

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number 3

March 4, 2022

Supervisors Present:

Susan Devine

David Caldwell (via phone)

Julia Elmore

Stephen Killian

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Blake Henley, Soil Conservation Technician

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Jim Propst, NRCS Team 5 Supervisor

Julius Johnson, Catawba NRCS (via phone)

Rick McSwain, Area Coordinator (via phone)

Brandon Bowman

Stephen Killian read the following statement then called the business meeting to order at 9:06 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 February 4, 2022 board meeting. Susie Devine 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
- YMCA update
- Watershed Delineation training
- Costshare Programs training
- ARC building update

### **NCACSP**

- Contract 18-20-03-01 has started on the well.
- Talked with a possible applicant for ACSP/AGWRAP.

### **AGWRAP**

- Contract 18-22-801-01 has picked up his specs.
- We've applied for a supplemental allocation in the amount of \$10,000.00.

### **CCAP**

- Will be getting the contract documents ready to sign in the next few weeks.

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

- Six teams have registered for the Envirothon.
- Envirothon dates are as follows: March 24 (middle school), March 25 (high school) with a clean-up day of March 22 at the Edwin McGee Center in Wilkesboro. Volunteers needed!

#### **Upcoming Dates**

- Area 2 Spring Meeting to be held Thursday, March 10, Alleghany, NC
- Area 2 Contest Night to be held Thursday, March 17, Newland, NC
- Envirothon Clean-up day Tuesday, March 22, Wilkesboro, NC
- Envirothon Day for middle school Thursday, March 24, Wilkesboro, NC
- Envirothon Day for high school Friday, March 24, Wilkesboro, NC

#### **Other Business**

- David Caldwell made a motion to accept Susie Devine's letter of resignation from the Catawba County Soil & Water Conservation District board. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Julia Elmore made a motion to approve nomination of Brandon Bowman to serve on the Catawba County Soil & Water Conservation District board. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

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

#### **1. FY22 EQIP:**

Here is a list of the 6 eligible EQIP applicants for this FY22 funding cycle. Below is the estimated cost of each applicant. All the applications have been assessed & ranked before our March 11 deadline. I'm currently going back and forward to adjust prices and acreages.

- 1 Forestry - \$11,000 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Forestry - \$7,000 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Closure of Waste Impoundments- \$11,000
- 1 Pasture - \$7,500 (**Watering Facilities and Livestock Pipelines**)
- 1 Wildlife – **Early Successional & Pollinator Habitat** - \$8,000
- 1 Confined Animal (**Incinerator**) - \$14,000

#### **2. Fieldwork/Projects:**

- (2) Pasture Systems (1) Livestock watering facility (tanks and Pipeline (1) Forage Seeding
- Pumping Plant for Waste Transfer
- Litter Storage Design (waiting for Contractor to break ground)
- (2) Seasonal High Tunnels

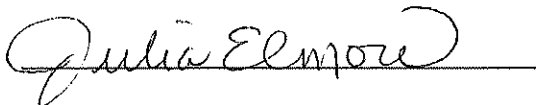
**Jim Propst** gave the NRCS Team 5 Supervisory Soil Conservationist's Report:

1. **Team 5 Fieldwork/Projects:** Team 5 continues to provide field assistance to landowners. Ongoing field projects: (3) Poultry Waste Storage Structures, (3) Pasture Systems, (1) Large Dairy Survey/Design Revision, (1) Crop system with GWW's & Rock Lined Waterways.
2. **FY 22 EQIP**  
**Team 5 – (28) Eligible applications, continuing to assess and Rank by Ranking Deadline of March 11.**
3. **StRAP Program:** – Team 5 members continue to assist SWCD's with Field/Site Visits and during construction phases as needed.

**Rick McSwain** gave the Division Report which included an update on the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP), Area 2 Spring Meeting details and dates for the Soil & Water Commission meeting.

Susie Devine 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julia Elmore". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Julia Elmore, Vice Chair