

MINUTES
CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

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

Staff Present: Dennis Testerman and Amy Griffith

Others Present: Chris Childers, NRCS; Bill Richey, candidate for Soil and Water Board Supervisor; Tommy Porter, Associate Supervisor; Ralston James, NCDA&CS

(1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Goforth at 5:18 p.m.

(2) Approval of Agenda

UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Louis Suther and unanimously carried, the board approved the agenda.

(3) Approval or Correction of Minutes

UPON MOTION of Vicky Porter, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the July 24, 2012 regular meeting, the August 20, 2012 called meeting and the August 30, 2012 called meeting.

(4) Consent Agenda

UPON MOTION of Louis Suther, seconded by Vicky Porter and unanimously carried, the board approved the Consent Agenda.

(4-A) Staff/Partner Report

- Boy Scout Andrew Lash with Troop 38 carried out his Eagle Scout project on the District's conservation easement on the jail campus, removing exotic invasive plants that are competing with native vegetation. Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program operational agreement for \$350,000 grant to Porter Farms for conservation easement on 110.9 acres has been signed and returned to NC NRCS headquarters. Tommy Porter was elected chair at the August 30 meeting of the county Agriculture Advisory Committee.

(4-B) Conservation Plans

(4-C) Application/Contracts/Requests for Payments - Conservation Cost-Share Programs

NC Agriculture Cost Share Program Contracts:

- Jeremy Wayne, 13-2013-002-16, \$10,174.00, Watering Facility
- Mitchell Haigler, 13-13-001-16, \$6,398.00, Stream Protection

Conservation Reserve Program Contracts:

- Mike Harkey
- Karla Eaves
- Clarence & Barbara H. Lane Living Trust

(4-D) Board reappointment of Ned Hudson

UPON MOTION of Louis Suther, seconded by Vicky Porter, with Ned Hudson abstaining, the board approved the reappointment paperwork for Ned Hudson.

(4-E) 2013 District Plan of Work

(5) Unfinished Business

(5-A) 50th Anniversary Banquet

There was a general discussion among the group regarding the venue. It was decided to tentatively reserve The Farm at Brushharbor for the event on August 28, 2013. More details will be worked out in the future.

(6) New Business

(6-A) Operational Agreement Review

Dennis Testerman stated there have been no changes to this document. Also, board members were asked to leave their Supervisor's Notebooks so staff can update them with new documents.

(6-B) NCACC Legislative Goals/Tour

Dennis Testerman stated Bob Carruth would be presenting the district's legislative goals to the Board of Commissioners. There were also general comments made about the recent tour of District conservation initiatives attended by federal, state and local legislators on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of conservation districts.

(6-C) Carolina Thread Trail on Airport Easement

The Thread Trail is being proposed through the airport easement. The trail will connect with other trails constructed by the City of Concord. Mr. Testerman will have more information next month.

(6-D) Voluntary Agricultural District Resolution for Annual Meeting

UPON MOTION of Vicky Porter, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the Board voted to endorse the Voluntary Agricultural District resolution. This resolution encouraging support by all conservation districts will be submitted for adoption at the upcoming Fall meeting of the State Association.

(6-E) Priorities for Open Space Protection

There was a general discussion among the group regarding open space protection.

UPON MOTION of Vicky Porter, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the board voted to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to form a committee to discuss rollback taxes and open space.

(7) Reports

(7-A) Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Vicky Porter stated the commission met during the Conservation Employees Training.

(7-B) NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation

Ned Hudson stated Michelle Lovejoy is still doing a great job as Director. He also commented on the recent District tour for elected officials.

(8) Adjourn

UPON MOTION of Louis Suther, seconded by Vicky Porter and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Jeff Goforth, Chairman

Ned Hudson, Secretary-Treasurer