

CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Tuesday May 5, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

715 Cabarrus Ave W, Concord, NC 28027

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, Melissa Patton

1. Call to Order
 - a. Vicky Porter started the meeting at 5:27 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. Chuckie Bass informed the Board that the application and contract name in 5.1 and 5.2 need to be changed to Earnhardt Farms MP LLC.
 - b. UPON MOTION of Eddie Moose, 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 April 7, 2026, Minutes
 - a. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth, and carried unanimously the board moved to approve the minutes of the April 7 meeting as written.
7. Information Items
 - a. Partner Report
 - i. Rick McSwain gave the partner report. Rick reminded the Board that there will be a commission meeting held in Rowan County on

May 20, with a tour beforehand on ay 19 of High Rock Lake Dam, a CCAP stream restoration project, and a farm family tour.

1. Rick informed the Board that there will be advanced supervisor training on July 14, and the Southeast NACD meeting in Cherokee on August 9-12.
 2. Rick informed the District and the Board that there will be a partnership calendar added online to highlight training opportunities across the state.
- ii. Melissa Patton from Carolina Land and Lakes came to speak with the Board about her organization does. Melissa informed the Board that in 2011, the RC&D lost its federal funding, and the agency became a 501c3. For the area, Carolina Land and Lakes is the RC&D, and Cabarrus County is within the service area
1. Melissa informed the Board that Carolina Land and Lakes is currently working to obtain more funding for working lands to be able to protect waterways and debris removal. They were able to receive StRAP funding for an in Gaston County, which also has a corporate sponsor to protect recreation.
 2. Melissa said that they are also working to build flood resiliency and is a cochair on an advisory committee to help build resources to identify issues. This applies to the Yadkin PeeDee and Catawba River Basins. There is limited funding, but the nonprofit is working to help identify areas of need.
 3. Melissa emphasized to the Board that Carolina Land and Lakes works to find funding for community projects, such as debris removal and nutrient students. Vicky asks about a neighborhood in Harrisburg that is likely not eligible for StRAP funding, and Jeff added that our county has strict regulations. Melissa acknowledged that no rise permits have been a large inhibitor for many Districts.

b. Education Report

- i. Abby Weinshenker gave the education report. Abby informed the Board that the state Envirothon occurred on April 24 and 25, and that the Conservation Award Banquet will be occurring the next day on May 6.
- ii. Abby informed the Board that she has begun planning Creek Week for 2026, and that it will take place September 26-October 3.

- iii. Abby updated the Board that she has participated in various other programs, but things are starting to slow down with the end of the school year.
- iv. Abby informed the Board that the District has 6 state winners for the Conservation Contest in first and second place.

c. Supervisor's Communications Report

- i. Daniel McClellan gave the supervisor's communications report. Daniel informed the Board that the City of Concord has approved the Clarke Creek Easement MOU, but the District has not seen the signed copies and is still waiting to hear back from the City.
- ii. Daniel informed the Board that the District hosted a pond clinic, and it had 35 people in attendance.
- iii. Daniel reminded the Board that the filing for Soil and Water Supervisor elections is open June 8 to July 6. The reason the date is different than what the state recommends is due to offices being closed on July 3.
- iv. Daniel informed the Board that the Southeast NACD will be held in Cherokee on August 9th, and that the NACD will be held in Las Vegas, NV February 6-10, 2027. The District is waiting for budget approval, but there should still be supervisor travel. Rick stated that the Division is trying to obtain funding for Supervisors to travel to the Southeast NACD.
- v. Daniel informed the Board that Ag Day is on May 13 for farmland preservation. Vicky and Tommy stated that they are unable to be present at it but are contacting our local representatives.

d. StRAP

- i. Daniel gave the StRAP report. Daniel stated that he has not received any communication about the StRAP project filed for Mallard Creek other than the Division reaching out about flying a drone in the area.

e. Division Funds Report

- i. Chuckie Bass gave the division funds report. Chuckie informed the Board that Lost Acres has their fence built, Jason Walker is complete and waiting on an itemized receipt, and Scott Helms is complete and waiting on power service. Chuckie informed the Board that Kirk Davis AGWRAP ell is complete and needs paperwork, and that Richard Suggs has his well drilled, fence built, and HUA complete with drinker. Chuckie informed the Board that Sutter is waiting to hear back from Cultural Resources. Chuckie informed the Board that Porter Farms has the well drilled, fence built, waterline in, and concrete HUA poured. Chuckie informed the Board that Mitch Haigler has his HUA poured.

f. Conservation Easement Report

- i. Amy Cook gave the conservation easement report. Amy informed the Board that the Wilburn Family Farms easement is underway and that the 2 parcels are in the initial survey process.
- ii. Amy informed the Board that the Sam Davis easement received an updated survey from the state with notes and is waiting to hear back from the federal side.
- iii. Amy informed the Board that Rick and Steve Earnhardt are getting started on their easements with Agricultural Growth Zone funds.
- iv. Amy informed the Board that the federal and state had site visits for the Helms application, and the District will potentially hear back about funding next month.
- v. Amy informed the Board that the District did their agricultural easements annual monitoring on April 15 and found everyone in compliance. Eddie Moose accompanied the District with the easement monitoring.
- vi. Amy informed the Board that there will be a VAD conference in Cherokee on July 22 and 23.

8. New Business

- a. Chuckie Bass presented the application 13-2026-004 for Earnhardt Farms MP LLC for a stream exclusion project.
 - i. UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the application.
- b. Chuckie Bass presented the contract 13-2026-004 for Earnhardt Farms MP LLC for a stream exclusion project.
 - i. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Jeff Goforth, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the application.
- c. Chuckie presented the 2027 strategy plan. The Board reviewed the cover crops clause and the lifetime limit and decided to keep the clause the same.
 - i. UPON MOTION of Eddie Moose, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to approve the strategy plan.

9. Public Comment

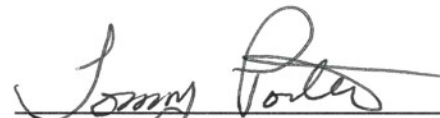
- a. No public comments.

10. Adjourn

- a. UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Tommy Porter, and carried unanimously, the board moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m.



Vicky Porter, Chairperson



Tommy Porter, Secretary/Treasurer

