



We work with the people who work the land.

DANIEL BOONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
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*MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2023*

The Daniel Boone Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors met Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at the Daniel Boone Soil & Water Conservation District office in Jonesville, Virginia at 6:00 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Roger Elkins
Amy Byington
Bobby Burchett
Gary Martin

ASSOCIATES PRESENT

Jason Miles

STAFF PRESENT

Samantha Briggs
Shawn Morris
Tim Miles
Liz Maggard

PARTNERS PRESENT

Jordan Southern

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mike Hobbs

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Roger Elkins, Chairman.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE:

Gary Martin/Everyone

REPORTS - OFFICERS: Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Reports

Roger Elkins asked the Board if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing no corrections, the minutes stand as distributed.

Roger Elkins asked the Board if there were any corrections to the Treasurer's report. Hearing none the February 21, 2023 Treasurer's report is submitted for record.

Gary Martin, Director, discussed the district's CD's. Samantha Briggs, Administrative Secretary, will check with Lee Bank and get the current rate and maturity date. She will also contact Jason Sturgill of Wells Fargo and Eastman Credit Union to compare. This item will be on the March agenda.

REPORTS – COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Shawn Morris, Technical Committee Chair, recommended approval of the attached list of conservation plans. A motion was made to approve the attached list of conservation plans. (Byington, Burchett, unanimous) A copy of the conservation plans list is attached and made a part of these minutes.

The Technical Committee also recommends approval of PY2023 VACS Program funding/tax credits for the attached list of contracts. A motion was made to approve the funding/tax credits for those contracts. (Byington, Martin, unanimous) A copy of the conservation project list, VACS Program report, and the committee minutes of meeting are attached and made a part of these minutes.

A verbal report of the ongoing activities of the Chairman was given by Roger Elkins.

A copy of the District Manager report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

A copy of the Conservation Specialist report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

A copy of the Conservation Technician report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

A verbal report of the ongoing activities of the Administrative Secretary was given by Samantha Briggs.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no progress to report on the maintenance on the Dodge Ram 2500 truck.

The board discussed the No-Till Seeder Position. Shawn Morris will have an update at the March board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed the Area IV Spring Meeting being held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at the Southwest VA 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon, Virginia. The deadline to pre-register for this event is Friday, March 10th, and the registration fee is \$25.00 per person. A motion was made to pre-register any directors, staff, or conservation partners attending the meeting. (Byington, Burchett, unanimous)

The board discussed the Virginia Tech Soil Judging donation request. A motion was made for the district to decline sponsorship at this time. (Byington, Martin, unanimous) Amy Byington, Vice-Chair, stated that she would contact Virginia Tech and have an update at the March board meeting.

The board discussed the Lee County Board of Supervisors (BOS) FY 2023-2024 Budget Request. The Budget Committee will meet on Friday, March 3, 2023. A motion was made to give the Budget Committee authority to approve and submit the budget request to the Lee County BOS. (Martin, Burchett, unanimous)

Samantha Briggs prepared a list from the Annual Plan of Work and Strategic Plan of things to be accomplished in FY 2022-2023. The Board of Directors and staff reviewed and discussed the list. A copy of the list is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Amy Byington, Vice-Chair, stated that the district needs to hold an agricultural community outreach event by the end of the fiscal year to satisfy a grant deliverable with DCR. The Community Outreach Committee will hold a committee meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 3:00 pm at the Daniel Boone SWCD office to plan this event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

A copy of the DCR Conservation District Coordinator report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

A copy of the NRCS District Conservationist report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

A verbal report of the ongoing activities of the Virginia Cooperative Extension was given by Amy Byington, Lee County ANR Extension Agent.

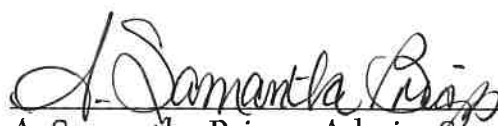
The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman of the Board.

