

**Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board**  
**May 21, 2014**  
**Department of Forestry, Charlottesville, Virginia**

**Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Members Present**

Herbert L. Dunford, Jr. Chair	Daphne W. Jamison, Vice Chair
Joan DuBois	Gary Hornbaker
Jerry L. Ingle	Stephen R. Lohr
Raymond L. Simms	Richard A. Street
Darryl Glover for Clyde Cristman, DCR Director, Ex Officio	
John A. Bricker, NRCS, Ex Officio	

**Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Members Not Present**

Thomas M. Branin	C. Frank Brickhouse, Jr.
Wanda J. Thornton	

**DCR Staff Present**

David C. Dowling	Michael R. Fletcher
George Chieffo	Debbie Cross
Stephanie Martin	Robert Bennett
Gary Moore	

**Others Present**

Kelci Block, Office of the Attorney General  
Lynn Rhode, Office of the Attorney General  
Katie Frazier, Virginia Agribusiness Council  
Ann Jennings, Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
Martha Moore, Virginia Farm Bureau  
Katie Hellebush, Virginia Grain Producers Association  
Ben Roe, Virginia Grain Producers Association  
Julie Morris, Department of Planning and Budget  
Sharon Connor, Hanover-Caroline SWCD  
Monira Rifaat, Culpeper SWCD  
Greg Wilchelns, Culpeper SWCD  
Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper SWCD  
Kendall Tyree, VASWCD

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairman Dunford called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.

**Minutes of April 4, 2014 and April 24, 2014**

MOTION: Mr. Lohr moved that the minutes of the April 4, 2014 and April 24, 2014 meetings of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board be approved as submitted by staff.

SECOND: Mr. Hornbaker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried with Mr. Simms abstaining

### **Director's Report**

Mr. Glover gave the following report on behalf of Mr. Cristman.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, on behalf of Agency Director Clyde E. Cristman, please accept this Director's Report. Director Cristman sends his regrets. He is with the Governor today on a trip that includes a visit to one of the Department's State Parks.

#### ***Department Recruitment***

We are pleased to report that interviews for the Deputy Director of Administration and Finance have been completed and we expect to have that position filled very soon. We also plan to advertise for the Deputy Director of Soil and Water Conservation and Dam Safety soon. As a result of three unsuccessful recruitment attempts, the Agricultural BMP Engineer position will be upgraded and re-advertised.

#### ***DCR and NRCS Meeting***

Director Clyde Cristman and NRCS State Conservationist Jack Bricker met on May 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss programmatic issues affecting both agencies and agreed to begin meeting on a regular basis.

#### ***Meeting with Secretary and Agricultural Industry Representatives***

Secretary of Natural Resources Molly Ward, her deputies, Director Cristman, and myself [Darryl Glover] met with agricultural industry representatives on May 13<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the need for increased agricultural cost-share in FY16, operational and technical assistance funding needed by Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), additional stream exclusion funding needed to eliminate the \$11.8 million backlog (as of May 2, 2014), as well as marketing of Resource Management Plans.

#### ***Resource Management Plans Program***

Resource Management Plans (RMPs) are on track for the scheduled launch date of July 1. We have had good attendance thus far by SWCD Technical Review Committee (TRC) members at the training sessions we have been conducting this month. In fact, we have had to offer two additional TRC training sessions, an extra one tomorrow here at the Department of Forestry in Charlottesville, where sessions will be held at both 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and a make-up session on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Farm Bureau office in Henrico County. The module project is advancing smoothly. VITA has completed most of the review steps required prior to project initiation. Authorization from VITA to sign a contract is expected very shortly. The pilot project is also moving forward on five farms, one of which will soon move into a test TRC phase with the affected SWCD. A revised RMP brochure has been printed and the RMP website is active. Also, we are working together with the Secretary of Natural Resources' office and agricultural industry representatives to seek Governor McAuliffe's participation in an interview by the Farm Bureau that will help to launch RMPs.

### ***District Budget Template***

The FY16 budget template was distributed on May 12<sup>th</sup> with a SWCD completion due date of June 15<sup>th</sup>. The template will help DCR to develop a request to increase base funding for SWCD operations in FY16 so that SWCDs can have adequate stable funding for enough staff to administer all of the programs they partner with DCR on, including RMPs. We will discuss this further later in the agenda.

