

Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.

FINAL Executive Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2013

EB Members Present: Alex Ashton (Chair, Guilford), Rudy Langley (Treasurer, Alamance), Norton Webster (Secretary, Chatham), Gail Hughes (Orange), Hazel Puckett (Rockingham), Frank Green (Rockingham)

Council Members Present: Terry Hackett (Orange), Janet MacFall (Alamance), Millie Langley (Alamance)

Staff Present: Jacob Leech, Taylor Neal

Guests Present: Sandra Weitzel, Steve Bennett, Jerry Dorsett and spouse, Dewayne Rhaestraw, Julie Elmore

EB Members Absent: Eddie Culberson (Vice-Chair, Durham), Bill Alston (Randolph), Hester Vernon (Caswell)

- I. **Call to Order & Chairman Comments:** Alex Ashton, Chair
 - a. Alex Ashton began the meeting at 7:30 after dinner and socializing, and announced the lack of quorum for a full council meeting, and presence of Executive Board quorum. Alex thanked Janet and her husband for hosting the event.
- II. **Minutes:** Minutes of the April Council meeting were not considered as there was not a council quorum.
- III. **Discussion/ Decision Items**
 - a. **PART Agreement:** Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) issued an agreement to hire PCC to carry out a strategic plan for a regional incubator as part of a HUD grant. The agreement is for \$27,500. (M: MacFall, 2: M. Langley; Unanimously approved)
 - b. **Project Management Contract Modification:** The existing contract between PCC and Jacob Leech for project management services is modified to reflect the addition of funding to complete the grant agreement with PART. The modified contract is not to exceed \$24,000 through December 31, 2013. (M: Green, 2: Hughes; Unanimously approved).
 - c. **Internship Agreement:** An agreement to hire Taylor Neal for a two-month internship was proposed. The contract would be not-to-exceed \$1,600 through August 23, 2013. Taylor is a student at Wofford College majoring in Environmental Studies and English and is a native of Greensboro. She will be working primarily on the PART grant and has been working at-risk since July 1. (M: M. Langley, 2: N. Webster; Unanimously approved)
 - d. **Budget Modification:** The PCC annual budget needs to be modified to reflect Taylor Neal's internship and the PART agreement, as well as the addition of the Fab Lab annual budget. (M: MacFall, 2: R. Langley; Unanimously approved)
 - e. **Invoices:**
 - The following were approved for payment in full. (M: R. Langley, 2: Hughes; Unanimously approved)

1. **Jacob Leech - \$2,500.00**
2. **Dorsett Associates - \$1,500.00**
3. **Princeton Hydro - \$1,769.49**

IV. Updates

- a. **Accounting:** Jacob met with Amy Parker Cook and worked out a transition to accrual-based accounting that can take place immediately.
- b. **NC Association of RC&D Council's Teleconference:** Alex participated in the recent teleconference and provided the update. The RC&D's are supporting the Senate's version of the Farm Bill which would preserve the RC&D program without funding. The House version eliminates the RC&D program. In a recent meeting with Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, NCARCDC was informed that ZSR is recommending applications for individual projects from Councils rather than operational funding, preferably projects that will not require ongoing funding. Also, the association is accepting nominations for awards. Rudy motioned to nominate Jacob for an award to help get PCC on the map. Jacob recommended that Michelle Green, who has been working for no pay since January on Fab Lab, should be considered instead. (M: R. Langley, 2: Green; Unanimously approved)
- c. **Caswell Co. Farmland Protection Plan:** The Plan developed for Caswell County was adopted by the commissioners and approved by NCD&CS. Jerry Dorsett requested that the PCC issue a letter of satisfaction on his work in developing the plan to help his future efforts. Alex said that PCC could develop a letter for him and commended his work.
- d. **Fab Lab:** Eddie and the Durham SWCD arranged a site visit to FLC by a couple of county commissioners. Michelle made a great presentation and thanks to her effort and efforts by Eddie and his staff, the commissioners agreed to assist in finding a new permanent location for Fab Lab. Michelle and Jacob will be working on a grant proposal for ZSR due August 1.
- e. **Durham Green Roof:** The EEG payment was received and work with Wildlands Engineering will proceed this summer. Status of the 2012 EEG grant proposal is still unknown.
- f. **Chapel Hill High:** PCC was selected to give a presentation on the proposed project for the 319 grant submitted in May. This means PCC has made it through the first round of consideration. The presentation is scheduled for July 30 at 3:45.
- g. **Dam Removals:** The weather has continued to be prohibitive for efforts to remove Lassiter Mill Dam. A rescheduling is being considered for late August. FWS still needs to get the final permit to proceed with Smithermans Dam.
- h. **Div. of Soil & Water Conservation:** Sandra Weitzel introduced Steve Bennett, who will be part of PCC's area Division section when boundaries are redefined January 1.
- i. **Orange County Grant:** Gail informed the board that PCC was not selected for the \$3,000 grant proposal to do a pilot project of the Ag Landlord project. She also informed the board that the project completed by PCC at CW Stanford Middle School through CWMTF has inspired another project at a neighboring school.

V. New Business – No new business.

VI. Board Comments: The board once again thanked Janet for hosting the event.

VII. Upcoming events/meetings

a. Next Executive Board Meeting is August 6 at Alamance Community College, 6:30-8:30pm.

b. Next Full Council meeting is October 17.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.