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted By:


Roger Elkins, Chairman

03/28/2023
Date


A. Samantha Briggs, Admin. Sec.

Contract #	Practice	CEF	Cost-Share	Potential Piggyback
24-23-0069	SL-6W	11.55	\$127,508.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0088 (521884)	SL-6W	11.88	\$15,597.79	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0095	SL-6W	12.22	\$230,225.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0056	SL-6W	12.80	\$116,904.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0087	SL-6W	13.35	\$20,167.09	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0024	SL-6W	14.08	\$93,931.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0075	SL-6W	14.25	\$82,922.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0088 (521848)	SL-6W	14.63	\$11,580.97	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0051	SL-6W	16.16	\$41,160.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0085	SL-6W	16.97	\$17,934.85	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0099	SL-6W	17.81	\$115,825.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0088 (521794)	SL-6W	20.21	\$126,532.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0003	SL-6W	21.00	\$126,567.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0026	WP-4	21.19	\$131,895 (\$10,991.25)	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0094	SL-6W	21.35	\$105,060.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0086	SL-6W	21.39	\$164,909.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0071	SL-6W	21.62	\$92,586.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0072	SL-6W	21.72	\$12,436.73	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0076	SL-6W	22.02	\$196,327.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24-23-0098	SL-6W	22.38	\$84,328.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
2023 OCB VACS - \$1,957,748.96			Total - 1,914,399.43	

2020 VACS Program Report

CONTRACT #	Instance	Practice	Total Est Cost	Estimated Cost/Share	Survey	Design	Construc Begins	Percent Complete	Remarks
24-20-0001		SL-6W	\$74,870.00	\$79,214.00	Y	Y			Ms. Day has indicated she is thinking about cancelling her project
24-20-0003		SL-6W	\$19,150.00	\$19,402.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$19,252.30
24-20-0005		SL-6W	\$49,986.50	\$50,106.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$50,106.50
24-20-0006		SL-6W	\$48,670.00	\$49,342.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$49,342.00
24-20-0008		SL-6W	\$39,452.50	\$44,474.40	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$44,474.40
24-20-0009		SL-6W	\$76,565.00	\$80,309.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$80,095.80
24-20-0010		SL-7	\$45,185.00	\$33,888.75	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$33,888.75
24-20-0011		SL-6W	\$44,067.50	\$44,847.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$42,516.25
24-20-0014		WP-4	\$117,049.00	\$87,786.75	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$87,786.75
24-20-0018		WP-4	\$119,532.00	\$89,649.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid Paid \$89,649.00 and \$39,951.00 (\$129,600.00 total)
24-20-0025		WP-4	\$127,409.00	\$95,556.75	Y	Y			Engineer approved everything and I have the design on my desk.
24-20-0026		SL-6W	\$43,455.00	\$43,983.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$43,296.25
24-20-0029		SL-6W	\$47,027.50	\$47,819.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$47,819.50
24-20-0030		SL-6W	\$21,537.50	\$21,036.63	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$17,664.08
24-20-0032		SL-6W	\$54,286.50	\$54,742.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid. paid \$47,747.00
24-20-0033	378375	SL-7	\$24,095.00	\$18,071.25	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$17,383.54
24-20-0035		SL-6W	\$99,552.50	\$100,000.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$85,516.95
24-20-0036		SL-6W	\$76,080.00	\$76,740.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$69,742.95
24-20-0037		SL-6W	\$105,720.00	\$100,000.00	Y	Y	Y	5	No new progress on Mr. Long's project.
24-20-0041		SL-6W	\$62,510.00	\$63,110.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid Paid \$63,110.00. The well has been drilled for the EAN, waiting on the pump.
24-20-0043		SL-6W	\$25,875.00	\$31,875.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$30,031.10
24-20-0044		SL-6W	\$32,320.00	\$33,520.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$32,879.25
24-24-0046		SL-6W	\$24,360.00	\$25,560.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$25,560.00
24-20-0047		SL-6W	\$66,870.00	\$67,350.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$65,973.00
24-20-0050		SL-6W	\$47,169.40	\$49,041.40	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid Paid \$48,624.50
24-20-0052		SL-6W	\$89,787.50	\$94,587.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$94,587.50