### ***Agricultural Cost-Share Program***

Updates to the Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Tracking Program for Program Year 2015 have been made. Upon approval of the Cost-Share/Technical Assistance policy that will be before the Board today for consideration, the document will be included in the Agricultural BMP Manual that is being prepared for distribution. Our annual cost-share training is scheduled to begin in June.

### ***Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan Progress***

The 2014-2015 Chesapeake Bay milestones have been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Progress through 2013 shows Virginia on track to meet sediment reduction targets for agriculture, but needing more progress on both nitrogen and phosphorus from agriculture according to the Bay models. Also, DCR staff is participating on a Chesapeake Bay Program workgroup on functional equivalency, which will now be referred to as resource improvements. Maryland will initially pilot this concept with input from other Bay states, using a selected set of alternative BMP designs that do not meet Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards with the goal of demonstrating that reduced pollution reduction credit in the Chesapeake Bay model is justified.

### ***Nutrient Management Plan Program***

Finally, we are beginning to make some progress in having nutrient management plans written on golf courses. We have 35 written to date. Grants have been awarded to write nutrient

management plans on 100 golf courses. We are also contracting to have nutrient plans written on small (unpermitted) dairies using \$100K of Bay Grant funds. Nutrient Management certification training will again be held in July (8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>) at Wytheville Community College.

### **Review and approval of District funding allocation policies and grant agreements**

#### ***Policy on Soil and Water Conservation District Administration and Operations Funding Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015***

Mr. Dowling addressed the Policy on Soil and Water Conservation District Administration and Operations Funding Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015.

Mr. Dowling said that most of these issues had been discussed at the April 24 meeting. He said the Board discussions and concerns were reflected in this version. Mr. Dowling also noted the recommended insertion on page 6 of the Policy of “or other subject experts” in the training bullet under “Other Support Expenses Include (\$23,430):”

Mr. Dowling said that the recommended motion addressed the framework for the Policy. He said that a final budget from the General Assembly could change the numbers but that staff would like to have a Policy in place to be able to move forward once a budget is approved.

Mr. Ingle asked Mr. Dowling to elaborate on what other official budget direction might be.

Mr. Dowling said that while he could not provide specifics on the potential intent of the General Assembly or the Governor with regard to making budgetary adjustments, the motion would give DCR flexibility to update the Policy should fiscal revisions be necessary. He said that he had no knowledge of plans for such revisions.

Mr. Dunford asked if the Board would be informed if there were changes.

Mr. Dowling said that staff would inform the Board, but any further Board action would require calling an additional meeting. He said that he would be communicating the entire process to the Board.

MOTION: Ms. Jamison moved the following:

#### ***Motion for the Board to approve the Policy on Soil and Water Conservation District Administration and Operations Funding Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015.***

A. In accordance with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board’s (Board) responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-505 of the *Code of Virginia* and in reflection of the reintroduced 2014 Appropriation Act as amended, the Board approves the ***Policy on Soil and Water Conservation District Administration and Operations Funding Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015.***

B. The Director is authorized to adjust fiscal amounts and budget language included in this Policy to conform with final State budget appropriations and language or to other official budget direction provided to the Agency. Such Policy will note the date revised.

SECOND: Mr. Lohr

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

***Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District in (Department District) Grant Agreement: Administrative and Operational Support from the Commonwealth of Virginia***

Mr. Dowling said that the grant agreement paralleled the Policy. He said that issuance of these agreements was contingent upon the passage of the Appropriations Act. He said that DCR would not be able to send out contracts to Districts until action on a final budget has been taken by the General Assembly and the Governor or the Department has received other specific budget direction.

MOTION: Mr. Hornbaker moved the following:

***Motion for the Board to approve the Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (Department/District) Grant Agreement: Administrative and Operational Support from the Commonwealth of Virginia.***

A. In accordance with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board's (Board) responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-505 of the *Code of Virginia* and in reflection of the reintroduced 2014 Appropriation Act as amended, the Board approves the ***Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (Department/District) Grant Agreement: Administrative and Operational Support from the Commonwealth of Virginia.***

B. The Board recognizes that execution of these agreements, and the amounts included therein, is contingent upon the passage of the 2014 Appropriation Act or other official budget direction provide to the Agency.

