



March 4, 2013

SOUTHERN MARYLAND RC&D, INC.
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 13, 2012

Chair Patricia Pinnell called the RC&D Council meeting to order at 1:25 PM. The following members were in attendance:

RC&D Members:

Jim Bardsley, Anne Arundel Forest Conservancy District Board
Bill Clark, Calvert Soil Conservation District
Danielle Crocker, Calvert County Student Representative
John Czajkowski, Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District
Jennifer David, Tri-County Council - Charles
Luis Dieguez, Charles Soil Conservation District
John Downs, Southern Maryland RC&D Board Appointed
Robert Jarboe, St. Mary's Soil Conservation District
Jill Lee, Calvert Forest Conservancy District Board
Patricia Pinnell, St. Mary's Forest Conservancy District Board
Charlie Sasscer, St. Mary's County Student Representative
Olga Walter, Southern Maryland RC&D Board Appointed
Bruce Young, St. Mary's County Commissioners

Others:

Denitra Brawner, Southern Maryland RC&D Office Associate
Al Stewart, Southern Maryland RC&D Executive Director

There was a Quorum at this meeting.

26737 Radio Station Way, Suite D Leonardtown, Maryland 20650
301-475-8427 X 6 • FAX: 301-475-8391

There was an introduction of new members: Jill Lee, Calvert Forestry Representative; Danielle Crocker, Calvert Student Representative and Charlie Sasscer, St. Mary's Student Representative.

Chair Items

Pat reported on the following:

Accept New Members – Bill moved to accept the new members. Jen David seconded. Motion was passed. Bruce Young informed the students that they are to go out and find projects that RC&D can help with.

National RC&D Dues – The dues are \$450.00. Bruce moved to pay the dues. John Czajkowski seconded. Motion was passed.

Maryland Nonprofits 2013 Legislative Preview – The preview will take place on January 7th from 8:30am - 12:30pm. Olga moved to send Al and Pat to the event. Jim Bardsley seconded. Motion was passed. Olga also moved to allow Denitra to attend if she wishes. Jen seconded. Motion was passed.

Mid Atlantic RC&D Teleconference – Bill's responsibility – Bill Clark has been chosen as the voting delegate to represent Southern Maryland RC&D during the Mid-Atlantic RC&D Teleconference. He will be asked to approve the Secretary/Treasurer position be combined as one.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce presented the Treasurer Report. Olga moved to accept it. Bill seconded. The report will be filed for audit. There is a CD due to mature in April.

Al mentioned that the Navy has funds to do work on Patuxent River Base if we get the permits.

Review Previous Minutes

Bruce moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mike seconded. Motion was passed.

Mini Grant Application

Olga reported that a Mini-Grant application was received in the office from a Boy Scout. He is requesting the grant to help off-set the cost for material to construct a wooden pen for the temporary housing of sick, injured and orphaned deer. Olga moved to accept the grant request. Jill seconded. Motion was passed.

Seminars

Bill reported that the Gravel Road Training that was discussed at a previous RC&D board meeting would cost too much to put on. He thought maybe it would be a good idea to hold a soil health seminar in St. Mary's County. There is money to put on a seminar that RC&D received through a grant years ago. Bill said that we should figure out what kind of seminar would be beneficial to the community. Al said the RC&D has \$7,200 which came from the Potomac Heritage Partnership and Farm Service Agency back in 2006 for putting on an ag-tourism seminar. The Gravel Road Training would be beneficial to farmers and county planning offices. Luis said to check with Chaney or Howlin for co-sponsors. Olga said to check with College of Southern Maryland in La Plata for a

room. Robert Jarboe moved for Al to proceed. Olga seconded. Motion was passed. Pat said we need to become pro-active and get RC&D's name out in the public.

National RC&D

The National RC&D will be highlighting councils on their website with success stories. It was mentioned that we could do a story on the Navy projects partnership. Al & Denitra will draft up an article and send it to the Board to review. Jen moved to go ahead with Navy as the project topic. Luis seconded. Motion was passed.

