

**MINUTES**  
**CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Supervisors Present: Vicky Porter, Jeff Goforth, Robert Brown, Ned Hudson, and Louis Suther

Staff Present: Dennis Testerman, Erin Lineberger and Daniel McClellan

Others Present: Kelly Sifford, Department Head; Chris Childers, NRCS Partner; Ralston James, NC DSWC Partner; Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County Commissioner

**(1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vicky Porter at 5:31 P.M.

**(2) Approval of Agenda**

UPON MOTION of Robert Brown, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the board approved the agenda as written.

**(3) Approval or Correction of Minutes for March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 Meeting**

UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 meeting.

**(4) Informational Items**

**(4-A) Board, Staff and Partner Reports**

**(4-A-i) Area Conservation Contest Report**

Erin Lineberger shared the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place CSWCD District's student entries in the Area Conservation Contest. As follows:

- o Aubrey Howard, Carolina International School- **2<sup>nd</sup> place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Poster**
- o Asmaa Alothman, Carolina International School- **2<sup>nd</sup> place, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster**

- o Skylar Couture, Cannon School- **2<sup>nd</sup> place, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster**
- o Rachel Earl, Northwest Cabarrus Middle School- **3<sup>rd</sup> place, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster**
- o Paige Starnes, JN Fries Magnet Middle School- **3<sup>rd</sup> place, Computer Designed Slideshow**
- o Gavin Moose, Mount Pleasant Middle School- **1<sup>st</sup> place, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Public Speaking**
- o Ray Beaver, Concord Middle School- **2<sup>nd</sup> place, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Public Speaking**

**(4-A-ii)** Spot Check Date

Erin Lineberger informed the Board of the official spot check date of April 19<sup>th</sup>. Louis Suther and Robert Brown will be accompanying Daniel McClellan, Dennis Testerman, and Erin Lineberger for spot checks, as well as any other interested Board member or partner who may be available. If there are more than two Board members in attendance, a special open meeting will be called. A tour of CCAP and ACSP projects will be held at the end of May. County Commissioner Lynn Shue as well as other invitees will be in attendance, along with District Staff and partners.

**(4-A-iii)** 2016 ACEP ALE Standard Cooperative Agreement Statement of Work

Dennis Testerman reviewed the complicated Conservation Easement process, which can take five or more years to complete, with the Board. The Board advised staff to stress the importance of accurately representing the process to interested landowners, strongly advising them to include their children in the process. Dennis Testerman additionally reviewed the 2016 ACEP ALE Standard Cooperative Agreement Statement of Work for the Porters' Conservation Easement with the Board.

**(5) Unfinished Business**

**(5-A) Stewardship Week Update**

Erin Lineberger announced the official Stewardship Banquet date of April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and requested RSVPs by April 19<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at 6:30 in the Multipurpose Room of the Senior Center. Vicky Porter will MC for the event, and the program will be similar to previous years with the

addition of a brief presentation of CSWCD's education programs by Erin. Bocca Felice will cater the event.

**(6) New Business**

**(6-A) Conservation Farm Family**

Daniel McClellan informed the Board of our submission of Mitchell Haigler and family for the Area 8 Conservation Farm Family. The Board was in support of this selection. Ralston James shared that he would be visiting the farm as part of the selection process on April 26<sup>th</sup> around noon, and welcomed the attendance of staff, supervisors, and partners.

**(6-B) North Carolina Agricultural Cost Share Program**

**(6-B-i) Contract**

**(6-B-i-a) Porter Farms; #13-2016-003; Livestock exclusion, well, tanks; \$11,149.00**

UPON motion of Ned Hudson, seconded by Louis Suther and unanimously carried, the Board voted to approve the contract for Porter Farms. Vicky Porter abstained from the vote.

**(6-C) Conservation Field School; Proposal for Boardwalk and Nature Preserve**

Erin Lineberger shared access issues related to the Conservation Field School, and suggested investigating the possibility of partnering with Cabarrus County Active Living and Parks to receive a Nature Preserve designation and pursue a grant for a trail or boardwalk connecting Odell Recreation League's fields behind Cox Mill Elementary school to the Field School.

UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously carried, the Board moved to support preliminary investigations into the possibility of a Nature Preserve Designation and a boardwalk/trail connection between Odell Recreation League and the Field School in order to improve access to the Field School for educational purposes.

**(7) Closed Session to Discuss Conservation Plan**

UPON MOTION of Robert Brown seconded by Jeff Goforth and unanimously carried, the Board entered into Closed Session at

7:02 P.M based on the requirements of the Section 1619 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. One Conservation Plan was discussed and signed during the session.

**(8) Adjourn**

UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously carried, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM.



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Vicky Porter, Chairman



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Robert Brown, Secretary/Treasurer