded it. Motion carried 4-0. The May 16th, 2013 minutes were reviewed. Grady Shore made a motion to approve the minutes and Bobby J. Matthews Jr. seconded it. Motion carried 4-0.

David Harrison gave a brief review on the spot check performed by the Division back in April 2013. David stated that the Yadkin field office was doing a very good job keeping up with records and that there were only a few issues that needed correcting. David provided a handout listing all the items reviewed in the office appraisal. Among the issues needing attention was how the district approves Ag. Cost Share applications and contracts. Also, David reminded the board about the two cooperators that were found out of compliance during the spot check. Jason Walker stated that the district has sent the cooperators letters stating that they are out of compliance and have one calendar year to be back in compliance or pay the Division back a pro-rated amount of the funds that they received. Jason also stated that the district board voted at the last meeting to approve Cost Share Applications separate from contracts.

Continued.

Jason Walker presented a request for payment for Ag. Cost Share contract 99-2012-802. The BMP is a watering system and the total request for payment is \$1,449. Van Hemric made a motion to approve the request for payment and Bobby J. Matthews Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Jason Walker asked the board if they would like to keep the current standards that the Yadkin Soil and Water Conservation District will not implement access roads or cropland conversion as BMPs. Grady Shore made a motion to not implement access roads or cropland conversion as BMPs and Van Hemric seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. There was further discussion about keeping the funding cap on watering wells at \$5,000. Bobby J. Matthews Jr. made a motion to keep the current cap on wells at \$5,000 and Van Hemric seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Jason Walker asks the board if they would like to keep the cost share at 75% regardless if the cooperator is a beginning farmer or not. Van Hemric made a motion to keep the cost share at 75% and Grady Shore seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Jason Walker presented the FY 2014 Cost Share allocation to the board. The Division has released forty percent of the year's allocation which is \$19,720. The remaining funds will be released at a later date. The district can encumber the forty percent now in contracts.

Jason Walker informed the board that Douglas Farms has asked for help in closing their waste storage pond. It is estimated that the pond holds about 535,594 gallons of dairy waste. The cooperators have already sold all of their milk cows and the waste pond is inactive and a potential hazard to the environment. The district is requesting to send a waste storage pond grant application to the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Yadkin Soil and Water District is asking the Foundation for \$7,875 to help close the pond. Douglas Farms has agreed to pay 25% of the cost, which is \$2,625. The total amount of funds needed for this project is \$10,500. Grady Shore made a motion to approve the grant application for the waste pond closure and Bobby J. Matthews Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Continued.

Jason Walker requested permission from the board that the Yadkin Soil and Water staff attends the Conservation Employee Training in September. The training will be September 30th through October 3rd at Nag's Head, NC. The total cost for Jason Walker, Leigh Calloway and Dennis Wiles to attend will be \$964.50. Bobby J. Matthews Jr. made a motion that the Yadkin Soil and Water staff attends the CET and Van Hemric seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Jason Walker gave an update on 5D. The dam was recently pressure washed and sealer was applied. Due to recent heavy rains the water level in the dam is remaining higher than usual but everything is running normal.

Jason Walker presented a message from Alan Walker announcing that there will funding available through the Western North Carolina Stream Initiative Program. The local Soil and Water Conservation Districts will need to be involved in an agreement with the Division of Water Resources to run the funds through a local unit of government.

Jason Walker made some announcements to the board. The supervisor's subsistence rates have changed. Breakfast is now \$8.20, lunch is \$10.70, dinner is \$18.40 and lodging is \$65.90. The per diem rate is still \$15/day. The Soil and Water Conservation District's annual meeting is scheduled for January 5-7, 2014 at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville. The North Carolina Water Resources Congress annual meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2013 in Raleigh. Alan Walker will be on detail to Salisbury, NC for the next 120 days serving as Acting ASTC-FO for Area 2.

Rob Baldwin informed the board of the reorganization of the Soil and Water Division. Instead of Areas the state will now be categorized into Regions: Eastern, Central and Western. The Yadkin Soil and Water District is now part of the Western Region. The Western Regional Coordinators are Rob Baldwin and Davis Ferguson.

Being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Lenuel Chamberlain, Chairman