

CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Tuesday February 3, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Virtual

Supervisors in attendance: Vicky Porter,

Tommy Porter, Eddie Moose, Mitch Haigler, Jeff Goforth

Others in attendance: Daniel McClellan, Chuckie Bass, Abby Weinschenker,

Amy Cook, Rick McSwain, Kelly Sifford, Shauntae Britt

1. Call to Order
 - a. Vicky Porter started the meeting at 5:31 p.m.
2. Invocation
 - a. Tommy Porter gave invocation.
3. Conflict of Interest Statement.
 - a. *"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."*
 - b. Vicky Porter read the statement. There was no response.
4. Statement of Professionalism
 - a. *"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."*
 - b. Vicky Porter read the statement.
5. Approval of Agenda
 - a. UPON MOTION of Mitch Haigler, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously the board moved to approve the agenda for the meeting with the amendment.
6. Approval or Correction of December 2, 2025, Minutes
 - a. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Eddie Moose, and carried unanimously the board moved to approve the minutes of the December 2 meeting as written.
7. Informational Items
 - a. Partner Report
 - i. Rick McSwain provided the partner report from the Division.
 1. Rick informed the Board that there is a revision in his newsletter about cost-share programs and will send it out shortly.
 2. Rick informed the Board that the next Commission meeting will take place in Lenoir County on March 18.

3. Rick reminded the District and the Board that the cost-share deadline is on March 1 and that the AgWrap Supplement application is now open. He also stated that the Impaired and Impacted survey applications will open in April.
 4. Rick reminded the District and the Board that the Division meeting was postponed due to winter weather.
 5. Rick informed the Board that there are upcoming RCW changes, and that the Association Education Support dues are coming up.
- ii. Shauntae Britt gave the NRCS report.
1. Shauntae informed the Board that 026 has 7 EQIP and 3 CSP projects in Cabarrus County. Shauntae informed the Board of a new program with NRCS called the Regenerative Agriculture Program.
 2. Shauntae reminded the Board that NRCS is supposed to be a team of 6 but only has 3 employees for the region. Shauntae informed the Board that Angelina Soto, an NRCS agent in Union County will be assisting with Cabarrus County in the future.
- b. Education Report
- i. Abby Weinshenker gave the education report. Abby reminded the Board that Eddie Mosse needs 1 more training hour, Vicky Porter and Jeff Goforth are up for reelection, and that Mitch Haigler is up for reappointment.
 - ii. Abby updated the Board about the Conservation Contest. Abby discussed that the contest submission deadline had been pushed back due to two winter storms, but that the Public Speaking Contest will continue as planned on February 10. Abby said she will provide participation numbers in March.
 - iii. Abby informed the Board that she is attending a Project Wet Facilitator training at Crowders Mountain on February 18.
 - iv. Abby informed the Board that the Current Environmental Issues Workshop for Envirothon Advisors was rescheduled from January 27 to February 5 due to the winter storms.
 - v. Abby reminded the Board of the proposed edits to the MOU regarding the transfer of the Clarke Creek Conservation Easement to the City of Concord, which were distributed in December 2025. Jeff Goforth stated that the MOU should provide the District with access for educational programs and grant the City the easement in order to reduce liability to the District associated with construction of a nearby park. Vicky Porter recommended meeting with the City to discuss the proposed edits. Abby stated that the District is satisfied with the MOU as currently written.

Vicky inquired about the dock that remains at the easement site. Kelly Sifford noted that the dock may be repurposed elsewhere in the County but was uncertain at this time and expressed concern about the amount of sediment that has accumulated around it. Daniel McClellan stated that the dock could remain in place. Vicky Porter and Jeff Goforth agreed to leave the dock. Vicky Porter stated that the MOU should specify educator access. Kelly Sifford clarified that the MOU guarantees access for the District's educator. Tommy Porter stated that he accepts the MOU as presented. Vicky Porter made a motion to approve the MOU for the transfer of the Clarke Creek Conservation Easement, with language ensuring that the District educator will have access to the easement for educational programs.

1. UPON MOTION of Mitch Haigler, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously the Board moved to approve the MOU with the City of Concord about the Clarke Creek Conservation Easement.

c. Supervisor's Communications Report

- i. Daniel McClellan gave the supervisors report. Daniel informed the Board that he is in the process of planning a pond workshop for the spring.
- ii. Daniel reminded the Board that Jeff Goforth is attending the NACD meeting in San Antonio, Texas.
- iii. Daniel informed the Board that the District is working with county management on potential cuts to budget. He informed the Board that he is meeting with the county commission on March 17 to discuss the budget.

d. StRAP Report

- i. Daniel McClellan gave the StRAP Report. Daniel informed the Board that the application cycle opens on February 20, but the funding is dedicated to damage caused by Hurricane Helene. Vicky Porter stated that there was little damage in Cabarrus County, and Kelly Sifford stated that the damage caused by Hurricane Helene was food and power loss.

e. Division Funds Report

- i. Chuckie Bass gave the division funds report. Chuckie informed the Board that Jason Walker's heavy use area has been completed and submitted the signed RFP to the Division.
- ii. Chuckie informed the Board that Mitch Haigler has been approved by the Commissioner and is able to start.
- iii. Chuckie informed the Board that Aaron Cook has two of three HUA pads poured.
- iv. Chuckie informed the Board that Jennifer Aldridge has started the fence portion of the stream exclusion project, and a

preconstruction meeting was conducted. The fence posts are being set, and wire is being pulled.

- v. Chuckie informed the Board that Scott Helms has drilled the well for the AgWrap project and the District is waiting for the pump to be installed before starting the RFP.
- vi. Chuckie informed the Board that Richard Suggs has built the fence.

f. Conservation Easement Report

- i. Amy Cook gave the conservation easement report. Amy informed the Board that the two conservation easement applications for Wilburn Family Farms were funded through both the state ADFP and federal NRCS-ALE. The county commissioners have accepted the contracts and the District will soon be able to get started on closing the easements.
- ii. Amy informed the Board that the Agricultural Growth Zone application has been partially funded, and that the County Commissioners are voting to approve the contract at their February meeting.
- iii. Amy informed the Board that the Sam Davis conservation easement is underway, and the survey is complete. The survey has been reviewed by the state and updated title work is needed. Once this is complete, the state will share the status of the review.

8. New Business

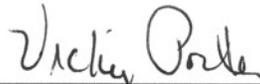
- a. Abby reminded the Board of running for re-election and reappointments.
- b. Amy Cook presented to the Board regarding an impervious surface request for the Bost Conservation Easement. The property owner is seeking approval to install impervious surfaces, including paving the existing driveway. The deed allows for certain parameters related to the driveway following proper measurements. However, the owner also proposes adding a paved parking area, for which the parameters are not clearly defined. Amy informed the Board that approval would be required if the impervious surface area exceeded 1,000 square feet. Additional requests include constructing a barn or lean-to to provide shelter for horses and paving a driveway around the workshop. Tommy Porter stated that he does not consider these improvements to constitute development and expressed his support. Vicky and Jeff concurred.
 - i. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Mitch Haigler, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the requests for the Bost Conservation Easement.

9. Public Comment

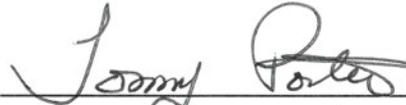
- a. No public comments.

10. Adjourn

- a. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth, and carried unanimously, the board moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m.



Vicky Porter, Chairperson



Tommy Porter, Secretary/Treasurer