Office Associate Items

Denitra reported on the following:

Southern MD RC&D Pamphlet & Brochure – The RC&D pamphlet and brochure needs to be updated. Instead of having both items it was decided to go with the tri-fold pamphlet. Al and Denitra will work to update it.

Annual Report Draft – She was hoping to have a draft copy to share. We are waiting for the audit to be finalized and then it should be ready to be distributed.

Annual Dinner (Calvert County)

Dinner Committee – Jen, Jill, Bill and Danielle will serve on the committee.

Award Committee – Olga and Bruce will serve on the committee.

Jen suggested limiting the number of awards given out. Bill will do a Powerpoint presentation.

Science Fairs – **Judges Needed**

Calvert – February 23rd – Jill and Olga will judge.

Charles – March 9th – Olga will judge.

St. Mary's – February 2nd – Pat and Bruce will judge.

Brain Battles Update – Olga and Denitra judged projects at the Brain Battle Competition.

(At this point, the Board introduced themselves to the new members)

Charles County History Day – March 22-23, 2013 - McDonough High School – We will participate again this year.

Executive Director Items

Al reported on the following:

Project & Program Updates – He asked if there were any questions from his report. There were none.

Al met with the Navy on the Solomons Dredge project and they accepted the final plans. Construction should start in September and be complete in December 2013. It will be 4,000 yards of dredging and 800 feet of shoreline.

Vital Community Connectors – St. Mary’s funds about 26 non-profits. Commissioners want to zero out non-profits in two years. Non-Profit organizations formed a coalition to inform the community of what non-profits do for St. Mary’s County. Al asked that if anyone knows their County Commissioners personally to explain to them what RC&D does for their county. Robert said we need some project partners to tell the Commissioners what RC&D is doing also. Bill said knowing the head of the finance department helps too. Olga said that Pat and a board member should go to each county commissioner for a meeting. Al will send fact sheet about RC&D to the Board. Robert said that the staff is running the County. We have to do a show and tell to the Commissioners.

Annual Plan of Work – We need one member from each county to be on the committee. Categories are Community Development, Land Conservation, Land Management and water management. The following volunteered:

Anne Arundel – Jim

St. Mary’s – Bruce

Calvert – Bill

Charles - Luis

MillBrook – Historical Road Sign request was denied by MD Department of Planning. John Downs asked if the \$2,000 for a brochure that was received from the Charles County Antique Arts Association & Southern Maryland Heritage could be used for placing a sign at the site. The brochure has been on hold because the Silbaughs do not want to put an easement on the property. Al will need to contact Charles County Arts Association and Southern Maryland Heritage to see if the Silbaughs can use the funds to purchase a sign. John said he told Marilyn to check on the kinds of sign and get a quote to him. It was suggested to also check sign ordinance rules with the County. Luis said to ask if the money can be used for other grist mill items not specifically the sign. The Silbaughs wanted to know how come the MOU was not a good enough document for the Mill instead of having an Easement. If the funds were coming from private funders you might not need an Easement. The Maryland Environmental Trust grant requires an Easement. The County is requesting a study that needs to be done on the mill. The cost for the study is too expensive for the owners. The MOU should be reviewed by an attorney. Al will contact the agencies about the funds and John will contact Marilyn Silbaugh and see what’s going on.

RC&D Monitoring Reports for Solomons South and North Projects – Bill reported that the shoreline will be put in and the marsh maintenance plan will need to be monitored for five years. He said RC&D can do the monitoring. RC&D can make \$8,500 for monitoring and reporting. Olga moved to allow RC&D to submit a proposal to the Navy to monitor the sites. Jill seconded. Motion was passed.

For the Good of All

Bruce said that four County Commissioners are on board for the finishing of the Ag Building. Funds should be available July 1.

Olga asked the District Managers what benefits they get from NRCS. Bruce said that St. Mary’s has a staff person present most days (DC or RC) that can answer farmers questions on Federal programs, but have limited engineering support for large bmp’s.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.

Reviewed and Submitted for Council
Approval By:

Bruce Young
Secretary/Treasurer

Prepared by Denitra Brawner, Office Associate