

January 25, 2017

Minutes

Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District

971 West King Street, Boone NC

January 25, 2017 Meeting # 6

Present:

Denny Norris – Chair

Janie Poe- Admin.

Rob Hunt

Isaac Hodges - Technician

Todd Combs

David Tucker- NRCS

Joey Clawson

Christie Vance- NRCS

Denny Norris opened the meeting.

Al Childers- is absent

Rob Baldwin- will be phoning in and will be placed on the agenda accordingly.

Agenda was accepted as presented, with exception of Division report, it will be given when Rob Baldwin phones in.

Denny Norris asks if anyone needed to recuse themselves from voting. None noted.

Denny Norris asks if there were any corrections to the minutes from December 14, 2016 meeting. None noted.

Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Rob Hunt seconded; all were in favor.

District Report: Isaac Hodges

New Applications

- David Stephens submitted an application for ACSP. Mr. Stephens is interested in livestock exclusion, well and drinker. He has received a letter from Department of Environmental Quality. They received a complaint about animal waste in the creek. Approx. 2900 ft. of stream footage. He is also applying for EQIP for assistance. Board discussed. Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the application for David Stephens. Todd Combs seconded: all were in favor.

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Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the application for David Stephens. Todd Combs seconded: all were in favor.

- Scott & Barbara James submitted an application for ACSP. They are interested in livestock exclusion for cattle approx. 10 head. They are located in the Impaired and Impacted Beaver Dam Creek Watershed.

Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the application for Scott & Barbara James. Rob Hunt seconded: all were in favor.

- Mary Bolick submitted an application for ACSP. Mary is interested in fencing and drinkers, but she has no cattle. Board discussed and wanted Isaac Hodges to go over her options with her. Rob Hunt made a motion to approve the application for Mary Bolick. Todd Combs seconded; all were in favor.

ASCP

- Billy Kennedy 95-2015-008- RFP has been submitted for approval.
- Al Zimmerman 95-2015-006- Road is almost finished waiting on the weather to improve.
- Victor Fortune 95-2017-003- Board voted to approve his contract for \$11,826 for fence, well, pump, pipeline, and tank.

Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the contract # 95-2017-003 for Victor Fortune in the amount of \$11,826. Rob Hunt seconded; all were in favor.

Division Report – Rob Baldwin wanted to mention some things to the Board, because he has the Districts best interests in mind. Just like Mr. Goddard with BREC and Charles Anderson with RI are looking out for their best interests.

- If the district accepts any monies from a contractor or other outside sources, they should have a contract agreement stating the responsibilities of all concerned. It should also state when the monies will be received and the expectations of all parties.
- All aspects of these funds should be discussed up front and voted on by the board of supervisors, and the funds the district receives should be referred to as an Administrative Fee.
- If the district is taking on potential responsibility for a project, the district should require the third party to be bonded or the district should secure their own insurance policy to protect the district from a lawsuit in the event of a catastrophic failure.
- The county administration i.e.; county manager and county attorney etc., should be a part of all discussions in regards to any and all funds coming into the district.

Rob Baldwin asks the Board if they have any question about any of the information. None was noted.

AgWRAP

- Gerald Haas -contract # 95-2017-801 Isaac Hodges ask the Board to do a revision to the contract amount, originally it was for \$2,000. It needs to be revised to \$3,000. This is the only applicant for the AgWrap program.

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Rob Hunt made a motion to revise Gerald Hass contract # 95-2017-801 funding amount from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

CCAP

- Watauga BOE Hardin Park contract # 95-2016-501- Isaac Hodges requested technical assistance. They are short staffed, but will keep the Board informed.

Discuss Soil & Water Boards policy to allow or deny current cooperators to begin a new contract. Board discussed and agreed to add it to the Strategy Plan. Isaac Hodges and Janie Poe will contact some of the other Districts and see how they do their policy.

Isaac Hodges asks the Board to approve his time to attend the Southern Farm Show on Friday February 3, 2017

Rob Hunt made a motion to approve time for Isaac Hodges to attend the Southern Farm Show in Raleigh February 3, 2017. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

NRCS Report- David Tucker

Ranking deadline is February 24, 2017. In the 6 counties 1.5 – 2 million dollars will have to be spent by May 19, 2017.

Special Drought Assistance, Watauga did not meet the requirements for this assistance.

Denny Norris got the letter from Alan Walker informing them that David Tucker will be acting Supervisory Soil Conservationist for team 3.

Administrative Report- Janie Poe

- Janie Poe requests the Board to approve time and travel for the Envirothon meeting February 9, 2017.
Rob Hunt made a motion to approve time and travel for Janie Poe to attend the Envirothon meeting February 9, 2017. Todd Combs seconded; all were in favor.
- Area 2 Spring Meeting will be March 9, 2017 in Surry County. A reminder will be sent out to Supervisors letting them know about registration details and costs. Janie Poe asks the Board to approve for time, travel and registration for Isaac Hodges and her.
Joey Clawson made a motion to approve time, travel and registration for Janie Poe and Isaac Hodges to attend.
- Area 2 Awards night will be March 16 and March 15 will be when the food is purchased. Janie Poe asks the Board to approve time and travel for her and Isaac Hodges for both days.
Rob Hunt made a motion to approve time and travel for Janie Poe and Isaac Hodges for March 15 and March 16, 2017. Todd Combs seconded; all were in favor.

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- Envirothon Clean up day will be March 28, 2017 at the McGee Center in Wilkesboro. The Envirothon Event will be March 30, 2017. Janie Poe asks for approval for time, travel and snacks for the event for her and Isaac Hodges.
Todd Combs made a motion to approve the time, travel and snacks for Janie Poe and Isaac Hodges to help and attend the Envirothon.

Board discussed when working with outside contractors to make all involved come before the Board. Janie Poe will make a note for when the Board reviews the Strategy plan.

Denny Norris thanked everyone for attending.

Next meeting will be February 22, 2017

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Janie Poe

 signed 2-22-2017 date

Denny Norris, Chair