2020 VACS Program Report Cont'd

CONTRACT #	Instance	Practice	Total Est. Cost	Estimated Cost/Share	Survey	Design	Construc Begins	Percent Complete	Remarks
24-20-0053		SL-6W	\$64,115.00	\$65,555.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$65,555.00
24-20-0056		SL-6W	\$81,000.00	\$82,488.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$77,918.70
24-20-0059		SL-6W	\$23,282.50	\$23,762.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$23762.50
24-20-0060		SL-6W	\$46,330.00	\$46,702.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$46702.00
24-20-0062		SL-6W	\$74,637.50	\$75,537.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$75,537.50
24-20-0063		SL-6W	\$67,200.00	\$69,600.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$69,411.95
24-20-0066		SL-6W	\$44,100.00	\$45,060.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$44,770.50
24-20-0069		SL-6W	\$19,625.00	\$20,345.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$20,345.00
24-20-0104		SL-6W	\$30,957.50	\$32,157.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$32,081.35
24-20-0105		SL-6W	\$40,152.50	\$42,552.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$42552.50
24-20-0107		WP-4	\$120,101.00	\$90,075.75	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$90,075.75
24-20-0108		WP-4	\$115,417.00	\$86,562.75					CANCELLED
24-20-0109		WP-4	\$55,520.00	\$41,640.00					Landowner needs to hire his own PE.
24-20-0007		SL-6W	\$20,532.50	\$22,932.50	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$22,932.50
24-20-0020		WP-4	\$83,013.00	\$62,259.75					Landowner has cancelled her project.
24-20-0017		WP-4	\$70,005.00	\$52,503.75	Y	Y			the landowner and contractor now have copies of the design. Needs pre-construction visit.
24-20-0033	389722	WP-4	\$160,829.00	\$120,621.75	Y	Y	Y	5	I have the design on my desk and made pre-construction visit with the landowner and contractor. Site prep has begun
24-20-0027		WP-4	\$115,417.00	\$86,562.75					No progress to report.
24-20-0023		WP-4	\$160,625.00	\$120,468.75					Need to do survey and design.
24-20-0021		WP-4	\$81,409.00	\$61,056.75					We were notified that the landowner is now deceased.
24-20-0004		SL-6W	\$111,782.50	\$100,000.00	Y	Y	Y	90	I haven't heard from the landowner/contractor. the project is very near completion.
24-20-0028		SL-6W	\$35,145.00	\$36,345.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$32,178.75
24-20-0022		WP-4	\$197,897.00	\$148,422.75	Y				Everything has been approved by the engineer and he has the survey data. I should be getting the design soon.
24-20-0019		WP-4	\$185,180.00	\$138,885.00	Y	Y	Y	100	Complete and paid paid \$138,885.00
24-20-0002		SL-6	\$38,395.00	\$41,155.00	Y	Y			We have not heard from the landowner is a long time.

SWCD: Daniel Boone Name of Committee: Technical Committee

Date: 2/28/23 Time: 4:30 pm Location: DBSWCD Office

Designated Note taker: Liz

Voting Members in Attendance: Shawn, Jordan, Tim, Liz, Davis, Amy, Jason

Voting Members Not in Attendance: Gary B.

Others in Attendance: _____

Agenda/Discussion Item #1

Topic: Approving conservation plans for the attached projects.

Motion/Recommendation:
Approve attached projects' conservation plans

Motion Made By: Jason Seconded By: Jordan Vote:

Comments: _____

Follow Up Actions- (Who/What/When): _____

Agenda/Discussion Item #2

Topic: Approved funding for attached projects.
(2023 OCB VACS) ^ and tax credits

Motion/Recommendation:
Approve funding for attached projects
^ and tax credits

Motion Made By: Jason Seconded By: Davis Vote:

Comments: _____

Follow Up Actions- (Who/What/When): _____

Agenda/Discussion Item #3

Topic: _____

Motion/Recommendation: _____

Motion Made By: _____ Seconded By: _____ Vote: _____

Comments: _____


Follow Up Actions- (Who/What/When): _____

Additional Committee Business:

Set next Committee Meeting Date, time and location: _____

Motion to Adjourn By: Shawn Seconded By: Jordan

Time of Adjournment: 5:05 Submitted by: Liz

Committee Chair Signature: 

