

BOARD MINUTES

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

October 26, 2015

Supervisors Present:

Chris Hogan, Chairman
Morris Shambley, Treasurer
Roger Tate, 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 7:35 p.m.

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

NC Ag Cost Share Program - NCACSP

T. Roberts, K. Ray and G. Hughes submitted the following Application and Contracts PY 2016:

- **Milton Durham – 68-2016-006/Supplement:** 23.27 acres prescribed grazing totaling \$698. (CS) Ranking: 560. M. Shambley moved to approve; R. Tate seconded.
- **Richal Vanhook – 68-2016:** Livestock Exclusion (well & water trough system, heavy use area) totaling \$15,538. (CS) Ranking: 575 pts. R. Tate moved to approve; M. Shambley seconded.

NCACSP Requests for Payments

- ❖ **68-2013-401 – Milton Durham:** 86.73 acres Prescribed Grazing \$2,602. (JL)
- ❖ **68-2014-018 – Patrick Purcell:** 10.18 acres Sod Based Rotation \$1,782. (CS)
- ❖ **68-2015-012 – Hoot Owl Farms:** 50.06 acres Sod Based Rotation (CS) and 14.0 acres Cropland Conversion (CS) totaling \$11,911.
R. Tate moved to “blanket” approve the three above RFP’s; M. Shambley seconded.

Additional NCACSP discussion included:

- Allocation Received and additional forthcoming allocation funds
- No Till Drill Insurance: T. Roberts worked with County Risk Manager to agree to pick up the cost of insurance policy while saving the District money.
- Secondary Employment Forms for staff members were reviewed.
- NCDA & CS State Contract approval. The Board reviewed Master Agreement. M. Shambley moved to approve; R. Tate seconded.
- Updates on two Noncompliance Refunds to Landowners (Contract 68-2006-24-09; Refund \$1,333.) and Contract No. 68-2005-05-09; Refund \$357.) These funds will be added to PY 2016 current year allocation.

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)

G. Hughes reported that there has not been funding allocated or available at this time; waiting for the Soil & Water Commission to make allocation at their November meeting.

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

B. Bogue reported that the batching period ends November 20, 2015 contingent upon: Debt ceiling not being raised, government shutdown not take place, etc.

Bogue updated the Board on the NRCS Service Delivery Model. It will be official in January, 2016. However, the model is unofficially in effect now. Bogue currently spends his time in other Districts as needed. Bogue's Team includes the following counties: Alamance, Caswell, Guilford, Orange, Person and Rockingham.

Educational Update

Pope & Hughes discussed the following:

4th Grade Farm To Table: This year's educational outreach program was postponed, due to inclement weather, for November 4-5 at the Orange County Blackwood Farm Park. Hughes and Pope are involved in assisting the DEAPR Educational/Programming Team with this event as well as serving as resource presenters.

N.C. State Fair Booth: Pope & Hughes reported a successful day (October 20) with large numbers attending educational booth.

Food, Land & People (FLP) Program Donation: R. Tate moved to approve a \$100 donation to the State FLP Program from the NC Matching Grant Fund; M. Shambley seconded.

Pope discussed the Blackwood Farm Educational Trail. With the assistance of Piedmont Community Conservation Project Manager, two grants have been submitted for the trail which includes Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Sierra Club. Pope will update Board in December to the outcome of grant proposals.

Budget and Miscellaneous Discussion

G. Hughes discussed Budget. L. Pope provided the Board with current account balances and expenditures.

M. Shambley moved to approve the purchase of several items needed by the District staff which includes a folding table for educational programs, a small measuring wheel and a 25 foot retractable measuring tape for field use. Tate seconded motion.

Voluntary Ag Program (VAD) Update was presented to the Board by G. Hughes

Pope requested approval to nominate Charles Snipes, former Orange SWCD Supervisor and past NCASWCD President, to the NCASWCD Hall of Fame. Mr. Snipes passed away in March, 2015. Tate moved to approve nomination, Shambley seconded.

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

By: Morris Shambley, Secretary/Treasurer