

## CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Tuesday May 5, 2020 5:30 p.m.

### On conference call phone bridge due to Covid-19

Supervisors in attendance via phone: Vicky Porter, Tommy Porter, Jeff Goforth, Zach Moffitt and Ned Hudson

Others in attendance: Kelly Sifford (Department Head), Lynn Shue (BOC Liaison), Grayson Sarif (NRCS), Daniel McClellan (staff), Tammi Remsburg (staff), Chuckie Bass (staff), Shaun and Logan Barrier (guests)

#### (1) Call to Order

Vicky Porter called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. due to technical difficulties with the phone bridge. She started the meeting by reading the following:

*"In the interest of preserving public confidence in the actions of this Board, the chair reminds members of their duty to avoid any conflicts of interests and inquires as to whether any member knows of any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to matters to come before the Board."* Hearing none, she moved the meeting on to item #2.

#### (2) Approval of Agenda

UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth and carried unanimously, the Board approved the updated agenda that included items 5.3 e and 5.3 f.

#### (3) Approval or Correction of Minutes for March 3, 2020 Meeting

UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Tommy Porter and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes for March 3, 2020 as written.

#### (4) New Business

##### 4.1 Barrier Easement

Shaun and Logan Barrier had written a letter to the Board concerning a property that CSWCD holds an Easement on. The current location for the homestead has some issues with safety of the access to the road, topography and forested areas. He requested that the Board grant him permission to pursue the request to the state to change the position of the homestead on that property. Shaun understands that all costs to do so are to be covered by him. After discussion, UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth and passed unanimously, the Board moved to draft a letter showing approval for the Barriers to approach the state to ask to move the homestead to the preferred location due to safety and environmental conditions.

#### 4.2 Spot Checks

Daniel McClellan reported to the Board that due to Covid-19, the spot check due date has been extended to September 30<sup>th</sup>. Also, districts have been given permission to take photos and then have Board members approve the spot check in order to limit number of people going to the producers. Some discussion about the avian flu in surrounding counties prompted the Board to recommend waiting on spot checks until later in the summer.

#### 4.3 Strategy plan

Daniel McClellan presented the district's strategy plan and ranking sheets. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Zach Moffitt, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the strategy plan including the ranking sheets.

Afterwards, Daniel presented the 2017-2019 program audit. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth and carried unanimously, the Board approved the program audit.

#### (5) Informational Items

##### 5.1 Education/Communications Report

Tammi Remsburg reported that Tommy and Ned's Board positions run out in December. Ned has told us that he plans to retire. The Board needs to start recruiting. Daniel will give them a list of some people that might be interested, too.

Tammi also reported that in spite of the Covid-19 shutdown, she still reached a great number of students of all ages-4500 individuals in over 7000 contacts over this PY. She also reported that she is working with the Cabarrus County Schools science coordinator to get virtual classes sent out to teachers if visitors are not allowed at the beginning of next school year.

##### 5.2 NRCS Update

Grayson Sarif reported that NRCS is open-mainly through telework. He said that our NRCS area is the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest in the state. Some changes due to Covid-19 include visits to only one producer per day and some extensions to deadlines for applications. New hire should start in July and will be shadowing Grayson for a while.

### 5.3 Division Funds Report

Chuckie Bass presented contracts for discussion.

Contract 13-2020-008 David Carter- Cropland Conversion to Grass NCACSP  
\$ 13,297

5.3a Application- UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Zach Moffitt, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the application for 13-2020-008.

5.3b Contract- UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Jeff Goforth, carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the contract for 13-2020-008.

Contract #13-2020-009 Lost Acres Farm LLC- Stream Exclusion/Well/Watering Tanks NCACSP \$14,739 and II \$544

5.3c Application- UPON MOTION of Zach Moffitt, seconded by Tommy Porter and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the application for 13-2020-009.

5.3d Contract-UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Zach Moffitt, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the contract 13-2020-009.

Contract #13-2020-010 Louis Cress Stream Crossing NCACSP \$4786. This project needed an engineer's design approval. Using a different state engineer, we received it within a week.

5.4e Application-UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve application 13-2020-010.

5.4f Contract- UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded Zach Moffitt, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve contract 13-2020-010.

### 5.5 Conservation Easement Report

Daniel McClellan reported that the Barrier Easement closing will be occurring soon. Mrs. Houston has not been contacted yet. J.M. Robinson is being planted in the next couple of weeks. Tammi plans to train teachers about using it as a learning center. We have

not heard anything about the Wilson Property on 73 about switching the easement holding from CSWCD and Three Rivers to Davidson Land Conservancy. Jeff voiced concern on whether or not we need a legal document to transfer the easement upon sale of the property. Kelly Sifford said that she would check with the County attorney.

(6) Public comment (3 minutes each)

Vicky Porter asked if anyone else had anything to add to the meeting. Upon hearing none, she moved to item #7.

(7) Adjourn

UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Tommy Porter, and passed unanimously, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Daniel McLellan for Vicky Porter  
Vicky Porter, Chair

Daniel McLellan for Tommy Porter  
Tommy Porter, Secretary/Treasurer