SECOND: Mr. Simms

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

***Policy and Procedures on Soil and Water Conservation District Cost-Share and Technical Assistance Funding Allocations (Fiscal Year 2015)***

Mr. Dowling presented the Policy and Procedures on Soil and Water Conservation District Cost-Share and Technical Assistance Funding Allocations (Fiscal Year 2015). He noted that the version provided in member packets had been revised slightly. He noted that refinements in the District SL-6 funding distributions in the Outside the Chesapeake Bay Area had been made in the Policy based on conversations with Districts (Page 13, Table 7, Column 5).

At the request of Mr. Ingle, a sentence on page 19 of the Policy under “10. Allocations Process for Technical Assistance:” was amended to read “This base (or constant) represents the FY13 level at which Districts delivered services”.

MOTION: Mr. Lohr moved the following:

**Motion for the Board to approve the *Policy and Procedures on Soil and Water Conservation District Cost-Share and Technical Assistance Funding Allocations (Fiscal Year 2015)*.**

A. In accordance with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board’s (Board) responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-546.1 of the *Code of Virginia* and in reflection of the reintroduced 2014 Appropriation Act as amended, the Board approves the ***Policy and Procedures on Soil and Water Conservation District Cost-Share and Technical Assistance Funding Allocations (Fiscal Year 2015)***.

B. The Director is authorized to adjust fiscal amounts and budget language included in this Policy to conform with final State budget appropriations and language or to other official budget direction provided to the Agency. Such Policy will note the date revised.

SECOND: Mr. Hornbaker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

***Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (Department District) Grant Agreement: Cost-share and Technical Assistance from the Commonwealth of Virginia.***

Mr. Dowling said that the language was similar to the previous grant agreement.

Ms. Martin said that there were changes to Attachment C based on the recommendations of the Summer Study group subcommittee.

MOTION: Mr. Simms moved the following:

**Motion for the Board to approve the *Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (Department/District) Grant Agreement: Cost-share and Technical Assistance from the Commonwealth of Virginia.***

A. In accordance with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board's (Board) responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-546.1 of the *Code of Virginia* and in reflection of the reintroduced 2014 Appropriation Act as amended, the Board approves the ***Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (Department/District) Grant Agreement: Cost-share and Technical Assistance from the Commonwealth of Virginia***

B. The Board recognizes the execution of these agreements, and the amounts included therein, is contingent upon the passage of the 2014 Appropriation Act or other official budget direction provided to the Agency.

SECOND: Mr. Lohr

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

#### **District FY 16 Budget Template Consideration**

Mr. Dowling said that the Policy approved in 2013 provided a delivery date for the completion of the Board funding template by Districts. He said that some Districts were likely unable to meet the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. He said that staff was therefore requesting an extension mechanism for those Districts.

MOTION: Mr. Lohr moved the following:

#### **Motion for the Board to Authorize Director to Approve Budget Template Hardship Extension.**

In accordance with the Board's responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-505 of the Code of Virginia and Item 360 A.1 of Chapter 806 of the 2013 Virginia Acts of Assembly, the Board adopted on May 9, 2013 a Policy titled *Policy on Soil and Water Conservation District Administration and Operations Funding Allocations for Fiscal Year 2014*, which required in it the associated executed Grant Agreements, the requirement for the Districts to "[s]ubmit a completed Itemized District Budget Request Form to the Department by...June 15, 2014 for Fiscal Year 2016."

Understanding that extenuating circumstances may exist in some Districts, the Board authorizes the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to approve upon a District's request, on a case-by-case basis, a hardship extension up to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The District shall make such request to the Director and provide an explanation of their District's extenuating circumstances.

SECOND: Ms. DuBois

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

**Review and Action regarding Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Board Appointment Recommendations**

Dr. Tyree noted that in accordance with the *Code of Virginia* § 10.1-502 the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts had submitted the following recommendations for consideration of appointment to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board:

AREA I  
Stephen Lohr  
Ward Robens

AREA IV  
Jerry Ingle  
Charles Shorter

Biographical material for these recommendations was provided in member packets.

