

## MINUTES

Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District held at Newton, N.C.

Meeting Number 2

February 4, 2022

Supervisors Present:

Susan Devine

Laura Parnell (via phone)

Julia Elmore

David Caldwell

Stephen Killian

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Blake Henley, Soil Conservation Technician

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Jim Propst, NRCS Team 5 Supervisor

Julius Johnson, Catawba NRCS (via phone)

Rick McSwain, Area Coordinator

Susie Devine read the following statement then called the business meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.:

*The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair reminds all the members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any conflict of interest or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the Board. If any member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict, please state so at this time.*

Julia Elmore made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2022 board meeting. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.

**Randy Willis and Blake Henley** gave the Catawba District Operations Report:

### **District Operations and Technical Assistance:**

- StRAP Stream Rehabilitation Assistance Program. We will be submitting an application by March 31<sup>st</sup>
- County budget will be submitted Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>
- YMCA- Waiting on division engineers to finish survey

### **NCACSP**

- Contract 18-20-03-01 has completed the fence. The well will be drilled in the coming weeks.
- Talked with two possible applicants for ACSP.

### **AGWRAP**

- Contract 18-22-801-01 was approved by the State.

### **CCAP**

- We were approved on our CCAP application in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Leia Hamlyn gave the Education and Outreach Report:

**Education & Outreach**

- We have received entries for our new Poetry Contest division from adults, Fifth Grade Poster entries, Seventh Grade Speech entries, one Eighth Grade Speech entry and Sixth Grade Essay entries.
- Six teams have registered for the Envirothon.
- Envirothon dates are as follows: March 24 (middle school), March 25 (high school) with a clean-up day of March 22 at the Edwin McGee Center in Wilkesboro. Volunteers needed!

**Upcoming Dates**

- Area 2 Spring Meeting to be held Thursday, March 10, Alleghany, NC
- Area 2 Contest Night to be held Thursday, March 17, Newland, NC
- Envirothon Clean-up day Tuesday, March 22, Wilkesboro, NC
- Envirothon Day for middle school Thursday, March 24, Wilkesboro, NC
- Envirothon Day for high school Friday, March 24, Wilkesboro, NC

**Other Business**

- Election of Officers

Julia Elmore made a motion to nominate Stephen Killian as Chair. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

David Caldwell made a motion to nominate Julia Elmore as Vice Chair. Stephen Killian seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Stephen Killian made a motion to nominate David Caldwell as Treasurer. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Julius Johnson gave the NRCS Catawba Report

**FY22 EQIP:** As of now, Catawba has a total of 6 eligible EQIP applicants for this FY22 funding cycle. Below is the estimated cost of each applicant

- 1 Forestry - \$11,000 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Forestry - \$7,000 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Closure of Waste Impoundments- \$11,000
- 1 Pasture - \$7,500 (**Watering Facilities and Livestock Pipelines**)
- 1 Wildlife – **Early Successional & Pollinator Habitat** - \$5,000
- 1 Confined Animal (**Incinerator**) - \$4,000

**Fieldwork/Projects:**

- (2) Pasture Systems (1) Livestock watering facility (tanks and

- Pipeline (1) Forage Seeding
- Pumping Plant for Waste Transfer
- Litter Storage Design (waiting for Contractor to break ground)
- (2) Seasonal High Tunnels

**Training/Meetings:**

- Stream Site Visit with Area Engineer – January 11<sup>th</sup>
- Virtual Silvopasture Training with ENTSC Staff - January 27th, 2022
- Catawba SWCD Meeting – February 2nd

**Jim Propst** gave the NRCS Team 5 Supervisory Soil Conservationist's Report:

**Team 5 Fieldwork/Projects:** Team 5 continues to provide field assistance to landowners. Ongoing field projects: (4) Poultry Waste Storage Structures, (3) Pasture Systems, (1) Large Dairy Survey/Design Revision, (1) Riparian Buffer.

**FY 22 EQIP**

**Team 5 – (28) Eligible applications, Applications are in (9+) Pools, the local pools are: Confined (8), Pasture (5), Crop (2).**

**Cost Estimates Thus Far are \$2,264,000** Evaluating sites and entering cost estimates to prepare for assessment and ranking this month.

**Catawba: (1) Confined, (2) Forestry, (1) Pasture, (1) Closure, (1) Wildlife = \$45,500**

**CARP Payments: Several producers that installed practices of (367) Roof or (516) Livestock pipeline between Jan.1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 are being paid additional monies due to COVID. These payments are sizeable, some up to 119% additional monies.**

**Upcoming Meetings/Training:**

- All Current NRCS Indoor meetings may be scheduled as long as employee is fully vaccinated and wears mask until further notice. Outdoor Meetings of < 50 people now allowed with mask & social distance.

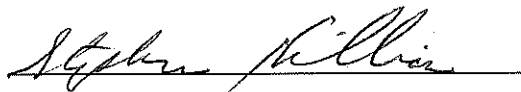
**Training/Meetings:**

<b>Jan. 18</b>	Iredell SWCD Meeting
<b>Jan. 27</b>	Alexander SWCD Meeting
<b>Feb. 1</b>	Caldwell SWCD Meeting
<b>Feb. 2</b>	Burke SWCD Meeting
<b>Feb. 4</b>	Catawba SWCD Meeting

**Rick McSwain** gave the Division Report which included an update on the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP), training dates for supervisors and upcoming district dates.

Stephen Killian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Minutes taken by Leia Hamlyn.

  
Chair