



Richland Soil and Water Conservation District

2020 Hampton Street, Room 3063A

Columbia, SC 29204

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February 6, 2020

Special Called Meeting

2:00pm

Commissioners Present

Kenny Mullis, Chair

Jim Rhodes, Secretary/Treasurer

Hemphill Pride

Associates Present

Mary Burts

Others Present

Quinton Epps, Conservation Division Manager

Chanda Cooper, Education Program Coordinator

Charlie Fisher, Administrative Assistant

Mary Hannah Lindsay, RSWCD Education Program Assistant

Commissioner Laney notified the office he was not able to attend due to illness.

Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Mullis called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rhodes moved to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by

Commissioner Pride and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Rhodes moved to approve the Minutes of November 18, 2019 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pride and approved unanimously.

Board Realignment/Commissioner Recommendations

Chairman Mullis explained due to the resignation of Heath Hill who was Appointed, Commissioner Jeff Laney has decided he would prefer to move into the Appointed Position and then Associate Commissioner Mary Burts has agreed to serve the remainder of Commissioner Laney's elected term. Commissioner Laney has provided a letter of resignation for his elected position. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to nominate

Jeff Laney to serve the remainder of Heath Hill's term and Mary Burts to serve the balance of Jeff Laney's now vacant Elected Position. Motion carried. Applications and Resumes have been provided by Commissioner Laney and Associate Commissioner Burts.

Forestry Workshop Sponsorships

Kershaw SWCD is sponsoring a Forest Health & Invasive Species Workshop on March 19 and has requested sponsorship assistance. In the past Kershaw SWCD has contributed \$800 in co-sponsorships with RSWCD programs. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to provide a \$300 sponsorship to Kershaw. Motion carried.

Richland County Ag & Art Tour Sponsorship

Ms. Cooper reported the tour will be held June 6-7 this year and already has a better support system than last year. The successful tour which promotes agri-tourism was well received and attended by 1,273 visitors; 36% of the visitors were from out of the county. Last year RSWCD contributed \$200.00. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to provide a \$300 sponsorship. Motion carried.

Purple Martin Sponsorship

RSWCD received a letter asking for support of the April 25 festival in St. Matthews. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to contribute \$100 in support. Commissioner Pride seconded the motion which carried.

Extraneous Equipment

Cannon Printer

The printer purchased in 2013, was only used two times and was purchased with Organic Richland Cooperative Agreement funds. Staff recommends donating the printer to the Richland County Conservation Commission (RCCC) to use at Pinewood Lake Park. RCCC pays for the majority of office supplies and the copier used in the office.

iPhone V

The phone was used by Mike Newman and purchased with 319 grant funds. Staff is requesting permission to donate or recycle. Commissioner Rhodes suggested donating the phone to the Veterans who provide cards to soldiers to call back home. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to donate the phone to the Vets and let the Cannon Printer be used at Pinewood Lake Park. Motion carried.

Friends of NACD Grant

Ms. Lindsay developed a proposal and applied to Friends of NACD for a grant to establish a seed library where people get free seeds to start their gardens. The \$2,500 grant was approved yesterday. This is one of four grants awarded. Pending Richland SWCD approval, Ms. Lindsay will be the signature on the grant's acceptance letter. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to accept the grant. Motion carried.

Education Program Assistant Contract

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Pride to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to move out of Executive Session. Commissioner Pride seconded the motion which carried. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to increase Ms. Lindsay's wage to \$15 an hour for 35 hours per week January 1 through August 15, 2020. Commissioner Pride seconded the motion which carried. Further research is necessary to determine how to handle 1099 vs. W-2. Ms. Lindsay's salary is partially supplemented by the SCACD Contribution Agreement.

Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 9, 2020 at the Lizard's Thicket on Beltline Blvd.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenny Mullis, Chair

Charlie Fisher, Admin. Asst./CC