MOTION: Ms. Jamison moved that the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board accept the appointment recommendations as presented by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Board of Directors.

SECOND: Ms. DuBois

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

Ms. DuBois asked if the motion should say that the Board both accepted and concurred with the recommendations.

MOTION: Ms. DuBois moved that the above motion be amended to say that the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board accepts and concurs with the appointment recommendations made by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors.

SECOND: Ms. Jamison

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

**Dam Safety and Floodplain Management**

Mr. Bennett gave the report for the Division of Dam Safety and Floodplain Management.

Mr. Bennett said that on April 4<sup>th</sup> a bill went into effect that would direct DCR to conduct a study of the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) values that are used in the design and rehabilitation of dams, in particular emergency spillway design. The current values being used are based on data that is 40 years old. He said that a special enactment clause allowed the bill to go into effect upon the Governor's signature. This will provide the funding to allow DCR to sign a contract with the company performing the studies. The study must be completed by December 1, 2015.

Mr. Bennett said that Board members were now being included in the newsletter. He said that the newsletter announces trainings and announces the next grant round. He said that the dam owners' handbook has been distributed around the state.

Mr. Bennett gave a brief update regarding the Floodplain program.

#### **DCR Floodplain Management**

- DCR coordinates between FEMA National Flood Insurance Program & 288 Virginia Localities
- 115,000 Flood Insurance Policies
- \$28 billion in coverage
- \$84 million in premiums in Virginia, \$3.35 billion nationally

#### **2012 Bigger Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act passed**

- Full actuarial rates upon sale of pre-FIRM building in high risk areas to address debt - \$24 billion

#### **March 21, 2014, President signed into law the Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act**

- Slower path to full risk rate
- Refunds
- Annual surcharge until subsidized rates are eliminated \$25 for primary home \$250 for other
- Establishes an 18% annual cap on rate increases on individual property
- 25% for non-primary residence, business, severe repetitive loss, substantially damaged property

#### **Community Rating System**

- Communities can lower flood insurance rates by 10% to 50%
- Floodplain ordinances with higher standards

- Adopt hazard mitigation plan
- Require Elevation Certificates on as built construction
- Locality staff can take NFIP classes offered by DCR

Mr. Bennett reviewed the list of high hazard dams provided to members. A copy of this list is available from DCR.

Mr. Bennett reviewed the enforcement report. He noted that with regard to the Foley dams that Mr. Foley was no longer the owner. All of the dams have been given a size exemption, an agricultural exemption, or a conservation easement. The owners are working to bring the dams into compliance.

Mr. Dunford asked about Little Lake Arrowhead.

Mr. Bennett said that DCR had successfully advanced legislation that says if a group such as a property owners association owns a dam; if the group is dissolved, the dam may not be abandoned. Either the dam must be decommissioned or transferred to a responsible third party. While this does not address Lake Arrowhead, DCR is working with Stafford County regarding the dam. The members of the former property owners association were invited to a public meeting. DCR staff explained that the dam would either need to be brought into compliance or that the dam would be breached.

Mr. Ingle asked about additional funding for Rainbow Forest Dam.

Mr. Bennett said that Rainbow Forest has already received \$500,000 through General Assembly appropriations but was requesting an additional \$270,000.

Mr. Dowling said that the current budget amendments remove that amount.

Mr. Bennett gave a report of the SWCD Planning Committee for Dam Rehabilitation.

