



September 24, 2010

SOUTHERN MARYLAND RC&D, INC.
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JULY 15, 2010

Vice Chair Jim Bardsley called the RC&D Council meeting to order at 7:02 PM. The following members were in attendance:

RC&D Members:

Jim Bardsley, Anne Arundel Forest Conservancy District Board
Stanley Boothe, St. Mary's Soil Conservation District
Bill Clark, Calvert Soil Conservation District
Jennifer David, Tri-County Council - Charles
Luis Dieguez, Charles Soil Conservation District
John Gray, Calvert County Commissioners
Phillip Jones, Southern Maryland RC&D Board Appointed
Michael Pellegrino, Charles County Commissioners
Olga Walter, Southern Maryland RC&D Board Appointed
Tommy Wright, Southern Maryland RC&D Board Appointed
Bruce Young, St. Mary's County Commissioners

Others:

Buddy Bowling, USDA NRCS Southern Maryland RC&D Coordinator
Denitra Brawner, Southern Maryland RC&D Office Associate
Franklin Holley, Southern Maryland RC&D Program Officer
Tansel Hudson, Assistant State Conservation for Programs – Acting - MD NRCS
Niles Primrose, Program Manager, MD DNR
Mark Rose, USDA Headquarters
Susie Whilden, Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District

There was a Quorum at this meeting.

INTRODUCTION

Jim Bardsley welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Olga for the dinner she made for Mark.

Jim welcomed guest Niles Primrose, Susie Whilden , Mark Rose and Tansel Hudson.

Niles Primrose, Program Manager at MD DNR, spoke about a Request for Assistance he sent in for the Board to review. DNR is asking for planning assistance to investigate waterfowl use of Mirant Chalk Point warm water discharge. Mirant Chalk Point has agreed to fund the study. Mirant Chalk Point will fund 85%, DNR will fund 15%. The total project cost will be about \$100,000. For a fee, RC&D will get a 10% of full contract price. Mr. Primrose is asking RC&D to administer the project. They have a similar process with Western MD RC&D. RC&D would enter into a contract with Versar, Inc. who would be doing most of the work. Audubon will be doing the observation work. Jug Bay will handle the analysis and DNR will be doing some observations. An MOU will have to be done between those four organizations and RC&D. Olga Walter made a motion for RC&D to administer the project. Bill Clark seconded. Motion was passed.

Mark Rose will be leaving the NRCS State office and heading to USDA Headquarters. He said that he appreciates everything that RC&D has done.

Tansel Hudson said that a vacancy announcement should be out by the end of July. By October-November the position should be filled.

Anne Arundel County Support - Olga, Buddy, Mark, Jim, John Czajkowski, Jim Stine-Anne Arundel SCD District Conservationist, Ken Carr-Anne Arundel SCD Chair attended a meeting at the Anne Arundel SCD office to discuss how to get Anne Arundel County involved in funding the RC&D. Mark said that Jim Stine will go to the County for funds for the SCD and then work on funding for RC&D.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

Denitra Brawner read the Treasurer's Report for the Fourth Quarter. The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit. It was asked that more categories be provided. Changes will be made to the next Treasurer's Report.

Review Previous Minutes

Olga made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them. Bill seconded and the motion was passed.

Office Relocation Update

Bruce said there has been no word from GSA. Everything else is moving quickly. There is a potential move in date for the end of September for the St. Mary's SCD Office. Bruce said a committee should be formed to pick out the tile and carpet for RC&D's space. Olga recommended that Denitra, Franklin, Jen David, Jim Bardsley and Mike Pellegrino be on the committee. A sign will be put up on Rt. 5 either listing the businesses individually or showing "Ag Service Center."

FY 2010 & 2011 Operating Budgets

Olga Walter presented the operating budgets. There was some discussion. Bill suggested adding a page of past budget summaries. Bruce made a motion to accept the 2010 budget. Luis seconded, and the motion was passed. Bruce made a motion to accept the 2011 budget. Bill seconded and the motion was passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee for Staff Step Increases

Pat Pinnell wanted to form a committee to work on staff step increase procedures. She would like the same committee that worked on the Policies and Procedures Manual. Jim, Bruce and Jennifer along with Pat will make up that committee. John Gray made a motion to accept the committee. Olga seconded, and the motion was passed. Jennifer will serve as chair of that committee.

