

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number 3

April 10, 2026

Supervisors Present:

Stephen Killian

Julia Elmore

William Shillito

Brandon Bowman

David Caldwell

Others Present:

Randy Willis, Soil Conservation Supervisor

Elise McLaughlin, Area 2 Regional Coordinator

Leia Hamlyn, Education Coordinator

Stephen Killian read the following statements then called the business meeting to order at 9:03 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.

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

William Shillito made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2026, board meeting. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Minutes approved.

Randy Willis presented the Catawba District Operations Report.

District Operations and Technical Assistance

Item I

- A. We are still waiting to find out what our StRAP Helene disaster funding will be.
- B. Carolina Land & Lakes RC&D is assisting a neighborhood in Conover with stream debris removal using grant funds.
- C. We are working on an application through ADFP to fund a Cost of Services Study for the county.

- D. Had our budget meeting with county management.
- E. Attended Division training in Yadkinville.

NCACSP

Item II

- A. We will perform our annual cost share spot checks after our May 1st meeting. We have 3 NCACSP sites and 1 AgWRAP site to visit.
- B. Contract 18-2024-02-01 is nearing completion.
- C. David Caldwell made a motion to accept Contract application 18-2026-01-03. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- D. Julia Elmore made a motion to approve Contract 18-2026-01-03 in the amount of \$ 40,594.00. Brandon Bowman seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

AGWRAP

Item III

- A. We were granted supplemental funds in the amount of \$9,500.00.
- B. Contract 18-2026-801-03 has drilled the well.
- C. David Caldwell made a motion to accept the application for Contract 18-2026-802-03. William Shillito seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- D. Brandon Bowman made a motion to approve Contract in the amount of \$9,502.00. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

CCAP

Item IV

- No updates at this time.

Leia Hamlyn presented the Education and Outreach report:

Item V

- A. Area 2 meeting held on March 12 went very well; we came in \$3.00 per person under budget.
- B. The dates for NW Envirothon were moved to the following week due to inclement weather on original dates. Two high school teams placed in the top 7 and they will advance to state competition on April 24/25.
- C. Area 2 Contest Night was held on March 19 in West Jefferson. Catawba's 9th-12th Grade Essay entry won first place and will advance to State!
- D. There are 3 candidates for RCW. William Shillito made a motion to go into closed session to discuss names and review applications for RCW candidates. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Applications discussed in closed session.
- E. William Shillito made a motion to come out of closed session. Julia Elmore seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. All supervisors ranked applications in

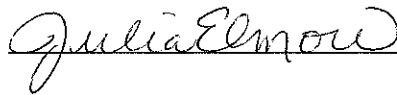
order from first to last and it was decided to offer the spot to the first one and proceed down the line until a student accepts the offer to attend RCW.

NRCS – No report updates this meeting

Elise McLaughlin gave the Division Report. Advance Supervisor Training will be held July 14 in Spindale. State Envirothon will be held April 24-25 at Cedarrock Park in Burlington. Area 2 Fall Meeting is scheduled for October 15. NACD Meeting will be held in Cherokee August 9-12.

Brandon Bowman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. William Shillito seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes taken by Leia Hamlyn.



Julia Elmore, Board Vice Chair