

Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.
FINAL Full Council Meeting Minutes
Orange Co. Agricultural Center
October 16, 2014

Members Present: Gail Hughes (Chair, Orange), Norton Webster (Vice Chair, Chatham), Janet MacFall (Secretary, Alamance), Bill Alston (Randolph), Alex Ashton (Guilford), Joanna Lelekacs (Orange), Frank Green (Rockingham), Hazel Puckett (Rockingham), Eddie Culberson (Durham), Dale Threatt-Taylor (Wake), Terry Hackett (Orange), Bo Rodenbough (Guilford)

Staff Present: Jacob Leech

The meeting was preceded by a tour of the C.W. Stanford Middle School Stormwater Project (completed in 2012) and a pot-luck dinner. The meeting commenced at 6:45 PM.

Call to Order & Chairman Comments – Gail Hughes, Chairman. Gail introduced Dale Threatt-Taylor who was a relatively new member to the council. Dale’s work with the Wake County SWCD was commended by Eddie Culberson.

- I. **Approval of Minutes** from July 17, 2014 Full Council meeting unanimously approved (M: Ashton, 2: Culberson; unanimously approved).
- II. **Discussion/ Decision Items**
 - a. **Community Gardens/NRCS:** Jacob has been told by Stuart Lee with NRCS’s State Office that there should be funds in the new fiscal year to implement a community garden as proposed in Pittsboro. Jacob is awaiting the details. There is also a chance that NRCS has interest in contracting with PCC to work on the logistics of annual conservation training in 2015.
 - b. **NARCDC Dues:** Jacob raised concern about continued payment of national association dues due to a lack of response on multiple occasions when contacting their office. Gail will try to contact their ED and get some clarification prior to the board’s approval of this year’s payment.
 - c. **Pending Funds:** PCC currently has several funds pending including grant proposals submitted to Clean Water Management Trust Fund, ADFP Trust Fund and Person County Farm Bureau, and Patagonia. PCC has received \$7,500 in dues so far this year from four counties, all of which paid in full. Six counties are pending and at least \$8,500 is expected from those counties.
 - d. **Project Manager contract extension:** An extension was proposed through December 31 at the current rate and 80 hours/month with Jacob Leech. A motion was made to accept the proposed extension. (M: Alston, 2: MacFall; unanimously approved)
 - e. **Conflict of Interest Policy:** Bo Rodenbough introduced a revised version of the proposed conflict of interest policy. Suggestions were made to refer to Jacob Leech in the policy as “contracted staff” and provide COI coverage for the full council rather than executive staff and board. He will revise for the November meeting.

- f. **Financial Review and 990:** Jacob noted that the budget for this fiscal year would need to be amended to allow for \$2,850 for the financial review and 990 services performed by J. Michael Fargis. Further, a motion was made to select the JMF firm to conduct this year's financial review and 990 as well. (M: Rodenbough, 2: Green; unanimously approved)
- g. **Grant Opportunities:** Jacob requested approval to submit a Letter of intent to EEG for the Hillsborough Public Works project. (M: Ashton, 2: Webster; unanimously approved)

III. Updates

- a. **Biocenosis:** A recently submitted payment request and contract extension was approved by Urban Forestry.
- b. **Washington Park:** Currently on hold while Bill and Jacob figure out some local issues.
- c. **Dry Hydrants:** Jacob and Dale continue to work with Wake Fire Services on this, no funds have been identified yet.
- d. **Durham Green Roof:** A poster is being made for presentation to funders.
- e. **Hines Chapel Incubator Farm:** Janet MacFall is trying to arrange a meeting with Robert McNeice with Guilford County.
- f. **Ag Landlord:** Alex requested that everyone think of land possibilities on which to stage a pilot project. Dale mentioned she would be hosting a "Keeping the Farm" workshop in Raleigh on January 28. Alex and Jacob may attend to promote the project.
- g. **Other updates on projects were brief due to time constraints.**

IV. Upcoming events/meetings

- a. Next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for November 4 at ACC 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- b. Next Full Council meeting is January 15 at location TBD 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.