



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2023**

ATTENDEES:

DIRECTORS: Vince Garland, Frank Johnson, Billy McCarty, Robert Pickett, Shirley Powell, Bobby Vanlandingham, Richard Wilkins

**ASSOCIATE
DIRECTORS:** E. Derwin Booker, Jr.

STAFF: Kathy Clarke, Brandon Dillistin, Joanna Balderson, Aaron Saunders

PARTNERS: Caroline Lancaster (NRCS), Brody Ellis (NRCS), Amy Walker (DCR), Libby Bieri (FOR), Drew Gladwell (NNLC), Ken Sterner (DOF), Eric White (DOF)

GUESTS: Stewart Bunn, Hillary Pugh Kent, Lewis Walker

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Robert Pickett opened the meeting at 6:33PM.

MINUTES:

The Minutes from the March 8, 2023 Board Meeting were presented for review. *Richard Wilkins moved to accept the Minutes as presented. Billy McCarty seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.*

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Reports for March 2023 were accepted as presented and filed for audit.

BUSINESS:

1. NNSWCD History Presentation

Kathy Clarke presented the NNSWCD History Presentation that was prepared and presented at the Producer Conference (see attached).

2. VSWCB Response to HR Needs of SWCDs

Kathy Clarke presented correspondence from the VSWCB in response to the letter submitted by the NNSWCD on March 8th (see attached).

3. Upcoming Public Meeting: VDOT's Proposed Warsaw Road Diet

Robert Pickett noted that VDOT is proposing a "road diet" for Route 360 through Warsaw that would include re-striping, essentially reducing the current four-lane highway to three – one lane in each direction with a two-way left turn lane in the center (see attached). Kathy Clarke noted that upon reviewing the proposal, she noticed that the project maps published by VDOT were Google Earth maps from 2015 that didn't include the new intersection with Main Street and had the local dentist office parking lot

misabeled as College Avenue. She questioned how an adequate traffic impact study could have been conducted using that data and expressed her concerns that the new traffic pattern would likely inhibit a farmer's ability to access the Warsaw USDA Service Center while operating a large truck or piece of farm equipment. She has notified FSA's Warsaw and State offices of this possibility as one of the historical requirements in selecting USDA Service Center locations focuses on producer accessibility. VDOT has scheduled a public meeting for Tuesday, April 18th at 5PM; Kathy will be participating as a representative of the NNSWCD and encouraged Directors to join her in vocalizing the concerns of the local agriculture community.

4. VCAP 2023 Round 4 Application Approvals (see attached):

- a. **Richard Riviere (Lancaster County) VCAP Contract #08-23-007 Living Shoreline**
Total estimated cost: \$30,080.00 Total estimated cost-share \$24,064.00
- b. **William Bowles (Westmoreland County) VCAP Contract #08-23-008 Living Shoreline**
Total estimated cost: \$45,060.00 Total estimated cost share \$30,000.00

The Board was surveyed to identify any known conflicts of interest, none were noted. ***Bobby Vanlandingham moved to approve the submission of VCAP Contracts #08-23-007 and #08-23-008 to the VASWCD VCAP Review Committee for further consideration. Richard Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.***

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AG COMMITTEE – Brandon Dillistin presented *Recommendations from the Technical Staff* (see attached). The individual items brought to the Board for approval were:

- I. **FY23 Round 4 VACS Approvals: Non-COIA Applications Totaling \$10,359.00**
Vince Garland moved to approve. Bobby Vanlandingham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- II. **FY23 Round 4 VACS Approvals: COIA Applications Totaling \$14,283.60**
 - A. **CCI-CNT, NM-3C, SL-8B: Leaning Tree Farm, LLC Applications Totaling \$14,283.60**
Vince Garland moved to approve. Billy McCarty seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Aaron Saunders excused himself from the room during discussion and returned after voting was complete.)
- III. **Whole Farm Approach (WFA)**

