

# BOARD MINUTES

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

*September 10, 2014*

### **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  
Ralston James, NCDA-DSW

Chairman, C. Hogan, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

August 6, 2014 Minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted. M. Shambley moved for approval, R. Tate seconded.

### **Cost Share Program (N.C. ACSP)**

The Board entered into a closed session to discuss the contractual details of NCACSP Contract Number: 68-2013-004~Valee Taylor/Taylor Fish Farm. Staff members were asked to update the Board on the details of contract.

Closed session ended after a brief discussion regarding contractual details of Taylor Fish Farm; meeting was then re-opened. C. Hogan welcomed Ms. Renee Stewart, representative for V. Taylor and business partner in Taylor Fish Farm. Ms. Stewart met with the Board to request an extension on Contract 68-2013-004 (Waste Irrigation System). She explained to the Board that "Taylor Fish Farm would like to go forward in getting irrigation system in, weather permitting in October if the Board will consider granting extension".

Chairman, C. Hogan responded to Ms. Stewart by stating "The Board has made the best effort to support Taylor Fish Farms and their endeavors". Ms. Stewart stated that she fully understood that the price of the waste irrigation system had recently gone up in price and that Taylor Fish Farms would be responsible for 75% of cost-sharing (up to a maximum cap of \$25,000 in cost share assistance as set by the Board in years past). Ms. Stewart expressed her appreciation and consideration in her request on behalf of Taylor Fish Farm.

Staff members recommended to the Board that Contract 68-2013-004/Taylor's Fish Farm be extended for another six (6) months to allow Taylor Fish Farm to complete a minimum one third of the contracted waste application system by March 12, 2015.

R. Tate moved to accept staff recommendations and extend contract; C. Parker seconded. The Board voted that this motion also include a certified letter to Taylor Fish Farm that specifically stated, with explicit details, the conditions of the extension.

T. Roberts and K. Ray submitted the following ACSP **REQUEST FOR PAYMENT**:

- **Bill Lee** – 68-2014-004: Long Term No Till totaling \$2,269. (CS) M. Shambley moved to approve; C. Parker seconded.

*NCACSP Applications and Contracts*

- ❖ **Gene Williams**: Stream Protection totaling \$16,388. (II Funds) Ranking: 520
- ❖ **Larry Anderson**: Grassed Waterways/Field Border totaling \$5,119. (CS) Ranking: 470
- ❖ **Mike Hall**: G. Waterways \$903. (CS) Ranking: 445
- ❖ **Carlton Parker**: Sod Based Rotation \$1,101. (CS) Ranking: 395
- ❖ **Patrick Purcell**: Sod Based Rotation \$2,415.(CS) Ranking: 395

C. Parker moved to approve above mentioned **applications**; R. Tate seconded.

R. Tate moved to approve above mentioned **contracts**; C. Parker seconded.

PLEASE NOTE - The following supervisors (below) abstained from voting on their personal contracts/applications. Contract and application were voted on separately. Motions and seconds were done respectively as shown below:

- ❖ **Roger Tate**: G. Waterways/F. Border \$3,327. (CS) Ranking: 470.  
C. Parker moved to approve; M. Shambley seconded.
- ❖ **Morris Shambley (J. Berry Property)**: Sod Base Rotation \$2,275. (CS) Ranking: 460  
R. Tate moved to approve; C. Parker seconded.
- ❖ **Morris Shambley (Apple Property)**: Sod Based Rotation \$210. (CS) Ranking: 435  
C. Parker moved to approve; R. Tate seconded.
- ❖ **Morris Shambley (Lewis Property)**: Sod Based Rotation \$784. (CS) Ranking: 395  
R. Tate moved to approve; C. Parker seconded.

The District voted to keep the cost share percentages for all contracts at 75%. M. Shambley made a motion to leave cost share at 75%; R. Tate seconded motion.

T. Roberts and K. Ray reported that they have received the District Cost Share allocation of \$69,087 and Impaired/Impacted allocation of \$15,610. totaling \$84,697.

Staff discussed new Master Agreement between the District, the NCASWCD Commission, the Division of Soil and Water and NCDA. This contractual agreement is forthcoming. Once the agreement is signed and executed, technical assistance funds of \$51,000; Operating Funds of \$2,520 and Matching Grant Funds of \$3,600. can be requested.

The Technical Review Committee (TRC) will be discussing with the Commission the new prescribed grazing standard. This has been discussed at previous meetings pertaining to the County's Dairy Farm operated by Patrick Purcell.

**Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)**

G. Hughes updated the Board on the following details:

- ✓ 2014-15 CCAP funds received from the Division is \$6,593.
- ✓ Due to large percentage of funds not used across the state, the NCASWCD Commission voted on a new policy that Districts will voluntarily return unused funds by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ Possible reallocation to counties that request funding in January, 2015.

