

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number 5

May 6, 2022

Supervisors Present:

Julia Elmore

David Caldwell

Brandon Bowman

Stephen Killian

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Blake Henley, Soil Conservation Technician

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Rick McSwain, Area Coordinator

Julius Johnson, Catawba NRCS

Stephen Killian read the following statement then called the business meeting to order at 9:02 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 April 1, 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 update
- Assisted a landowner with information about water runoff.
- County truck/budget
- County updates
- David Caldwell made a motion to accept the new Board Policy which makes land that is for sale ineligible for Cost Share. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Julia Elmore made a motion to accept the new Strategic Plan. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- David Caldwell made a motion for Stephen Killian to have Delegated Authority to sign Request for Payment. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Julia Elmore made a motion for David Caldwell to be the alternate for Delegated Authority to sign Request for Payment. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Brandon Bowman made a motion to approve the BMP Fund Audit. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Spot checks were held on Friday, April 29, 2022. Stephen Killian, Randy Willis, Blake Henley and Jim Propst attended.

### NCACSP

- 2023 Ranking Sheets for NCACSP, AGWRAP and CCAP were presented. David Caldwell made a motion to approve all 2023 Ranking Sheets. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Contract 18-2019-01-01 was cancelled.
- Julia Elmore made a motion to accept completion of Contract 18-20-08-03 and RFP in the amount of 8,483.00. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- We have 4 outstanding contracts that must be completed and paid by June 30, 2022.
- Met with a potential applicant for ACSP.

### AGWRAP

- Contract 18-2022-802-01 will be submitted once CRR is completed.
- Contract 18-2020-803-01 has been cancelled.

### CCAP

- Contract 18-2022-501-01 will be submitted once engineer signs the job approval section on 11 form.

**Leia Hamlyn** gave the Education and Outreach Report:

- Six Catawba County teams participated in the Area 2 Envirothon. Three of those teams advanced and participated in the State Envirothon at the end of April.
- The State Poster Contest will be judged May 5-6, 2022. Catawba has a poster competing in this.
- We have received one application for the RCW. Brandon Bowman made a motion to accept and approve the student to represent Catawba County and pay for their registration and travel costs. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Julius Johnson** gave the NRCS Catawba Report:

#### FY22 EQIP:

As of May 6, 2022, we have 4 pre-approved EQIP applicants in our system. Currently, I'm working on getting the selected applicants to sign documents so we can present them to the Area Office for approval status. Below are the selected pre-approved fund pools and dollar amount:

- 1 Forestry - \$12,881 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Closure of Waste Impoundments- \$12,461 (**Waste Tank Clouse**)
- 1 Pasture - \$7,500 (**Watering Facilities and Livestock Pipelines**)
- 1 Wildlife (joint application with Lincolnton County – **Early Successional & Pollinator Habitat** - \$3,791

**Fieldwork/Projects:**

- (2) Pasture Systems (1) Livestock watering facility (tanks and Pipeline (1) Forage Seeding
- Pumping Plant for Waste Transfer (waiting to install the pump, electrician)
- Litter Storage Design (Field Survey – elevation shots for the grading pad area)
- (2) Seasonal High Tunnels (applicant is contacting contractors for prices)

**Upcoming Meetings/Training: Via Computer**

- June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> New EQIP Sign up Field Visit
- June 9<sup>th</sup> - Cultural Awareness Day (NC-NRCS Employees Meeting)

**Julius Johnson** 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: (6) Poultry Waste Storage Structures, (2) Pasture Systems, (1) High Tunnel

**FY 22 EQIP**

**Team 5 Pre-Approvals to date (15): (3) Confined Animal Systems, (4) Pasture Systems, (2) Crop Systems, (1) Closure, (1) High Tunnel, (1) Forestry/Wildlife, (1) CAP Plan, (1) Forestry.**

**\*(1) Early Succ/Wildlife we are working on with Lincoln County/Team 6**

**Cost Estimates Thus Far for pre-approvals = \$879,205**

**Team 5 Local Work Group Meeting** – Hosted by Caldwell SWCD, in-person and virtual option. **May 3, 2022, 10:00 am**

**StRAP Program:** – Team 5 members will continue to assist SWCD's with Field/Site Visits during construction phases as needed.

**Rick McSwain** gave the Division Report which included an update on StRAP, Climate Smart Grant and CET which will be held in August.

David Caldwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Minutes taken by Leia Hamlyn.

  
Stephen Killian, Board Chair