



**TRI-COUNTY/CITY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
September 19, 2008**

**MINUTES**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** of the Tri-County/City SWCD, held a meeting Friday, September 19, 2008, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the USDA Service Center conference room located at 4805 Carr Drive, Fredericksburg, Virginia. Wayne Miller, Chairman of the Board of Directors, presided.

**Opening Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance.** The meeting was opened with a prayer led by John Howe, followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance* led by Wayne Miller.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Wayne Miller, Chairman, presiding; Janet Gayle Harris, Vice Chairman; John Howe, Treasurer; Ray Simms, Secretary; Lewis Ashton; Greg Cebula; Pamela Hall; Kathleen Harrigan; Bob Hunt; and Anne Little.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** **Staff:** Diane Beyer; Ellen Schwartz; Etta Lucas, and Andrea Vella.

**Agencies:** NRCS: Ron Wisniewski; DCR: Debbie Cross; **Associate Directors:** Art Hart.

**Guests:** Lewis Gordon Linkus, City of Fredericksburg resident and past District elected board member.

**Additions to the Regular Agenda / Public Comments.** John Howe requested to *pull* the *FY09-12 Strategic Plan* for discussion.

**Consent Agenda:**

- a. Approval of August 15, 2008, Board of Directors meeting *Minutes*.
- b. Approval of *Treasurer's Report*: August 31, 2008 – [Account Balances: Total Operations Account: \$271,719.01; Total Cost Share Account: \$86,054.89; Total Funds / All Accounts: \$357,773.90. Report to be filed with the official Board of Directors meeting *Minutes* for future audit.].
- c. *FY09-12 Strategic Plan* – Pulled and placed under *Action Items*.
- d. Committee Reports: i. TRC Committee (from 8/15/2008).
- e. Approval of *FY08 Annual Report*.

**[MOTION 1]**

John Howe **moved** to approve *Consent Agenda* as amended. Bob Hunt seconded; motion passed.

**[MOTION 2]**

**Closed Session.** John Howe **moved** to go into *Closed Session* pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712.C, to discuss personnel issues pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.1, and to invite Diane Beyer and Ron Wisniewski into the *Closed Session*. Greg Cebula seconded; motion passed.

**[MOTION 3]**

**Return to Open Session and Certification.** Bob Hunt **moved** to return to *Open Session* and to *certify* the results of the *Closed Session*, declaring that to the best of the Board's knowledge only matters lawfully exempted and as identified in the motion by which the *Closed Session* was convened were heard or discussed by this Board during the *Closed Session*. Reference code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3712-D. Greg Cebula seconded; motion passed.

**[MOTION 4]**

**Approval of Health Insurance Provider.** Greg Cebula **moved** to accept United Healthcare's insurance plan V1QN7 for District employees, and to offer employees, on a fiscal year basis, fifty percent of the plan's \$750 deductible [\$375] should they need to pay any deductible amounts. Ray Simms seconded; motion passed.

**Information / Announcements:**

[1] Budget Revisions / Spotsy Funding Reduction: John Howe reported that the District's FY09 Budget had been revised to reflect the Spotsylvania County Funding Reduction.

[2] Ad Hoc Committee Report (from 09/12/08): Ray Simms gave an update on the District's space situation and recommended to the Board that the Committee *life* be extended for up to sixty additional days due to lack of complete information from County rental-space offers [November 21<sup>st</sup> 2008].

[3] Request for Volunteers for State Fair Booth: Several Directors signed up to help staff the State Fair booth.

**Regular Agenda:****ACTION ITEMS**

**Cost Share Approvals.** Etta Lucas provided a list of cost share program producers that the

Technical Review Committee was recommending for approval. [See attached *Cost Share Approval* list

[**MOTION 5**]

dated September 19, 2008 for details]. John Howe **moved** to approve the cost share items as presented.

Ray Simms seconded; motion passed, with Janet Gayle Harris and Wayne Miller abstaining.

Ms. Lucas also reported that Ron Wisniewski was working with the District to submit a request for

additional funds from DCR for an *Animal Waste Control Facilities* (WP-4) practice for Lakeside

[**MOTION 6**]

Dairy in Spotsylvania County. The structure will cost at least \$80,000. Lewis Ashton **moved** to

approve the request for additional funds up to \$38,000. Kathy Harrigan seconded; motion passed.

[**MOTION 7**]

Since the District's *cap* is \$12,000, John Howe **moved** to approve setting the *cap* for Animal Waste

Control Facilities at \$50,000. Greg Cebula seconded; motion passed.

Ms. Lucas reported that she had received two nominations for the Forestry Awards from the

Department of Forestry. David Snead of Spotsylvania was the nominee for the *Ag Forestry Award*

and Stratford Place Homeowners Association was the nominee for the *Urban Forestry Award*. Ray

[**MOTION 8**]

Simms **moved** to approve the nominees. Janet Gayle Harris seconded; motion passed.

In summary, Ms. Lucas provided a *Spot Checks* report and list [see attached Cost Share Spot Check

List for 2008, dated September 10, 2008].

**Approval of FSA Conservation Plans.** Ron Wisniewski requested approval for the

following conservation plans: CRP: *Spotsylvania* – Barbara Holmes (2); G. C. Beals Trust.

EQIP: *Spotsylvania* – David Snead; *King George* – James L. Sloop. [See *NRCS Report* dated  
**[MOTION 9]** September 19, 2008 for details.] John Howe **moved** to approve the plans. Janet Gayle Harris  
 seconded; motion passed.

**By-Laws Proposed Revision – Section 2-3: Annual Organizational Meeting for**

**Election of Officers.** Greg Cebula read the By-Laws Revision. It was the consensus of the  
 board that the Revision be brought back to the October Board meeting for *second* reading and  
 approval. [see attached copy].

**Director Action List.** The Board reviewed each item on the list.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings.** The following meetings were scheduled:

Legislative Committee	September 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m.
Budget/Finance	October 3, 2008, 8:30 a.m. [later postponed]
Education/PR Committee	October 3, 2008, 9:30 a.m. [later postponed]
Tributary Strategies Committee	October 9, 2008, 9:00 a.m.
Ad Hoc Committee	October 17, 2008, directly following board meeting.
Technical Review Committee	October 17, 2008, 8:00 a.m.
Next Board Meeting	October 17, 2008, 8:30 a.m.

**Approval of Strategic Plan FY09-12.** [Pulled from Consent Agenda.] Greg Cebula

**[MOTION 10]**

**moved** to approve the Strategic Plan. Bob Hunt seconded; motion passed.

**Staff Reports.** [Detailed Written Staff Reports for August Attached.] **Diane Beyer, Ellen Schwartz,**

**Andrea Vella,** and **Etta Lucas** gave verbal reports.

**Director Reports / Associate Director Reports.** Lewis Ashton **moved** that the District support Gary Hornbaker for the State Soil and Water Conservation Board. Ray Simms seconded; motion passed.

**Cooperating Agency Reports. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Ron Wisniewski** gave a verbal summary of his written report. [See attached copy of his report dated September 19, 2008 for details]. **Department of Conservation and Recreation: Debbie Cross** gave a verbal report and provided the District with the *Assessment of SWCD Compliance with the FY07-08 Scope of Services for DCR Operating Funds*. She also announced upcoming Potomac Roundtable and Soil & Water Conservation Board meetings and a Rainwater Harvesting workshop. **Virginia Cooperative Extension: John Howe** announced upcoming *Farm & Family Day* and a *Small Farm Short Course*.

**Information Items / Announcements.** Nothing further.

**Policies Adopted:** None

**Chairman's Comments.**

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

**Approved:** October 17, 2008