DBSWCD
District Manager
Report
February 2023

- Program year 2020 – We have four SL-6's that need to be completed by June 30, 2023, and seven WP-4 feed barns... I have the designs for 3 barns in hand, at least 2 I think will cancel, one has known he needs to hire his own engineer, and we have never heard from the other one.
- Program year 2021 – There are only four SL-6's that are not completed. One is near completion, one is ready and waiting on the contractor, one has contacted us once and the other we have not heard from.
- Program year 2022 – There are six SL-6's and one WP-4 that are not completed. One SL-6 is near completion, two have started, and the rest are waiting to start. The WP-4 is waiting on me for the survey and design.
- Since the last board meeting we have been meeting with any applicant that had signed up prior to October 1, 2022 (first funding period). All conservation plans, plan maps, and cost-estimates were completed prior to ranking the projects. All 70+ projects have been serviced. Twenty plus applications were either cancelled or did not qualify which left us with ~50 applications to be ranked. Those applications have been ranked and are ready for funding. We have \$2.1 million to spend and ~\$4.4 million in applications in this funding period.
- We have been inspecting projects as they are installed and made final construction checks on two. One has been paid and we are waiting on the receipts from the other to pay them.
- Ben Chester was here for Engineering Job Approval Authority spot checks. Everything went as well as it could.
- My daughter, Emma, has started an internship for her Envr Sci degree at our office. She is spending one day a week (8 hours) at the office.

Tim Miles
DBSWCD
Conservation Specialist Report
February 28, 2023

- I. Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program
 - The Land Disturbing Report for January 2023 was submitted to DEQ.
 - Routine inspections were made on active E&S projects.
 - The E&S permit for the ODP-Pennington Building Improvements Phase 1 Project was closed. This project is complete.
 - E&S permits were issued for the Western Lee Wastewater Treatment Plant Access Road and the Blackwater Community Water Project-Phase II.
 - Two E&S plans were approved.
- II. Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program
 - I made a few conservation planning visits.
 - I have been taking some online training to obtain contact hours for my conservation planner recertification.
 - Ben Chester, Agricultural BMP Engineer, conducted Engineering Job Approval Authority reviews on January 26. All in all, the review went well.
- III. Miscellaneous
 - The District website has been updated periodically.

Erosion and Sediment Control Project List

Name of Project	Approved Plan	Permit Number	LDA Acreage	Estimated Completion Date
James Fannon Rock Picking Operation	X	2021-03	0.61	Spring 2023
Otis Fannon Rock Picking Operation	X	2021-05	0.61	Spring 2023
LMU College of Veterinary Medicine New Classroom Building	X	2021-06	8.50	Spring 2023
Johnny Woliver Single Family Residence	X	2022-01	5.00	Spring 2023
Stone Mountain ATV Trail (Spearhead Trails Maintenance)	X	2022-02	0.99	Ongoing
Joe Harber Land Disturbance	X	2022-03	1.00	Spring 2023
Bernice Galloway Rock Picking Operation	X	2022-04	0.61	Spring 2023
Giles Hollow Community Water Project	X	2022-05	1.92	Fall 2023
Greater Outreach Family Life Center	X	2022-06	0.99	Spring 2023
White Rock Truss, LLC	X	2022-08	0.61	Spring 2023
Brandon Cheek Rock Picking Operation	X	2022-09	0.61	Fall 2023
St. Charles Waterline Replacement Phase III Project	X	2022-11	3.98	Summer 2023
Western Lee Wastewater Treatment Plant Access Road	X	2023-01	0.88	Summer 2023
Blackwater Community Water Project-Phase II	X	2023-02	4.18	Fall 2023
Maple Hill Community Water Line Extension Project	X		4.45	
Travis Hall Rock Picking Operation	X		0.61	

Liz Maggard
DBSWCD
Conservation Technician/Assistant Report
February 2023

- I am entering proposed projects into the tracking program – running resource reviews, drawing maps, writing conservation plans, etc. Most of the resource reviews have been returned and we haven't had any issues.
- I have been helping Shawn with the cost estimate worksheets.
- I have entered the information in order to obtain CEF numbers for ranking 2023 projects.
- We met with Ben Chester and reviewed some past projects for EJAA.
- We measured and paid a couple projects.
- I've went on some planning visits, construction checks, and helped survey some barns.
- I am regularly updating the tracking program with new participants and projects.

