

August 17, 2016

Minutes

Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District

971 West King Street, Boone NC

August 17, 2016 Meeting # 1

Present

Denny Norris- Chair

Janie Poe- Admin.

Angela Gragg- Vice Chair

David Tucker- NRCS

Joey Clawson

Becky Wallace-NRCS

Isaac Hodges – Technician

Denny Norris opened the meeting

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

Denny Norris asks if there were any corrections to the June 22, 2016 minutes.

Minutes from June 22, 2016 meeting were approved.

District Report- Isaac Hodges

ACSP- Jim Errante came on July 29th and went to Norris and Shipley sites. Everyone was approved to start.

Isaac Hodges stated the first batching period ended August 15, 2016. They are in the process of getting everyone ranked and will have that information to present to the Board at the September 28, 2016 meeting. Angela Gragg asks Isaac Hodges to call and speak with someone at the NC Soil & Water Division to see if Shipley and Gragg can be ranked for another contract, if they have active contracts not yet completed; she wants to make sure we are abiding by the guidelines.

New Applications

Victor Fortune and Teresa Kelly have submitted an application for ACSP. They have pigs and goats that they are wanting to get out of a wetland area. They will be in the second batching period of October 15, 2016.

August 17, 2016

Joey Clawson made a motion to approve the application for Victor and Teresa Kelly. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

Jason Harkey submitted an application for Christmas tree removal only. This application will be in the second batching period of October 15, 2016.

Angela Gragg made a motion to approve the application for Jason Harkey for Christmas tree removal only. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Allen Christenbury's application was approved by the Board on February 24, 2016. Isaac Hodges and Mark Forbes visited the site and found no resource concern that needed to be addressed. Isaac Hodges will write Mr. Christenbury a letter informing him of the eligibility requirements.

Cross Ridge Farms (Mario Ruiz) submitted an application. Isaac Hodges went out and found no resource concern that needed to be addressed. Isaac Hodges will write Mr. Ruiz a letter informing him of the eligibility requirements.

Charles Norris contract # 95-2016-002 Angela Gragg and Isaac Hodges completed the feed pad assessment for Mr. Norris. One of the proposed feed pad structures for Charles Norris is in the flood plain soils. Angela Gragg discussed site information with the Board and she is going to send the assessment to Jake Stokes, Justin Webb, and John Moore.

Against the Grain (Andy Bryant) contract # 95-2016-001 Andrew Cox, David Tucker and Isaac Hodges went out and visited Mr. Bryant / Holly Whitesides and answered their questions. Isaac Hodges sent them a list of BMP's. Jim Errante is coming September 2, 2016 to look at their site.

Jimmy South contract # 95-2016-006 Isaac Hodges has called Mr. South and he is unsure if he wants to go through with the contract. Carrie Boyd with Brushy Fork Environmental has also contacted Mr. South and was told the same thing. She explained to Mr. South he would need to make up his mind soon so we can get started on the project.

Billy Kennedy contract # 95-2015-008 Janie Poe contacted Mr. Kennedy for an update on his fencing. He stated he was done with the fencing and we could come out and inspect it. He stated he was not done with the tree removal. Janie Poe told him Isaac Hodges would be out to look at it soon. Angela Gragg asks Isaac Hodges to contact Mark Forbes and Chris Vance to set up a time to go out and visit with Mr. Kennedy. The "As built" has to be done.

Lisa Fine suggested Soil & Water draft a form for an applicant to sign when submitting a partial request for payment stating "they understand that all remaining BMP's have to be completed and by signing they are responsible to repay the full amount if they don't complete the BMP's". The Board discussed this further.

Angela Gragg made a motion to approve the form for an applicant to sign when requesting a partial payment. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

August 17, 2016

Al Zimmerman contract # 95-2015-006 Isaac Hodges has made numerous attempts to contact him by phone and in person. Isaac Hodges drafted a letter to Mr. Zimmerman. Angela Gragg is going to review it and recommended that Isaac send it certified mail with a return receipt.