**Contracts and Application Approvals:**

- 502 - **Orange County Schools – Cameron Park Elementary:** Rain garden & critical seeding totaling \$2,468. Ranking: 165 pts. M. Shambley moved to approve; C. Parker seconded.
- 503 - **Town Of Hillsborough:** Riparian Buffer totaling \$1,500. Ranking: 145 pts. M. Shambley moved to approve, C. Parker seconded.
- 504 - **Stanley Hughes** – Well Closure totaling \$750. Ranking: 105 pts. M. Shambley moved to approve; C. Parker.
- 505- **Hsieh Showchein:** Well Closure totaling \$375. Ranking: 105 pts. M. Shambley moved to approve, C. Parker seconded.
- 506 – **Sim Efland Heirs:** Well Closure totaling \$1,500. Ranking: 105 pts. M. Shambley moved to approve; C. Parker seconded.

Total of the above contracts is \$6,593 (Please note that these contracts are good estimates. Working on final costs). If amounts change, G. Hughes will update the Board on the amounts at the October board meeting.

**Voluntary Ag Program:** G. Hughes reported on the newest VAD applications including details of VAD signs & posts that have been ordered. Funds for signs were approved by the OC BOCC.

**Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)**

B. Bogue reported that it is the end of the federal fiscal year. He is working to complete and wrap up contracts by the end of the month.

B. Bogue discussed Conservation Plans. A percentage of conservation plans in Orange County are required to be reviewed; Brent is currently working on this. The purpose of the review is to confirm that farmers and landowners are “still doing what the Farm Bill asked them to do.” Bogue reminded the Board that Conservation Plans are still required to be kept current. Staff is required to work with landowners to update their plans if they want to apply for ANY program (federal or state funds). HEL/WC determination requests can be made with Farm Service Agency (FSA). With the new Farm Bill, FSA will be looking at this more carefully. Bogue asked that the Board be mindful of this procedure and to please spread the word to land owners and farmers that they come in contact with.

B. Bogue needs to schedule a Local Working Group Meeting. He asked the Board if they had a certain date in mind. It was determined to hold the meeting on September 29 in the DEAPR Conference room to discuss resource concerns and to determine needs and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. Local and state questions and concerns will be addressed.

### **Educational Update**

**Farm To Table:** This year's educational outreach program will be held at the Blackwood Farm on October 2-3. Lisa and Gail are involved in assisting the DEAPR Educational/Programming Team with this event as well as serving as resource presenters.

**N.C. State Fair:** As a member of the State Fair Committee, Lisa asked the Board to volunteer for this year's event. Supervisor, K. McAdams expressed an interest and desire to help Gail and Lisa on October 21.

L. Pope requested approval to attend "Project Wild" Course on November 5; a required course that is needed for her N.C. Environmental Education Certification. There is no charge for the 8 hour workshop. L. Pope will research costs of hotel room and provide cost to the Board at next meeting. R. Tate made a motion for L. Pope to attend; C. Parker seconded.

L. Pope will be sending out "Wetlands are Wonderful" Contest info to teachers and schools. She will present this topic to 450 4<sup>th</sup> grade students & teachers on October 2-3 at Farm to Table event at Blackwood Farm. Gail and Lisa will present this topic again at 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Earth Walk's in October. This should gain some interest in contests. If teachers/students show little interest in participating, the board voted to once again extend the \$25 incentive (for classroom supplies) to the first 8 teachers who have students enter posters, essays or speeches. R. Tate moved to approve \$25 incentive fee, if needed. Morris seconded. The Board agreed to pay up to \$200 from NC Matching Grant Funds for up to eight (8) "first come –first serve" teachers, if needed.

### **Budget**

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

M. Shambley moved to approve \$550 payment for insurance coverage on No Till Drill from Due to Soil & Water Account; C. Parker seconded.

### **Division of Soil & Water/NCDA Update**

Division Regional Coordinator, Ralston James, encouraged the Board of Supervisors to attend the upcoming Area III Fall Meeting in Caswell County on November 6<sup>th</sup>. R. James reported that the Association By Laws and Articles have not been revised in a while. More information on these changes are forthcoming. Please be sure to attend fall meeting.

R. James expressed his desire to be with the OSWCD Board & Staff at all board meetings but has not been able to as he is experiencing a heavy work load with 34 counties to cover since Steve Bennett has retired. New Regional Coordinator is to be hired soon.

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R. James reminded the Board of their need for approval of reappointed board members. C. Parker agreed to remain on the Orange SWCD Board. The Board then voted to accept C. Parker's reappointment. R. Tate moved to accept reappointment; M. Shambley seconded. L. Pope will remit the necessary paperwork to the Division.

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. Board then entered into closed Executive Session.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Morris Shambley, Secretary/Treasurer