Review of Annual Plan of Work & Strategic Plan 2022-2023

Action Items to accomplish in February & March 2022-2023:

Monthly Schedule of Annual Plan & Strategic Plan:

February:

1. Host local Envirothon workshop for participating teams. (Staff)
2. Select date and location for spring, summer, fall, and winter pasture walks respectively, according to stakeholder interest and current issues. (Community Outreach Committee/Staff)

March:

3. SWCD Area IV Meeting. (Board of Directors/Staff)
4. Select date and location for spring, summer, fall, and winter pasture walks respectively, according to stakeholder interest and current issues. (Community Outreach Committee/Staff)
5. Submit annual budget request to the Lee County Board of Supervisors. (Budget Committee)
6. Update District website in order to provide the public with up-to-date information, program deadlines, upcoming activities, recent events, etc. (Conservation Technician)
7. Host a county-wide Envirothon competition for local teams, if necessary. (Staff)



FEBRUARY 2023 – Conservation District Coordinator (CDC) Report

Mandy B. Fletcher

DCR-Division of Soil and Water Conservation
mandy.fletcher@dcr.virginia.gov | 276-451-5821

1) Administrative and Operational Items

- **FY23 3rd Quarter Operational, Technical Assistance (TA) and Cost-Share Disbursements:**
Disbursement letters are scheduled to be sent out via e-mail 02/10/23. Expect to receive these funds via direct deposit within 30 days of the date of the disbursement letter. Check to ensure that deposits match the disbursement letter and notify me of any discrepancies. In addition, check the corresponding cost-share data entries in the AgBMP Tracking Program.
- **SWCD Director Appointment and Resignations Deadline 03/01/23:** Should a SWCD have any director appointments and/or resignations that need approval from the VA Soil and Water Conservation Board (VSWCB) those need to be submitted to Blair Gordon via email with the assigned CDC copied no later than 03/01/23. Director appointment submittals must include the following documents: DCR 199-014, DCR-199-015, and a copy of the SWCD board meeting minutes. Resignations must include a copy of the SWCD board meeting minutes.
- **Bank Accounts:** Check all SWCD bank accounts (including CDs) at least quarterly to ensure that all SWCD bank accounts are protected by FDIC **and** are collateralized in accordance with the Virginia Security for Public Deposits Act. This ensures that public funds in excess of the FDIC limit are protected. The status of all SWCD bank accounts can be checked by visiting <https://spda.trs.virginia.gov/quarterlysearch.aspx> on the Virginia Department of Treasury’s website.
- **Fixed Assets Inventory Reminder:** The Desktop Procedures manual requires that SWCDs maintain a detailed fixed assets inventory (pages 25 & 26). All inventory items should be tagged and the sequential tag number included on the inventory listing. Review annually.
- **SWCD Elected Director Positions:** The general election is scheduled for **November 7, 2023**. ***The filing deadline is 7:00 pm Tuesday, June 20, 2023*** (this is the third Tuesday in June and is a change from previous election years).
 - §24.2-507 Deadlines for filing declarations and petitions of candidacy: *“For any office, declarations of candidacy and the petitions therefore shall be filed according to the following schedule: (1) For a general election in November, by 7:00 p.m. on the **third Tuesday in June...**”*
 - Information can be found on the State Board of Elections website: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins/index.html>
 - Underneath the “November 7, 2023 General and Special Elections” heading, choose the Candidate Bulletin for Local and Constitutional Offices. This bulletin will provide candidates with the ballot access requirements.
 - “Instructions for Candidates” – provides links to resources and forms. This can be found by clicking: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/becoming-a-candidate/index.html>
 - Below are links to the forms that each candidate will need to complete:
 - Certificate of Candidate Qualification- Local: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formwarehouse/campaign-finance/2018/candidates/SBE_501_4-rev7-18.pdf
 - Declaration of Candidacy: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formwarehouse/campaign-finance/2018/candidates/SBE_505_520_Declaration_of_Candidacy_Rev1_15.pdf
 - Petition of Qualified Voters: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formwarehouse/campaign-finance/2018/candidates/Petition-of-Qualified-Voters-SBE-506_521_letter.pdf