Brandon Dillistin noted that the NNSWCD has been approached by DCR about participating in the PY24 expansion of the Whole Farm Approach (WFA) (see attached). The WFA is a new practice within the VACS Program that was created to capture all of the practices that producers implement even if they were not funded through VACS due to low ranking, lack of funding, or not prioritized through secondary considerations. The practice increases information provided to the Bay Model towards agricultural nutrient reductions, showing effort of ag producers. Brandon noted that although the complexity of the WFA would significantly increase the data entry workload of technical staff, he felt the increased financial incentives for local producers was worth that effort and was recommending that the NNSWCD participate in PY24. Kathy Clarke echoed her support of Brandon's recommendation

but noted that based on his calculations, the WFA could increase the NNSWCD's VACS needs to \$7.2 - \$8.2M while the allocation projected to be included in the FY24 grant agreement was closer to \$6.2M. Amy Walker stated that DCR had adequately budgeted to cover expansion of the WFA in FY24. *Vince Garland moved to approve the NNSWCD's participation in the expansion of the Whole Farm Approach (WFA) in PY24. Shirley Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.*

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – E. Derwin Booker, Jr. reported that the Education Committee met on March 14, 2023. The DRAFT Minutes and Recommendations from that meeting were presented for review (see attached). The individual items reported to the Board were:

- I. Anne Martz selected as the recipient of the NNSWCD J.C. Berger Conservation Advancement Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.**
- II. Emma Packett selected as the recipient of the NNSWCD James Edward Minor Ag Stewardship Award in the amount of \$1,000.**
- III. John Lahey selected as the nominee for the 2023 VASWCDEF Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.**

Richard Wilkins moved to ratify the selections of the 2023 scholarship recipients and nominee as presented. Bobby Vanlandingham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Vince Garland, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met on April 3, 2023. The DRAFT Minutes and Recommendations from that meeting were presented for review (see attached). The individual items brought to the Board for approval were:

- I. Phase 2: Office Relocations/Renovations – Replacement Windows**
Vince Garland moved to approve the replacement of the seven (7) windows within the NNSWCD occupied space by the landlords at the cost of \$7,440.00. Billy McCarty seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- II. DRAFT FY 22/23 Budget Amendments**
Vince Garland moved to approve the FY 22/23 Budget Amendments as presented. Bobby Vanlandingham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE - Brandon Dillistin noted that the Committee would need to convene prior to the May Board meeting.

COOPERATING AGENCY & STAFF REPORTS:

DCR – Marissa Roland - see attached report presented by Amy Walker.

NRCS – Lucee Kossler – see attached report presented by Caroline Lancaster.

FOR – Libby Bieri – see attached report.

PC/PWR – Robert Pickett noted the next meeting was scheduled for Friday, April 14th in Gainesville, VA.

DOF – Ken Sterner - see attached report.

VASWCD/NACD – Kathy Clarke shared correspondence regarding the Annual VASWCD Educational Foundation Golf Tournament scheduled for May 3rd (see attached). The NNSWCD will once again serve as a Beverage Cart Sponsor of the event; anyone interested in fielding a Northern Neck team was encouraged to notify Kathy immediately.

STAFF – Kathy Clarke - see attached report.

STAFF – Brandon Dillistin - see attached report.

STAFF – Joanna Balderson – see attached report

STAFF – Lowery Becker – see attached report.

STAFF – Kelly Brann – see attached report.

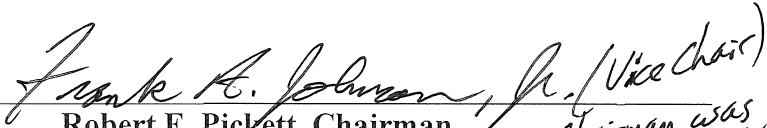
STAFF – Aaron Saunders – see attached report.

NEW BUSINESS:

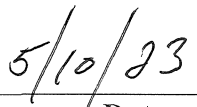
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 6:30PM in the NNSWCD Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT:

Bobby Vanlandingham moved to adjourn the meeting. Billy McCarty seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23PM.


Robert E. Pickett, Chairman

Chairman was not present.


Date