CCAP- Daphne Cartner is in contact with Brian Johnson on Contract # 95-2016-501 Hardin Park Elementary. She needed more information on the paperwork they submitted.

David Tucker- NRCS Report

Field Office Appraisals- They're not visiting any sites unless they have a Supervisors contract. They will be coming through September 12th & 13th.

Alan Walker is retiring January 2, 2017

Local Work Group – David Tucker discussed this with the Board.

Joey Clawson made a motion to leave the local work group like it is. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

Angela Gragg talked to the Board about the Western North Carolina Stream Initiative Resolution that they will be receiving.

Angela Gragg made a motion for Chairman Denny Norris to sign the Western North Carolina Stream Initiative (once received). Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Angela Gragg presented a letter to the Board from Mike Willis. He will be running for the Mountain seat.

Angela Gragg made a motion to nominate Denny Norris to be the Vice-Chair for Area 2. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Administrative Report- Janie Poe

Angela Gragg has filed to run again. There is one other person filed to run against her, Todd Combs.

Janie Poe asks the Board to nominate someone for the appointed position. The deadline is October 1st.

Angela Gragg nominated Denny Norris to be recommended for re-appointment. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Janie Poe presented a Resolution to the Board for the North Carolina Envirothon. Board discussed this resolution.

Joey Clawson made a motion to adopt the Resolution for the North Carolina Envirothon. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

Janie Poe presented the Board with a receipt for some bolts purchased for the subsoiler by Richard Boylan for \$15.36.

August 17, 2016

Angela Gragg made a motion to reimburse Richard Boylan \$15.36. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

Janie Poe asks the Board to vote on paying the Area 2 dues-\$175, NW Envirothon dues-\$75 and Envirothon donation \$200. A total of \$450.00

Joey Clawson made a motion to pay the Area 2 dues-\$175, NW Envirothon dues-\$75 and the Envirothon donation \$200. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

Watauga Historical Society and Watauga County Public Library have finished with the aerial photos. We now have a flash drive with them on it.

Janie Poe asks the Board to vote on paying DEA membership dues for Isaac Hodges.

Joey Clawson made a motion to pay DEA membership dues \$25 for new employee Isaac Hodges. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

Environmental Filed Days 2016 is scheduled for September 8th & 9th at Valle Crucis Park. We have around 350 kids coming. Our rain date for the event is September 15th & 16th. Janie Poe asked the Board to approve the purchase of the snacks (1 for each kid), snacks, lunch and drinks for presenters.

Denny Norris asks Janie Poe to send out a reminder the day before the event.

Joey Clawson made a motion to approve purchasing snacks (for kids), snacks, drinks, and lunch for presenters. Angela Gragg seconded; all were in favor.

USDA will be taking over Soil & Water's phone bill and we will not have to pay for phone services anymore. The phone lines will be switched to Verizon.

Area 2 Fall Meeting is scheduled for October 25th, 2016 in King NC. Janie Poe asks the Board to approve for her and Isaac Hodges to attend.

Angela Gragg made a motion for Janie Poe and Isaac Hodges to attend the Area 2 Fall meeting in King, NC on October 25, 2016. Joey Clawson seconded; all were in favor.

New Business

Denny Norris spoke to the Board about continuing education hours for Supervisors through Spring & Fall meetings, School of Government, and Annual Meetings. When they discussed this it was to be 6 hours of continuing Ed hours during the Supervisors term. When it went through the process, the wording was changed from term to per year. After a Board discussion, they decided Denny Norris will call Bill Yarborough and express our Board's reasons for wanting the wording changed to "during the Supervisors term".

Denny Norris thanked everyone for coming.

Next meeting will be September 28, 2016.

August 17, 2016

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Janie Poe

Denny Norris signed 9-28-16 date

Denny Norris, Chair