

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number 6

June 3, 2022

Supervisors Present:

Stephen Killian

Julia Elmore

Brandon Bowman (via phone)

David Caldwell (via phone)

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Blake Henley, Soil Conservation Technician

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Rick McSwain, Area Coordinator

Jim Propst, NRCS Team 5 Supervisor

Julius Johnson, Catawba NRCS

Max Dumas, NCRS Intern

Stephen Killian read the following statement then called the business meeting to order at 9:01 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 May 6, 2022, board meeting. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.

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

Team 5 Fieldwork/Projects: Team 5 continues to provide field assistance to landowners. Ongoing field projects, including NCACSP projects: (7) Poultry Waste Storage Structures, (2) Pasture Systems, (1) High Tunnel

FY 22 EQIP

Team 5 Pre-Approvals to date (15)*: (3) Confined Animal Systems, (4) Pasture Systems, (2) Crop Systems, (1) Closure, (1) High Tunnel, (1) Forestry/Wildlife, (1) CAP Plan, (1) Forestry.

***(1) Early Succ/Wildlife we are working on with Lincoln County/Team 6**

Cost Estimates Thus Far for pre-approvals = \$978,481

(11) Obligated Contracts, \$572,129

Catawba has (4)* Obligated = \$40,414

StRAP Program: – Team 5 members will continue to assist SWCD's with Field/Site Visits during construction phases as needed.

Student Trainee: Maxwell Dumas will be working within Team 5 out of the Iredell FO this summer from May 23 – July 29.

Julius Johnson gave the NRCS Catawba Report:

FY22 EQIP:

As of the June 3, 2022, EQIP obligation deadline, there are 4 obligated EQIP contracts in our system totaling \$40,414. Currently working on getting copies of the signed documents to the landowners with job sheets.

- 1 Forestry - \$12,881 (**Brush Management**)
- 1 Closure of Waste Impoundments- \$12,461 (**Waste Tank Clouse**)
- 1 Pasture - \$7,500 (**Watering Facilities and Livestock Pipelines**)
- 1 Wildlife (joint application with Lincolnton County – **Early Successional & Pollinator Habitat** - \$3,791

Fieldwork/Projects:

- Julius Johnson has been selected for FSA Compliance Review Point of Contact for Area 1
- (2) Pasture Systems (1) Livestock watering facility (tanks and Pipeline (1) Forage Seeding
- Pumping Plant for Waste Transfer (waiting to install the pump, electrician)
- Litter Storage Design
- (2) Seasonal High Tunnels (applicant is contacting contractors for prices)

Upcoming Meetings/Training: Via Computer

- June 7th - Flames to Forests: Past, Present, and Future Fire Webinar
- June 9th - Cultural Awareness Day (NC-NRCS Employees Meeting)

Randy Willis and Blake Henley gave the Catawba District Operations Report:

District Operations and Technical Assistance

- StRAP Stream Rehabilitation Assistance Program update- \$282,400.00 plus a county match of \$28,240.00 (10%) for a total of \$310,640.00. At least 50% must be contracted by Feb. 28th 2023.
- PY22 year-end documents have been submitted- Strategic plan, Technical Assistance billing and Spot Check form.
- Attended NRCS local workgroup meeting
- Participated in District Issues Meeting
- Assisted with Area 8 Farm Family judging
- Hosted Mini Course on April 24
- Distributed and answered questions about Soil Samples

NCACSP

- PY22 allocation \$44,413.00 with \$44,412.00 contracted.
- Contract 18-20-08-03 RFP has been mailed to Raleigh in the amount of \$8,483.00.
- Contract 18-20-06-01 RFP has been mailed to Raleigh in the amount of \$3,154.00.
- Contract 18-20-05-03 has been completed. RFP in the amount of \$2,690.00.
- Contract 18-20-03-01 has been completed. RFP in the amount of \$10,945.00.
- Contract 18-20-02-03 has been completed.

AGWRAP

- PY22 allocation \$17,500.00 with \$17,499.00 contracted
- Contract 18-2022-802-01 has been approved by the State.
- Contract 18-21-801-01 has drilled the well, pump still needs to be set.

CCAP

- PY22 allocation \$25,000 with \$25,000.00 contracted
- Contract 18-2022-501-01 has been submitted. The contract is pended until the engineering design/survey is completed.

Leia Hamlyn gave the Education and Outreach Report:

- RCW student has been successfully registered for the event.
- Participating in STEAM event at the Newton Main Library on June 16.

Rick McSwain gave the Division Report which included an update on StRAP, CET, Job Approval Authority and the White House Christmas tree, which will be coming from North Carolina.

Julia Elmore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Minutes taken by Leia Hamlyn.


Stephen Killian, Board Chair