- Note that per the Ethics Council (January 2023), SWCD directors are **not** required to submit the Statement of Economic Interests form
- The number of required petition signatures is 25 (see page 12 of the Bulletin). It is recommended that each candidate strive to get at least 30 signatures. ***It is important to remember that the petition must be printed as a two-sided document (front and back) or it will not be accepted.***
- Candidates should contact their respective local General Registrar with any questions they may have.
- **Posting of Notice of Election:** Per the Code in §10.1-523, “*The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board shall notify each district of the requirement (i) to post notice of the dates for filing such petitions and the election and (ii) that the posting shall be in a prominent location accessible to the public at each district office at least 30 days before the filing date.*”. Please note that the memo from the VSWCB has not yet been released, so no action is required by SWCDs at this time. Expect to see the VSWCB memo soon.

2) VA Agricultural Cost-Share (VACS) Program and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- **Cost-Share Obligations and Transfers:** As the General Assembly begins to discuss and amend the budget introduced by the Governor, legislators and this administration are asking frequent questions about how much of the funding provided to SWCDs for cost-share has been obligated. As of January 1, 2023, the CB SWCDs have obligated approximately 44% of these funds, while Southern Rivers SWCDs have obligated about 64%. These percentages do not include amounts requested for the WFA practices, and that has been clearly communicated. While FY 2023 provided an unprecedented level of cost-share funding, the amount of funds that have been obligated is causing concerns.
 - DCR currently has a list of SWCDs that need funding in both the CB and the OCB area. If your SWCD is unable to obligate the cost-share funds provided, it is time to either transfer money to another SWCD or release the allocation back to DCR. Your CDC is able to assist with either of these processes.
- **Carryovers:** Please review the carryover guidelines and procedures in the VACS manual on pages II-41 through II-44. Please stay in touch with all carryover participants to ensure that you are aware of where they are in the construction process. Remember, to exercise diligence with those projects that cannot be carried over beyond June 30, 2023 since these projects will have to be cancelled on June 30, 2023 if they do not reach completion.
 - It is important to periodically check in on two-program year completion projects that are currently in their third program year. Remember that these practices can be carried over into a fourth program year but this final carryover must be justified and requires DCR approval. These projects must be significantly under construction prior to applying for the final carryover into a fourth program year. The deadline for submitting carryover requests to Sara Bottenfield for approval has not yet been established.

3) Grant Agreement Deliverables Reminders

- **Long-Range Plan Annual Review:** Per a FY23 Grant Agreement deliverable, the *Long-Range Plan* should be reviewed at least once during the fiscal year by the Board of Directors. If you didn’t complete this in January, I recommend you review in February.
- **Reminders for Fulfilling Admin & Ops Grant Agreement Deliverable #17 and #18 (Attachment F):** Now is the time to set a date and make plans for the required agricultural community outreach event, which must be held before June 30, 2023. ***Remember that each of the following criteria must be met:***
 - The event must be marketed through at least **three** venues. One of the three venues must be directed towards small farmers or socially disadvantaged producers. Please note that it is encouraged that the SWCD partner with VSU Small Farm Outreach Program (VSU-SFOP) to advertise the event – reach out to A. Fletcher via email at afletcher@vsu.edu for assistance with this. However, the SWCD must be able to document that the event was advertised through VSU in order for this to count toward meeting one third of the advertising portion of the deliverable.
 - **The event must include a session that covers the following: SWCD history, mission statement, introduction of directors and staff, and programs offered.**

- **The event must include a discussion panel featuring agricultural producers who have participated in the VACS program – please look for a forthcoming email from me.**
- All agency partners, including the VSU-SFOP, must be notified of the event and invited to participate on the agenda.
- At least two weeks prior to the outreach event, both the VSU-Small Farm Outreach Program's state representative and regional representative must be notified by email. The state representative should be emailed at fcustis@vsu.edu, along with your local program assistant at afletcher@vsu.edu.

