

***Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Orange Co. Agricultural Center
February 3, 2015***

Executive Board Members Present: Gail Hughes (Chair, Orange), Norton Webster (Vice Chair, Chatham), Janet MacFall (Secretary, Alamance), Alex Ashton (Guilford), Eddie Culberson (Durham), Claudia Berryhill (Person)

Staff Present: Jacob Leech

Full Council Members Present: Frank Green (Rockingham), Brian Grogan (Rockingham)

Call to Order & Chairman Comments – Gail Hughes, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:05 with no quorum present and at 6:25 with the arrival of Janet MacFall a quorum was established.

- I. **Approval of Minutes** from December 2, 2014 meeting unanimously approved (M: Ashton, 2: Berryhill; unanimously approved).
- II. **Discussion/ Decision Items**
 - a. **COI:** No conflicts of interest were noted.
 - b. **Outstanding Dues:** Alamance and Wake have not paid current FY dues.
 - c. **Ratification of Past Signatures:** It was discovered that Suntrust did not have Rudy Langley's signature card on file for the PCC general account, only for the Fab Lab account. A motion was made to ratify any past signatures on PCC checks as Mr. Langley was formally authorized by the Council in his former position as Treasurer (M: Berryhill, 2: MacFall; unanimously approved).
 - d. **NARDC Dues:** Gail Hughes proposed that PCC pay 50% of the National Association dues as budgeted and follow up to the Association with a query on services received.
 - e. **NCARC&D Teleconference and Annual Meeting:** Rudy will be cooking for the dinner at the annual meeting. Alex, Frank, and Janet agreed to assist as needed. A \$15/person charge was agreed to. The upcoming SE Association Conference was also mentioned as a reminder as it would be held in Cherokee, NC this year. Jacob will send out the date and agenda.
 - f. **Financial Status for Hiring:** Jacob Leech summarized the available funds to hire a contract project manager. He noted multiple grants and sufficient funds to carry the position into 2016.
 - g. **Search Committee Update:** Alex Ashton provided an update on the search process for a new project manager. As Chair, Alex assigned Terry Hackett, Bill Alston, Norton Webster, and Joanna Lelekacs to serve.
 - h. **Grant Opportunities:**
 - **REAP:** Jacob and Alex will investigate this possibility.
 - **TTFC and Goldenleaf:** Jacob was authorized to investigate these as possible sources of funds for quilt trail projects, tobacco barn preservation, or the Ag Landlord project as appropriate.

III. Updates

- a. **Cultivator Farms Project:** Alex attended the “Keeping the Farm” workshop in Wake County where he was able to brief a room of 200 guests on the project opportunity. He discussed the new title “Cultivate Farms”.
- b. **Green Roof Durham:** Funds are pending with NFWF. Jacob is investigating funding with Coca Cola and CWMTF with assistance from American Rivers.
- c. **Person County Farmland Protection Plan:** The contract was agreed to by Jerry Dorsett and all matching funds for the project had been received.
- d. **Nominating Committee:** The committee met after the meeting closed.

IV. Upcoming events/meetings

- a. Next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for March 3 at ACC 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- b. Next Full Council meeting is April 16 at location TBD 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.