**Purpose: Establish a SWCD and state owned High Hazard Dam rehabilitation program**

**How many dams?**

12 SWCDs own 104 dams total

- 71 are currently high hazard
- 45 of the 71 need rehabilitation to meet minimum public safety standards

**State owns 88 dams total**

- 29 are currently high hazard
- 23 of the 29 need rehabilitation to meet minimum public safety standards

### **What is wrong with these dams?**

- Failure of High Hazard Dams will cause probable loss of life or serious economic damage
- Inadequate spillway capacity to safely pass large storms will allow dam overtopping and failure
- These High Hazard Dams need rehabilitation to safely handle large storms and reduce probability of overtopping failure

### **Many ways exist to fix these dams.**

- The method chosen must take into account the unique conditions at the dam. Most dams use a combination of repair methods as follows:
  1. Widen the emergency spillway
  2. Add storage volume by raising top of dam
  3. Structurally harden the dam and/or emergency spillway

### **Other issues that may need to be fixed**

1. Riser towers not sized for earthquake loads
2. Gravel roads crossing Emergency Spillway downstream from control section
3. Roads across top of dam
4. Roads or driveways in Emergency Spillway
5. Utility poles on dam or in Emergency Spillway
6. Seepage
7. Slope failure on dam or in plunge pool
8. Trees on dams or in 25 foot buffer area

Mr. Bennett reviewed a list of High Hazard SWCD dams in need of rehabilitation. That list is available from DCR.

### **Staffing Recommended**

1<sup>st</sup> Year – 6 FTE Employees

1 – Project Manager (PE)

1 – Contract Specialist

1 – Design Engineer (PE)

1 – Construction Engineer (PE)

1 – Civil Engineering Technician

1 – Clerical

Duties – Apply IDA & ACER 11 where needed & start 3 dams into the planning process.

2<sup>nd</sup> Year – Total Staff 6 FTEs

1 – Project Manager (PE)

- 1 – Contract Specialist
- 1 – Design Engineer (PE)
- 1 – Construction Engineer (PE)
- 1 – Civil Engineering Technician
- 1 – Clerical

Duties – 3 additional dams in planning with 3 dams being designed.

### **Conclusions**

Potential Source: Bond Funding

District Dam rehabilitation: \$167 million

State Owned Dam rehabilitation: \$7.8 million

Mr. Simms asked if any of the state or district-owned dams had been declared unnecessary.

Mr. Bennett said none that he was aware of. He said that NRCS works to determine the economic benefits of the older NRCS flood control dams. He said that NRCS has the necessary numbers to justify the value.

Mr. Bricker said that with any NRCS structure, once the structure has met the economic life, the owner may elect to breach the dams. However there are liability concerns and concerns with future funding.

Mr. Simms asked if the definition of high hazard dam had changed.

Mr. Bennett said that the means of classification had changed, but the basic definition was similar.

### **Approval of Dam Safety and Floodplain Protection Assistance Fund Grants**

Mr. Bennett said that the list of grant applications had been provided to members in their packet mailing. He said that DCR had worked with the distribution of the 2014 grants manual, and publicized the grants through newsletter and other means. He said that there were a total of 86 applicants. Three were not eligible and one was withdrawn.

Mr. Bennett said that in addition to the \$500,000, an additional amount was allocated by the General Assembly for Headwaters SWCD. He said that the total amount awarded was \$900,000. He noted that the project cost of all applications was a little over \$6.4 million.

MOTION: Mr. Ingle moved the following:

**Motion for the Board to approve 2014 Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund grant projects and funding allocations.**

A. In accordance with its responsibilities pursuant to § 10.1-603.16 et seq. (Article 1.2) of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (Board) approves the projects for funding from the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund (DSFPPAF) in the amounts specified in the attached spreadsheet. In addition to other terms and conditions as specified in the 2014 DSFPPAF Grant Manual, the Grant Agreement, and as will be determined by the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA), this approval is conditioned upon the following:

1. All grants are made on a reimbursement basis and will be governed by a Grant Agreement developed in consultation with the Virginia Resources Authority. All applicants will be given a period of 90 days to enter into a Grant Agreement following the Agreement being sent. The Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) is authorized to further extend this date in its discretion and following consultation with VRA.
2. All grant agreements will require that projects be completed within 12 months of the date of execution of the Agreement. Upon receipt of a written request for a project extension with a specialized completion date by the Grantee to the Department with a copy to VRA, the Department is authorized to consider such request and may amend the terms of the Agreement and allow a specified extension upon the Department's and the Authority's written approval.
3. In the event that any of the above applicants fail to execute a Grant Agreement with VRA within 90 days of such an Agreement being sent to the applicant, the Department, in consultation with VRA, is authorized to distribute grant funds not utilized by that applicant, among other approved Grantees who did not receive the total amounts of their requests.
4. Special Grant Funds for Upper North River #10 (Todd Lake dam) will be disbursed by VRA after the funds are received by the Department and transferred to VRA pursuant to Item 357 I of the 2014 Appropriations Act, Special Session I, and other Agreement terms have been satisfied.