4) Topics of Interest

- **Biosecurity Alert Regarding Avian Influenza and Biosecurity Procedures Reminder:** The week of 01/24/23 the VA Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) announced that a second case of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) had been found in a turkey flock in Rockingham County. Avian influenza is a highly contagious airborne respiratory virus that spreads quickly among birds through nasal and eye secretions and manure. The virus can be spread through interaction between wild birds and domestic birds, flock to flock, equipment, and on the clothing and shoes of caretakers. This virus affects poultry, like chickens, ducks, turkeys, and wild bird species such as ducks, geese, shorebirds, and raptors.
 - Anyone involved with poultry production in Virginia, from small backyard non-commercial flocks to large commercial operations, should prevent contact between their birds and wild birds and review their biosecurity activities. Biosecurity information is available at USDA APHIS Defend the Flock. VDACS link for biosecurity: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/animals-biosecurity-recommendations.shtml>
 - Please make sure you are aware of, and adhere to, the biosecurity procedures outlined in the Virginia Agricultural Cost-share (VACS) Program Manual (pages II-61 - II-63), before visiting any agricultural operations with poultry. If a producer requests that additional precautions be taken, please honor those requests when possible.
 - Virginia bird owners should report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to the State Veterinarian's Office at (804) 692-0601 or at vastatevet@vdacs.virginia.gov.

Important Dates:

- **February 20, 2023:** State Holiday – Presidents' Day
- **February 23, 2023:** VACS 101-Virginia Agriculture BMP and Cost Share Program Zoom Webinar at 9:00AM (Open to everyone, including those who would like a refresher, along with Non-technical staff and district Directors). This is a required course for DCR Conservation Planner Certification and attendance at the live session is required for course credit. ***Please note that this is a VACS manual overview and is not the same as the VACS Updates session that is held in June of each year.*** Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYod-qrrzMjHNSNW77ZwqJIT1VZH8NU0G2A>
- **February 25, 2023:** VA General Assembly Session adjourns
- **March 17, 2023:** Area IV Envirothon Training at the Coalfield Ag Center in Clintwood, VA
- **March 21, 2023:** VASWCD Area IV Spring Meeting at SWVA 4-H Center, Abingdon – 10am -12:30pm - Registration is required by March 10, 2023. Contact Rachel Havens to register. See 2/1/23 email from rhavens.bigwalkerswcd@gmail.com
- **March 23, 2023:** VSWCB Meeting at Hungry Mother State Park, Marion- 9am Audit Subcommittee; 10am Board Mtg.
- **April 21, 2023:** Area IV Envirothon at the Coalfield Ag Center in Clintwood, VA
- **May 16, 2023:** Perennial Stream ID Course in Williamsburg, VA (Required for Conservation Planner Certification)
- **June 20, 2023:** SWCD Elected Director Positions Filing Deadline- last day to file election documents with the local registrar
- **October 17 & 18, 2023:** Virginia RT&E and Cultural and Historic Resources Training (Required for Conservation Planner Certification)

Updated and Electronically sent to SWCD offices 02/06/23.



Jonesville SERVICE CENTER REPORT
Daniel Boone SWCD Board Meeting
02/28/2023

Program Updates/Deadlines:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
FY23 EQIP Applications = 43

FY23 EQIP Ranking Deadline = February 3rd & March 3rd

FY23 Preapprovals so far – 2 High Tunnels totaling- \$31,290.00

EQIP Payments - \$15,851.33 (9 Practices)
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**
1 Application

1 CSP-GCI Application
- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**
- **Conservation Reserve Program/Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CRP/CREP)**
N/A
- **Conservation Technical Assistance**
 1. All farm visits for FY23 EQIP applications have been completed.

BMP Projects/Partnership Activities

- Construction has slowed down due to weather
- All soils investigations on WFF have been completed.

Other Collaborations/Key Interactions Benefitting Districts

- NRCS update @ SWCD Spring Meeting

Local Working Group/Public Meetings

- Will schedule

Outreach/Agency Activities/Events (dates)

Upcoming Training Opportunities in the Area (JEDs, Webinars, Field Days)

- Programs update webinar 02/22/2023, 03/01/2023

Earth Team Volunteer Program

- Submitted

VA NRCS Operational/Personnel Changes

- COVID operation status – No mask required in service center.
- Updates, if available

Submitted By Jordan Southern, District Conservationist