



South Centré Corridors Resource Conservation and Development Council

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“The mission of South Centré Corridors RC&D is to develop partnerships to advocate and promote the conservation, preservation and development of our resources to enhance the quality of life in the region.”

Council Members:

City of Hopewell
Brenda S. Pelham
Robyn Thompson

City of Petersburg
Ron Reekes
Dama Rice

Dinwiddie County
Daniel Lee
Susan A. Watkins

Greenville County
Linda Clements
Linwood Pope

Prince George County
Jerry Skalsky
Paul Douglas Holc

Southampton County
M. L. Everett, Jr.
Walter L. Young III

Sussex County
Mary E. Jones
Crockett Morris

**Appomattox River
Soil and Water
Conservation District**
Granville Maitland
Bonnie Thompson

**Chowan Basin Soil and
Water Conservation
District**
Gary Cross
Stacey Bradshaw

**James River Soil and
Water Conservation
District**
Donald A. Bagshaw
W. D. Kreider

**Crater Planning District
Commission**
F. Woodrow Harris
Victor Liu

At-Large
Linda McAllister

Council Meeting

September 27, 2007 6:30pm

Eley's Barbecue Restaurant

Petersburg, VA

Members Present:

Victor Liu Susan Watkins Linda Clements Stacey Bradshaw

Others Present: Patrick Vincent, Anthony Howell, Reggie Owens, and Meredith Wilson

I. Welcome: Vice Chair Stacey Bradshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting and had everyone introduced him/herself for the benefit of guests.

II. Secretary's Report: Not enough members attended for a quorum so the Report will be voted on at the next meeting.

III. Treasurer's Report: There is no report at this time.

IV. Chairman's Report: Chairman not present. There is no report at this time.

V. Coordinator's Report: Printed report to be accepted as part of the minutes. S. Bradshaw mentioned that apparently South Hampton Roads is proceeding with a roundtable against the wishes of Chowan Basin Roundtable. Southampton County will be included in this roundtable. Virginia Soil & Water Conservation Society is hosting a Biofuels Workshop on October 24th in Staunton. Petersburg hosts Friday for the Arts. This may be an opportunity to promote the council.

VI. NRCS Office Space: A. Howell, District Conservationist for NRCS in Prince George commented that NRCS and the RC&D office will possibly be moving into the Eastside Community Enhancement Center on Highway 1 in Dinwiddie along with Dinwiddie County FSA and Appomattox River SWCD. Currently the RC&D office is located in the space Farm Service Agency vacated a few months ago next door to the James River SWCD and Prince George County NRCS office.

VII. Old Business

- A. Well Capping RFP – P. Vincent spoke with Lin Pope regarding the wells to be capped. The work will be done any day now. Hopefully, the story will be published in the Independent Messenger in Emporia.
 - B. Annual Plan of Operations – An envelope is waiting in the office for Don Bagshaw's return presumably with the signed APO from the State Office. Chairman Bagshaw should be in the office to open it next week.
 - C. Council Credit Card – The council has received the credit card. It is being used.
- 2008 Southeastern Assoc of RC&D Conference – The conference will be held in Wytheville September 10-13, 2008 (Wednesday through Saturday). Hundreds of people are expected to attend. The mayor and the Office of Tourism for Wytheville attended the final day of the 2007 Conference to invite everyone to Wytheville next year. A minimum of 4 council members from each council are asked to attend and participate in planning for the meeting.

VIII. New Business

- A. Forestry Report – P. Vincent gave some forestry activity highlights. A. Cahoon is out on maternity leave. P. Vincent is handling the Forestry Committee in her absence. The next Forestry Committee meeting will be held October 25. Chris Asaro, Forestry Health Specialist will be the guest speaker to talk about forest diseases. The Small Woodlot Management Workshop was a success. On October 19th the 31st Annual Fall Forestry & Wildlife Tour will be held in Prince George & Surry Counties. The tour will visit Smurfit-Stone mill in Hopewell and the JEJ Moore Middle School Nature Trail. No officers have been established for the Forestry Committee, but will be soon.

“Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer”

- B. 2007 Southeastern Assoc. RC&D Meeting – B. Pelham, L. McAllister, S. Bradshaw, and P. Vincent attended the conference in Asheville in early September. Over 600 people were in attendance. North Carolina put a lot of work into this meeting. It showed how much work will be needed for the next meeting Virginia is hosting in Wytheville next year. There was a good motivational speaker. S. Bradshaw attended two sessions on Outdoor Classrooms - one by a Native American tribe in Georgia, the other, L. McAllister and S. Bradshaw presented information on the JEJ Moore Middle School Trail. About 18 people attended the session.
- C. Mini-Grant Applications – The Budget Committee recommended a pilot project to provide funding for area teachers teaching environmental subjects. Each mini-grant is for \$500. One will be awarded to each school system in our council area. A letter notifying the Superintendent of the available funding will be sent out next week. Also, it is okay to inform teachers that you know of the availability of the funding. Discussion was held about private schools. At this time private schools will not be able to receive funding. Mini-grant applications are due by November 15th. Decisions as to who receives the funding will be made by January. The projects this money will fund need to be included within this school year.
- D. Low Impact Development Awareness – V. Liu, D. Lee, and P. Vincent met to address storm water issues. Low impact development is a new approach to storm water issues. V. Liu mentioned perhaps the council may host workshops to demonstrate what low impact development is. People need to be educated on the subject.
- E. Annual Report – Draft copies of the Annual Report were handed out to everyone in attendance. P. Vincent asked council members to preview the report and notify the office of any necessary changes by Wednesday of next week.
- F. NARC&D Circle of Diamonds – The Circle of Diamonds is a Standard of Excellence program through the National Association. Four out of the 6 Virginia Councils are in the Circle of Diamonds. To get involved the council must apply, give examples of community work, and give references. If the application is rejected, the National Association will give suggestions on how to qualify. P. Vincent will contact the other Virginia Councils about what they included in their applications.

Additional Items

- A) Reggie Owens from Greensville was present for Lin Pope. Reggie Owens will be working for Greensville County along with RC&D to develop the Uriah Branch Wellness Trail. S. Bradshaw and R. Owens will be working together to secure other funding from grants to help with the trail. V. Liu suggested some tips for completing a DCR grant application and a VDOT grant. Vincent also suggested looking into grants from the Tobacco Commission. Also, S. Bradshaw and R. Owens will attend the Southeastern Virginia Trails Symposium October 19th at Paul D. Camp Community College Workforce Development Center.
- B) Everyone is invited to attend the Southeastern Virginia Trails Symposium on October 19th. Northern Limits, Restoring the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem in Virginia will be presented October 23 & 24, 2007 at the Southeast 4-H Conference Center in Wakefield, VA

The meeting was adjourned by S. Bradshaw, Vice Chair.

Meredithe J. Wilson, Recorder

Mary E. Jones, Secretary

Donald Bagshaw, Chair