The Department is authorized to communicate this approval to the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA) so that VRA's review of applications may proceed. The Department is also authorized to take any action necessary to proceed with the closing and administration of grants subsequent to VRA's approval of the application.

B. The approval granted in Subsection A of this motion is contingent upon appropriate Appropriation Act authority being granted to allow for grants to private owners of dams and upon the availability of the funding amounts outline on the attached spreadsheet. The Department is authorized to adjust award amounts pursuant to final State budget appropriations and authorities.

SECOND: Mr. Lohr

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

## **Soil and Water Conservation**

*Board review/approval of BMPs eligible for (Virginia) Agricultural best management practices tax credit (58.1-339.3 Code of Virginia)*

Ms. Martin said that the approval of the BMPs eligible for best management tax credit was an annual approval given by the Board. She said that the Code of Virginia speaks to the standards and criteria. She noted that with the move of some programs to DEQ from DCR the action needed to be slightly different. She noted that the programs now at DEQ were no longer part of the Board's BMP cost-share manual. She noted that DEQ has determined that they will publish their own manual with grants and policies.

Ms. Martin said that the motion would allow DCR the ability to discuss the tax credits with DEQ, obtain their list of agricultural BMPs, and to insert that list into the DCR manual as a reference.

Mr. Hornbaker said that he would like to see a specific date applied to the motion. The motion was amended to address FY15.

MOTION: Mr. Hornbaker moved the following:

### **Board review/approval of BMPs for FY15 eligible for (Virginia) Agricultural best management tax credit (§58.1-339.3 Code of Virginia)**

From the presented list of agricultural best management practices (BMPs), the Board approves those identified as suitable for a credit, as eligible for an Agricultural best management practices tax credit as provided for by § 58.1-339.3 of the *Code of Virginia*. Further, the Board authorizes the Director to work with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to append this approved list to include DEQ agricultural TMDL BMPs that also merit tax credit eligibility for FY15. The completed list shall be included in the 2015 Virginia Agricultural BMP Manual (published by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, effective July 1, 2014).

SECOND: Mr. Street

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

## **Partner Reports**

*Natural Resources Conservation Service*

Mr. Bricker gave the report for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Mr. Bricker noted that area meetings had just concluded.

Mr. Bricker noted that NRCS had been awarded \$250 million for dam rehabilitation nationally. He said that he had requested \$48 million for seven rehabilitation projects in Virginia.

Mr. Bricker said that the Secretary of Agriculture was scheduled to make an announcement in King George County regarding the resource conservation program.

#### *Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts*

Dr. Tyree said that the spring area meetings had concluded and had gone well. She said that the Association had moved into their education season. Over 1,700 students participated in the Envirothon with 16 advancing to state competition.

Dr. Tyree said that the youth conservation camp ties into the July training and Association Board meeting at Virginia Tech. She said that this was a quarterly Board meeting and that the Association would welcome members of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board to attend.

Dr. Tyree said that plans continue for the Association annual meeting in December. More information is forthcoming.

#### *Virginia Cooperative Extension*

There was no one present from Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Mr. Simms asked if it would be possible for one of the district extension agents to attend the meetings.

Mr. Dowling said that staff would pursue that.

Dr. Tyree noted that Dr. Grisso was apologetic but his schedule would not allow his attendance. He said that Extension does want to be a part of the process.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no further public comment.

#### **New Business**

Mr. Dowling said that with regard to travel requirements and reimbursements that staff would be providing the Board with acceptable state per diem rates when overnight accommodations were required. He said that DCR was not able to reimburse above that state rate.

#### **Next Meeting**

Staff was asked to poll the Board regarding meeting dates in late July or early August.

**Adjourn**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert L. Dunford, Jr.  
Chair

Clyde E. Cristman  
DCR Director