

Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.
FINAL Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2014

EB Members Present: Alex Ashton (Chair, Guilford), Eddie Culberson (Vice-Chair, Durham), Rudy Langley (Treasurer, Alamance), Gail Hughes (Orange), Frank Green (Rockingham), Hazel Puckett (Rockingham), Bill Alston (Randolph)

Staff Present: Jacob Leech

EB Members Absent: Norton Webster, Hester Vernon

- I. **Call to Order & Chairman Comments:** Alex called the meeting to order at 6:40. Rudy Langley was present but announced that he would need to leave early due to a family emergency.
- II. **Minutes:** Meeting minutes for December 4, 2013 were reviewed and approved (M: Green, 2: Culberson; unanimously approved)
- III. **Discussion/ Decision Items**
 - a. **Outstanding Dues:** All counties have paid dues with the exceptions of Guilford, Wake, and Randolph.
 - b. **Format for April Council Meeting:** Alex raised the issue that we should discuss project ideas and priorities in April in a manner that will make the meeting more interactive. This will include a discussion of PCC's past and present projects, ideas from other RC&D councils, grant sources, and a scoring/ranking mechanism to prioritize.
 - c. **Grant Opportunities:** Jacob announced the opportunity to submit a grant proposal to the Goldenleaf Foundation and the NC Tobacco Trust Fund (due in March). He will develop budgets for these grants and present in March for approval. The board gave him permission to proceed.
 - d. **Financial Status:** Jacob presented a handout outlining the current financial status of PCC. The handout showed the current balance, accounts payable, project obligations, operational obligations, and projected income including pending grant reimbursements. The final projected balance is \$32,794.72 of unobligated PCC funds.
 - e. **Project Management Contract:** Jacob proposed a contract for his services to run through the end of the fiscal year totaling \$20,000 for 5 months. The contract would include approximately \$11,000 in grant funds and \$9,000 in PCC operational funds. A motion was made to approve the contract. (M: Alston, 2: Green; approved unanimously)
- IV. **Updates**

- a. **Operations:** Jacob is working on the 990 and financial review with J. Michael Fargis which should wrap up soon.
 - b. **Fab Lab Carolinas:** Jacob will arrange a teleconference between Tushar, Michelle, and the subcommittee once Tushar returns from an overseas trip.
 - c. **Natural Resource Planning, Pittsboro:** A semi-annual report is due March 1.
 - d. **Asheboro Park Project:** There has been no activity since the last meeting.
 - e. **Chapel Hill High:** There is nothing new to report. The project is unlikely to be funded moving forward unless funding sources become available.
 - f. **Dam Removals:** Lassiter and Smitherman's are completed with the exception of some tree plantings. Jacob will be meeting with Laura Fogo of USFWS soon to discuss moving forward on Troy 2.
 - g. **Person Farmland Protection Plan:** ADFP grant is pending.
 - h. **Town of Hillsborough:** Nothing new to report.
 - i. **Farm Incubator:** In January the Guilford Board of Commissioners approved moving forward with the lease to PCC to operate an incubator farm!
 - j. **Ag Landlord:** Jacob is working on finalizing the PART project which includes components of this project.
- V. **New Business:** Frank asked if we should discuss increasing participation by increasing the number of executive board members from each county.
- VI. **Upcoming events/meetings:**
- a. Next Full Council Meeting: April 17 at 6:00 pm at Eddie Culberson's house.
 - b. Next Executive Board Meeting: March 4 at 6:30 pm at Alamance Community College
- VII. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.