

**CABARRUS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Tuesday March 3, 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**

1. Call to Order
  - a. Vicky Porter started the meeting at 5:30 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 in 5.5 and 5.6 of new business were not ready.
  - b. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Eddie Moose, and carried unanimously the board moved to approve the agenda for the meeting with the amendment.
6. Approval or Correction of March 3, 2026, Minutes
  - a. UPON MOTION of Tommy Porter, seconded by Mitch Haigler, and carried unanimously the board moved to approve the minutes of the March 3 meeting as written.
7. Information Items
  - a. Partner Report
    - i. Rick McSwain gave the partner report from the Division. Rick reminded the Board about the Commission meeting on March 18.
    - ii. Rick reminded the Board of upcoming deadlines for cost-share programs and contracts are due in CS2 by June 30.
    - iii. Rick reminded the Board that the Division will be providing an update in Yadkin.

- iv. Rick informed the Board about a check-up that will be scheduled for the District.

b. Education Report

- i. Abby Weinschenker gave the education report. Abby shared the Southern Piedmont Envirothon memo sent by Rick Karriker about SPE introducing a rule to limit to 5 teams per school, group or advisor for each level of Middle and High School. This is to help with logistics and planning for the SPE committee.
- ii. Abby reminded the Board of the upcoming election and hours. Abby informed Eddie Moose that he needed one more hour of training, Mitch Haigler that he is up for reappointment, and Vicky Porter and Jeff Goforth are up for reelection. She informed them that according to Bylaws, they have until the first Friday in July to sign up.
- iii. Abby informed the Board of the record numbers that participated in this year's conservation contest, which was 3,400 students.
- iv. Abby reminded the Board that the Southern Piedmont Envirothon will take place on March 17 and 18 and is still in need of volunteers.
- v. Abby informed the Board that she will be helping co-facilitate a Project Wet workshop in Randolph County with the state Soil and Water Educator, Jessica Davis, on March 25.
- vi. Abby informed the Board that she received the Educator of the Year Award from the North Carolina Wildlife Federation.

c. Supervisor's Communications Report

- i. Daniel McClellan gave the supervisors report. Daniel informed the Board that the MOU for Clarke Creek easement has been sent to the City of Concord. Once the MOU is presented to the City, and if approved, the easement deed will be transferred during the next City Council meeting.
- ii. Daniel informed the Board that the Pond Clinic is scheduled for April 18 at Roberts Farm. The pond clinic will have a shock boat present.
- iii. Daniel informed the Board that Jeff Goforth attended this year's NACD meeting. Daniel asked Jeff to share some insights into it.
  - 1. Jeff shared that he met someone that works for Carolina Land and Lake, which is a former RC&D, and the person will be coming to our May meeting. He informed the Board that they work on grants but were once federally funded. They are now funded through charging administration fees. Jeff also informed the Board that he went to a session about Building Trust. Jeff said that there were 28 North Carolina residents at the NACD.
- iv. Daniel informed the Board that the County has held its budget retreat and that the budget conference will take place on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Soil and Water cut budget in areas that had not been spent, including some staff travel. The County is looking at a balanced budget but is using recurring funds.

- v. Daniel informed the Board that Lomax has asked for \$120,000 from back taxes, which is used for conservation easements.
- vi. Daniel reminded the Board that the Area VIII Spring meeting is taking place March 4 in Salisbury, and the Southeastern Conservation Districts meeting will be held in Cherokee on August 9 to 12.

d. StRAP

- i. Daniel provided the StRAP update. Daniel informed the Board that he received questions from Matt Safford about the program. A nonprofit has applied for Mallard Creek. The District is waiting to hear back from Safford on the application since it was made by a nonprofit.

e. Division Funds Report

- i. Chuckie Bass gave the division funds report. Chuckie informed the Board that he reminded those working on Fiscal Year 2024 projects that they have until the end of May to finish their projects, or the District will have to apply for extensions.
- ii. Chuckie informed the Board that Jaason Walker has finished the well and is waiting to get electricity for final RFP.
- iii. Chuckie informed the Board that Scott Helms has the AgWrap well drilled and is waiting on putting the pump in to start RFP and power.
- iv. Chuckie informed the Board that Richard Suggs has the fence built.

f. Conservation Easement Report

- i. Amy Cook gave the conservation easement report. Amy informed the Board that the two easement applications for Wilburn Family Farms have been funded through state ADFP and federal NRCS ALE. Amy said that the contracts are ready, and a kick-off meeting will be scheduled soon to get started.
- ii. Amy informed the Board that the Agricultural Growth Zones application was funded, and the District just received the contract.
- iii. Amy informed the Board that the Sam Davis easement is waiting to hear back from the state about the survey. The District is working with the land owner on new title work.
- iv. Amy informed the Board that the District will be having a federal site visit on the Helms application and the state site visit is scheduled for mid-March. The District is getting title work done ahead of funding due to legal questions from the state.
- v. Amy informed the Board that the District will be doing annual monitoring for the agricultural easements and for a supervisor to join with the visits.

8. New Business

- a. Abby reminded the Board about reappointment and reelection.
- b. Chuckie informed the Board that spot checks will be conducted soon and needs a supervisor to be present.
- c. Chuckie presented the application 13-026-801 for an AgWrap Well.

- i. UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Mitch Haigler, and carried unanimously, the board moved to approve the application.
- d. Chuckie presented the contract for 13-2026-801 for AgWrap Well.
  - i. UPON MOTION of Eddie Moose, seconded by Mitch Haigler, and carried unanimously, the board moved to approve the contract.

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 6:35 p.m.

  
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Vicky Porter, Chairperson

  
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Tommy Porter, Secretary/Treasurer