

# BOARD MINUTES

## ***ORANGE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT Environment & Agricultural Building, Hillsborough***

***February 10, 2016***

### **Supervisors Present:**

Chris Hogan, Chairman  
Morris Shambley, Treasurer  
Roger Tate, Supervisor  
Clay Parker, Supervisor

### **Others Present:**

Brent Bogue, NRCS  
Gail Hughes, Soil Con  
Lisa Pope, Admin. Asst.  
Kenny Ray, Soil Con  
Todd Roberts, Soil Con

Chairman, C. Hogan, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

December 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted. R. Tate moved for approval, M. Shambley seconded.

### **NC Ag Cost Share Program - NCACSP**

T. Roberts and K. Ray submitted the following Application, Contracts and Requests for Payments PY 2016:

#### ***NCACSP Requests for Payments***

- ❖ **68-2015-005 – Chad Gentry:** 31.75 acres Long Term No Till (CS) \$4,762. Tate moved to approve, Shambley seconded.
- ❖ **68-2016-002 – Tate, Inc.:** .77 acres grassed waterways; .08 ac. Field borders \$2,073. (CS) Parker moved to approve, Shambley seconded. (Please note that Supervisor, R. Tate, abstained from vote)
- ❖ **68-2016-004 – Cross Creek Dairy/Rock Hill Farm:** .49 acres grassed waterways (CS) and .67 acres field borders (CS) totaling \$2,744. R. Tate moved to approve; M. Shambley seconded.

Additional NCACSP discussion included:

- NCACSP/CCAP Program Review slated for March 17-18, 2016
- No Till Drill Rental – Pope distributed spreadsheet reflecting the amounts that the drill has generated year to date.

### **Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)**

G. Hughes reported on new CCAP Applications. Orange SWCD allocation is \$6,583.

- ✓ 68-2016-501 – Darryl Riggins: Critical area plantings \$565.00 (Ranking: 130 pts)
- ✓ 68-2016-502 – Meaghun Darab: Rain Garden, critical seeding \$211.00 (Ranking: 110)
- ✓ 68-2016-503 – Dean Bidgood: Rain garden, stream bank protection \$1,630.00 (Ranking: 150)
- ✓ 68-2016-504 - Jeff Michalski: Rain garden, diversion \$1,700 (Ranking: 130)

C. Parker moved to blanket approve the above four new applications; M. Shambley seconded.

**319 Falls Lake Horse Grant Funds**  
**Request for Payment Approvals from December 29, 2015:**

DDB Customs-David Brooks-68-2016-050: New Application & Contract: Livestock Exclusion totaling \$307.00. Contract could not be completed due to rain/weather conditions. Contract could not be extended past December 31, 2015. Original funds were returned to the State/Division. New Application was approved. Tate moved to approve; Parker seconded. Contract approved: Tate moved; Parker seconded. Payment was approved. Parker move to approve; Shambley seconded.

**Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)**

B. Bogue reported that 28 applications have been taken for Orange County. There were a variety of applications submitted. Ranking for these applications was due two weeks ago; waiting to see which applications were approved for funding

Bogue updated the Board on his schedule. He currently spends his time in other Districts (six total) as needed. He still tries to split his time between Person, Orange and the remaining four districts. Employee Bill Woods and Bogue are assisting several districts that have new district & NRCS employees. Bogue stated that it is uncertain at this time when a permanent NRCS supervisor will be hired. State Con, Tim Beard, said that it could possibly be up to 6-8 months. Position has been sent to Washington, D.C. to be advertised. Long Range Plan for these six Districts is to have six NRCS full time employees in place.

**Educational Update**

**Pope & Hughes discussed the following:**

Pope discussed the Blackwood Farm Educational Trail. With the assistance of Piedmont Community Conservation Project Manager, two grants were submitted for the trail which includes Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Sierra Club. Unfortunately, Orange SWCD was not awarded funds from these two grants. At the December 9, 2015 Board Meeting, the OSWCD Board approved up to \$3,000 from the Patterson Account to begin creating the kiosks needed for this trail. The Board requested an estimate for costs of materials which Pope provided. Today the Board approved an additional \$2,000. to assist with the art needed for trail signage and the boardwalk platform over the wetland area. Local Cedar Ridge high school student has agreed to complete art work as needed. Shambley approved an additional \$2,000. be allotted for the Blackwood Farm Discovery Educational Trail from the Patterson Account; Parker seconded.

**Piedmont Envirothon** (Area III) will take place on March 22 at Elon University. Volunteers are needed. See L. Pope for volunteer registration information. The **State Envirothon** is scheduled for April 29-30. Orange SWCD anticipates have 5 teams total competing at the Area Envirothon,

**Orange/Durham SWCD Pond Clinic** will be held on Saturday, May 7 at the Orange County Blackwood Farm. Employees Roberts, Ray and Pope are currently working on fund raising opportunities for this project along with securing guest speakers, etc.

**The Orange SWCD Second Annual Blueberry Plant Sale** will be held on Friday, February 26. An estimated 400 plants are scheduled to be sold to raise funds to send several Orange County high school students to the Resource Conservation Workshop at NCSU in June, 2016.

#### **Budget and Miscellaneous Discussion**

**Ag Preservation Board** would like to host a complimentary meal to honor VAD/EVAD participants. G. Hughes stated that a late fall 2016 is being considered at this time. More info is forthcoming.

G. Hughes discussed Budget. Budget proposals were submitted February 1<sup>st</sup>. L. Pope provided the Board with current account balances and expenditures.

**Voluntary Ag Program (VAD) Update** was presented to the Board by G. Hughes. Total acreage in program is 8,536 acres in VAD and 1,859 acres in EVAD totaling 10,395 acres in program at this time.

The Board discussed the possibility of donating Quentin Patterson's photo library to UNC to archive. UNC would handle on line pictures that are currently archived at the Hillsborough Historical Museum. A link to UNC website would be easily accessed from our Orange SWCD/DEAPR webpage. G. Hughes was requested by the Board to provide more details on this subject in the near future.

With no further discussion, meeting was adjourned.

By: *Morris Shambley*, Secretary/Treasurer