Office Associate Item

Denitra stated that the NACD dues are up for renewal. Olga made a motion to pay. John Gray seconded, and the motion was passed.

Program Officer Items

Franklin Holley reported on the following items:

Indian Head Phase II – Project is ahead of schedule with 84% complete. National Aquarium planting will be on October 21, 22, & 23. Volunteers are needed.

Indian Head Phase III – 1,200 linear feet project was cut during Phase I because of budget restraints. It was put into Phase III scope. It may cost \$7,500 for a wetland permit.

Indian Head Trail Town Program – A Physical Improvement and an Outreach committee was formed. This project was added to the Plan of Work. Franklin will be working with the committees.

National RC&D Week – RC&D Week is during the Mid Atlantic RC&D Conference. We will be doing the Coloring & Poster Contest only.

St. Mary's County Going Green & Code Update Expo – The Expo will be held October 9th in Leonardtown, MD.

Mid Atlantic RC&D Conference – The conference will be held September 15-17, 2010 in Annapolis, MD. We need to know who is planning on attending so that we can make up a duty list. *(Note: Conference cancelled at later date).*

Maryland Forestry Association Annual Meeting – The meeting will be held November 5 & 6, 2010 at the National Harbor in Prince George's County. Jim will be attending.

African American Heritage House – There will be a benefit held on July 30th at the Waldorf Jaycees for the African American Heritage Society.

Remote connection – A program called GoToMyPC cost \$360/year for two computers to have remote connection. It will cost \$400/year for 3 computers. Olga made a motion to purchase remote desktop connection plans for 2 computers. Bill seconded and the motion was passed.

Website Update – “Donate Now” button is activated. John Gray made a motion to grant the web designer temporary permission to access the Paypal account. Bill seconded and the motion was passed. A calendar, minutes and agenda have been added to the website.

Coordinator Items

Buddy Bowling reported on the following items:

Oxbow – Jim Bardsley said that Russett Community is responsible for taking the lead of the project. They are working on whether or not to proceed with a contract with RC&D for the permits. When Jim gets more information he will relay it to the Board.

Forage Agronomy Amendment – There were a few problems with the agreement. Everything has been worked out. Bill made a motion for the Vice Chair to sign the Amendment. Bruce seconded the motion and it was passed.

RC&D will enter another agreement with NRCS for the Forage Agronomy project once the previous agreement is complete.

Civil Rights Meeting Update – Mike Pellegrino reported that The NRCS Civil Rights Committee want to have their October meeting at the African American Heritage House. The Heritage House is working to get the building complete to hold the meeting.

Anne Arundel and Prince George’s County Farm Equipment – Buddy reported that Extension Agent Brian Clark indicated that some SCD have provided equipment for rental. With the \$23,000 – \$24,000 that Southern Maryland Ag Development Commission has, Extension wants to purchase three pieces of equipment. Extension would manage the project, equipment and be responsible for operation. They cannot legally own the equipment. They are asking that RC&D own equipment plus a trailer to haul the equipment. Buddy has requested a copy of an MOA from the Southern Maryland Ag Development Commission. Bill suggested PG SCD store and manage the equipment. After further discussion John Gray made a motion to refuse the request from Brian Clark. Bill seconded the motion and it was passed.

(One nay vote)

By-Laws

Olga made a motion to accept the updated Bylaws that were previously sent out to Board Members. John Gray seconded and the motion was passed.

Annual Plan of Work

Buddy asked that the Board Members review the Plan of Work and get back to him with changes by July 22. Olga made a motion to accept the Plan of Work with changes. Bill seconded and the motion was passed.

Buddy asked the Board if it was ok to close the following projects that were either completed or cancelled.

- a) Chesapeake Bay Field Lab
- b) Southdown Shores
- c) Poultry Litter

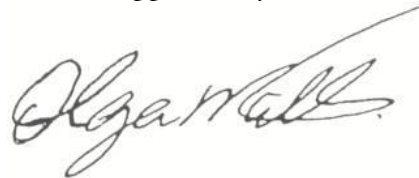
Olga made a motion to close out the projects. Bill seconded and the motion was passed.

For the Good of All

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.

The next full board meeting will be October 21, 2010. The next Executive Board Meeting will be August 19, 2010.

Reviewed and Submitted for
Council Approval By



Olga Walter
Treasurer/Secretary

Prepared by Denitra Brawner, Office Associate