

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number 8

December 5, 2025

Supervisors Present:

Steve Killian

Julia Elmore

Bill Shillito

David Caldwell

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Blake Henley, Soil Conservation Technician

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Elise McLaughlin, Area 2 Regional Coordinator

Steve Killian read the following statements then called the business meeting to order at 9:09 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.

Statement of Professionalism

Supervisors are reminded of their responsibility to uphold the laws of the United States and North Carolina and their constitutions. Business is to be conducted in a professional manner, free of bias, of interactions that violate policies or individual liberties and that address business issues only. Interactions are to be held with integrity, courtesy, honesty and in compliance with the highest ethical standards.

David Caldwell made a motion to approve the agenda for the board meeting. William Shillito seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Agenda approved.

William Shillito made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2025, board meeting. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Minutes approved.

Randy Willis and Blake Henley presented the Catawba District Operations Report.

District Operations and Technical Assistance

- StRAP – We are preparing to apply for additional Helene funds through the StRAP. We are reevaluating sites and shifting priorities somewhat.
- StRAP- We have taken ownership of a 2025 Honda Pioneer 1000-5 and we are waiting on the trailer from Kaufman.

- ARC- as of November 19th., 100% of demolition and 80% of framing was complete.
- Met with a landowner about issues with stream.
- Attended Career Day at Mt. View Elementary.
- Assisted Iredell SWCD with contracts.
- Met with Catawba Lands Conservancy.
- David Caldwell made a motion to approve the Black Roll Pipe Policy which states "The use of black roll pipe is prohibited on all cost share projects that require pressurized pipeline, regardless of program." Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

NCACSP

- Contract 18-25-05-03 has completed the rock lined channel.
- Met with a potential applicant for ACSP.
- Working with other applicants about getting contract estimates.

AGWRAP

- Contract 18-26-801-03 has been approved by the State. We will be delivering the contract specs.

CCAP

No updates at this time

Leia Hamlyn presented the Education and Outreach report.

- The contest theme for 2025-2026 is "We All Live in a Watershed."
- January 27, 2026 – contest entry deadline
- January 31, 2026 – speech contest
- February 24, 2026 – banquet

Will Faulkner presented the NRCS Team 5 Soil Conservationist's Report.

FY 2025 EQIP/CSP:

EQIP 2025: Team 5- 60 applications
14 funded so far in Team - \$404,000

CSP 2025: Team 5- 13 applications
4 applications funded for - \$156,000

DEADLINE of 12/15/25 to have all payments and modifications into System

FY 2026 Programs

- Taking new Application for both CSP and EQIP until 1/15/26. This is a National Deadline.
- Do not yet know what Fiscal Year 26 funding or programs will look like yet.

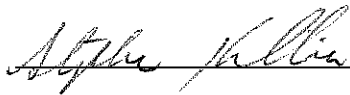
Fieldwork: Team members working on several projects, to address expiring contracts. CSP payments are being completed before end of calendar year.

Other Notes: No SSC will be attending SWCD Annual Meeting

Elise McLaughlin gave the Division Report. December 12th is the deadline for early registration for the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee needs to meet next month to plan for the Area meetings. The deadline for BOP submissions (best strategies for outreach from districts for districts is next Friday. Next SWCC Meeting Work Session will be held on January 4, 2026. The Business Session is TBD. StRAP window opens Monday. There will be a district update in Yadkinville on February 4, 2026.

Julia Elmore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Caldwell seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Minutes taken by Leia Hamlyn.



Stephen Killian, Board Chair