

THREE RIVERS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES
February 20, 2024
Three Rivers SWCD Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Robert Bland, Chair

Langdon Townsend, Vice Chair

Sara Henley, Secretary

Bruce Taylor, Treasurer

Benjamin Ellis, Essex County

AJ Brooks, Essex County

Willie Upshaw, Associate Director

Three Rivers SWCD Staff Present:

Michelle Carter, District Manager

Anne Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Grace Daughtrey, Education & Outreach Coordinator

Waring Baylor, Conservation Specialist

Sarah Cole, Conservation Coordinator

Agency Partners:

Marissa Roland, DCR

Call to Order

Mr. Bland, Chair, called the Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District monthly meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. in Three Rivers SWCD Conference Room, Tappahannock, VA.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Henley motioned to approve the January Board of Directors Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Taylor motioned to accept the January Treasurer's Report as presented and the report will be filed for audit. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Technical Report – Waring Baylor & Sarah Cole

Mr. Baylor stated he had completed cover crop spot checks and overall, everything looked good. He stated acres that had sludge applied had been removed from contracts.

Mr. Baylor stated he had participated in the Vantage Conference in Harrisonburg on February 7th. The topics discussed were on no-till and cover crops.

Mr. Townsend motioned that Conservation Plans CP-43-24-0023, CP-43-24-0024, CP-43-24-0025, CP-43-24-0026, CP-43-24-0027, CP-43-24-0028, CP-43-24-0029, CP-43-24-0030 and the Virginia Agricultural Equipment Tax Credit Applications be approved as presented. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and the motion carried. Mr. Bruce Taylor abstained. (Report Attached)

Technical Report – Waring Baylor & Sarah Cole Continued

Mr. Ellis motioned the 21 Nutrient Management Plans be approved as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion and the motion carried. (Report Attached)

Education Update – Grace Daughtrey

Ms. Daughtrey stated she had sent out announcements for Youth Conservation Camp, Woods & Wildlife Camp and Academic Scholarships through Constant Contact, the local newspapers and schools.

Board of Directors Delegation of Authority – Robert Bland, Chair

Mr. Ellis made a motion to delegate authority to the Ag committee to handle any and all cost-share issues and/or needs that may arise during the months of March and April. This includes but is not limited to approvals of Nutrient Management Plans, approvals of Resource Management Plans, approvals of cost-share applications and additional requests for funding of cost-share. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion and the motion carried.

VASWCD Area III Spring Meeting (March 19th @ St. Margaret’s School) – Michelle Carter

Mrs. Carter stated she would be sending out registration information for the Area III Spring Meeting this week. The date for the meeting is March 19th at St. Margaret’s School and the deadline to register is March 4th.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture Grant (Feb 27&28) - Michelle Carter

Mrs. Carter stated flyers had been sent out via Constant Contact to all producers and put at different locations within the area promoting this grant. Jim Wallace and Bob Waring from the Colonial SWCD office will be at Three Rivers office to take sign-up for this new grant on February 27 & 28. Contact Three Rivers to set-up an appointment.

Poster Contest Gift Cards – Michelle Carter

Mr. Townsend motioned to approve purchasing four \$25.00 Visa gift cards to present to the James Carey Intermediate School Poster Contest winners. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Agency Reports

DCR – Marissa Roland gave an oral and written report. Report Attached

Closed Session:

Chairman, Robert Bland asked Willie Upshaw, Associate Director, to stay and participate in the Closed Session.

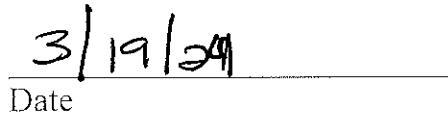
Mr. Townsend motioned that the Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District go into Closed Meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act 2.2-3711(A)(1) to discuss personnel. Mrs. Henley seconded the motion and the motion carried.

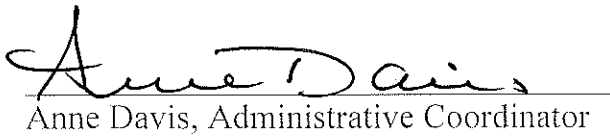
Pursuant to the code of Virginia 2.2-3712(D), Mr. Townsend motioned to certify that, to the best of each members knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted and as identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard or discussed by the Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District during the Closed Meeting. Mrs. Henley seconded the motion and the motion carried.

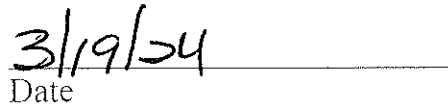
Mrs. Henley motioned to proceed with advertising for a Precision Ag Specialist position with Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District. The job posting will close on March 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The board of Directors will convene on march 19, 2024 to review applications. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Bland, Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.


Sara Henley, Secretary


Date


Anne Davis, Administrative Coordinator


Date

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Three Rivers Board of Directors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.23712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Three Rivers Board of Directors that a closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Three Rivers Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Three Rivers Board of Directors.

MOTION BY: Mr. Langdon Townsend

SECOND BY: Mrs. Sara Henley

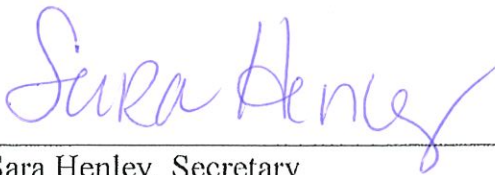
VOTES

AYES: 7

NAYS: 0

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Mr. Thomas Fox

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Mr. Thomas Fox



Sara Henley, Secretary