

**Minutes**

**Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District**

**971 West King Street, Boone NC**

**September 23, 2015 Meeting # 3**

**Present**

Denny Norris- Chair

Brian Chatham

Joey Clawson

Janie Poe

Al Childers – (phoned in)

David Tucker –NRCS

Rob Baldwin – Area Coordinator

\*\* Angela Gragg was at The Stream Conference unable to attend

\*\* Rob Hunt was in the hospital unable to attend

\*\* Al Childers participated by phone

Denny Norris opened the meeting

Minutes were accepted as presented

Brian Chatham – District Report

The second batching period will end October 15

Brian has ranked 3 applications

- Charles Norris ranked 1<sup>st</sup>
- Paul Gragg ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Andy Bryant ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> ( keep in mind he has 2 applications with us)

Brian met with Paul Gragg and He met with Andy Bryant he could not get in touch with Charles Norris, but the last time they talked Charles still wanted to do it.

Brian has a couple people interested and will bring all the information to the Board at the next meeting.

Amy Fiedler contract # 95-15-005-14 no progress waiting on water lines

Holly Whitesides contract # 95-15-003-14 Brian met with her for 4.5 hours about irrigation she is ready for water. Gray-Mac backed out on installing the system they didn't want to sleeve the pipe. Brian wanted them to do it because it is so rocky there and thought it would help cut down on maintenance down the road.

Paul Gragg contract # 95-15-001-14 Brian had a pre- construction meeting with Paul Gragg and Bobby Higgins the contractor installing his water tanks. They will be moving forward. Brian wants them to finish up before fall and before Paul starts feeding cows.

AgWRAP- Nothing new still working with Andy Bryant

CCAP- Contract # 95-15-501-10 Watauga High School- Brian had a pre- construction meeting with them. it's going slower than usual due to students are doing the work. When they get to the next phase more school classes will be involved and more hours during the day will be utilized.

Brian wanted the Board to be aware he and David Tucker are going out to look at a EWP project from 2004 when Derrick Goddard was the Technician. It is a retention wall. The owners of the property are concerned it is falling and wanted us to come out and look. Eva Szollosy is the landowner's name. We will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Tonight Brian is speaking at a Farm Access Workshop about leasing etc...

Brian wanted everyone to think about candidates for Farm Family of the Year

The Board agreed to have Al Childers continue to hold the seat on the RC&D Board.

Al Childers made a motion to allow Janie to go to Morganton to the Envirothon meeting in Morganton on October 14, 2015. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Janie asks the Board if they want to supply the schools with poster board again this year.

Al Childers made a motion for Soil & Water to purchase the poster board for all the schools participating in the contest. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Annual meeting was discussed and the Board voted to send both employees.

Joey Clawson made a motion to send Brian and Janie to the annual meeting in Durham / Raleigh this year. Al Childers seconded; all were in favor.

David Tucker – NRCS- Getting everything shut down for the year. They will be back up October 7<sup>th</sup> if no government shut down.

David Tucker explained to the Board Fred Alexander is the new Area 2 Supervisor. He is over 6 counties.

Rob Baldwin explained cost share allocation and TVA money and what the Commission talked about. Districts will get the allocation, but some districts Watauga included will get TVA money also.

Denny mentioned Paul Gragg for Farm Family of the year

Next meeting will be October 28, 2015 at 8 am here at SWCD.

Action Items:

- Angela performance Standards
- Brian to check with Connor Boyle to make sure he seals the design.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45

Minutes submitted by: Janie Poe

Denny Norris signed 10-28-15 date

Denny Norris, Chair