

**GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Via Conference Call
March 18, 2010

Participating in the conference call were Chairman Garland Thompson, Vice-Chairman Steve Singletary, and Commission Members Carl Brack, Dennis Brown, and David Hays. Participating from Commission staff were Executive Director Brent Dykes, Deputy Director Dave Eigenberg, Urban Program Manager Lauren Zdunczyk, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Wilbur. Present from NRCS was Dot Harris, and from GACDS was Crista Carrell.

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and asked Executive Director Dykes to give an invocation.

On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the Board approved the minutes of the January 22, 2010 board meeting.

On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by Steve Singletary, the Board approved the appointments of the supervisors in the March 2010 Appointment Report (attached). Chairman Thompson asked that the re-appointed supervisors with less-than-required attendance be sent the reminder letter as adopted by the Board at their January 2010 meeting.

At this time, the Board called on Mr. Brent Dykes to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Dykes began his report by presenting the Commission personnel update. The Commission has hired Ms. Brigitte Clifton as the new Communication Specialist. Ms. Clifton began in mid-February, and will be working to publish the Commission's newsletter, as well as updating and maintaining aspects of the Commission's website. Also, Mr. Jack Rattray, the MIL Specialist, is now working on a reduced hourly schedule effective March 1st.

Next, Mr. Dykes updated the Board on the amended FY2010 and FY2011 state budgets. In early March, the Governor revised the AFY10 budget, taking \$342 million in stimulus funds originally reserved for the FY11 budget to augment the current AFY10 budget. Revised estimates of the FY11 state budget place it as \$434 million less than previously budgeted; however, Mr. Dykes stated that is less of a cut than the Commission was expecting. In addition, all state agencies were asked to produce an additional 3% budget cut from the projected FY11 budgets, an action currently under review by both the House and Senate budget offices. To-date, the Commission has plans to operate on a FY11 budget reduced 13% from FY10, and a total reduction of 23% since the start of FY09.

Lastly, Mr. Dykes reported on the recent 2010 Washington D.C. trip. The group from the Commission, GACDS, and NRCS met with all Georgia legislative offices except that of Congressmen Gingrey, Price, nor Linder, including personal meetings with eight congressmen and senators. All of the meetings went well and the information provided in the Washington booklets was well received. In light of recent economic news, all Republicans in the U.S. House are participating in an earmark ban for FY11, which might have ramifications on current appropriation requests submitted by the Commission.

The Board next called on Mr. Dave Eigenberg to give the Deputy Executive Director's Report. Mr. Eigenberg began by briefly updating the Board on the Metering program. Next, Mr. Eigenberg brought to the Board's attention a letter written regarding the Brier Creek Soil and Water Conservation District on behalf of

Glascocock County. The county in the past has not been included in the Southeast Georgia Agricultural Water Conservation Initiative (Pond) Program. Now, Chairman Rheney of the Brier Creek district writes on behalf of interested parties in the county requested eligibility in the 2010 Program sign-up. Mr. Singletary asked whether Glascocock County was a heavily agricultural area. Mr. Dykes responded that the county was mostly forest and timber land, but that there was a sizable amount of agriculture, and that local farmer interest had generated the letter. Mr. Singletary then asked whether any program money awarded in the county would be used for irrigation or for other purposes. Mr. Eigenberg replied that should Glascocock County be included, all standards used in previous sign-ups would still apply. On a motion by Steve Singletary and second by David Hays, the Board approved the request for Glascocock County to be eligible to participate in the 2010 Pond Program sign-up.

The Board next called on Ms. Lauren Zdunczyk to give the Urban Program Report. Ms. Zdunczyk began by reporting that the 319 grant that was originally submitted in August 2008 was accepted and that the Commission received signed confirmation in February 2010. Ms. Zdunczyk also discussed the formation of the Technical Advisory Committee. The Commission is now taking applications for individuals interested in serving on the committee. The application is available on the Commission's website through the deadline of April 23, 2010. The Committee will consist of a five to seven member board as well as representatives from other agencies such as NRCS, DOT, and EPD.

Next, Ms. Zdunczyk presented the Board with a request to restrict the Fulton County Memorandum of Agreement. The Fulton County Soil and Water Conservation District made this request because the District feels it would be expedient for Commission staff to participate in a co-review of plans submitted to Fulton County. On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the Board approved the Fulton County Restricted MOA.

The Board next called on Ms. Dot Harris to give the NRCS Update. Ms. Harris updated the Board on the Pond Program, reporting that for the 2009 sign-up, there are 58 sites moving to the design phase, while the 2010 agreements are being drafted and reviewed. Next, Ms. Harris discussed the EQIP, AWEP, and CSP. There were 3000 applications for the EQIP sign-up in 2009, and NRCS has already received 3500 for 2010. The Commission's Region II is having an organics and small producers project funded through this year's AWEP, and the second sign-up for the CSP is currently underway. Ms. Harris ended her update by reporting on watershed maintenance and renovations. Studies on the Sallacoa #77 watershed structure that was damaged by a sinkhole in 2008 have concluded that removal of that structure should occur within the next year.

The Board next called on Ms. Crista Carrell to give the GACDS Update. Ms. Carrell reported on several possible projects for the GACDS property, including forestry and backyard conservation projects, as well as the possibility of hosting outdoor classrooms and field days. Additionally, GACDS might propose the inclusion of an on-campus annual Natural Resources Conservation Workshop service-learning project. Ms. Carrell asked those present to contribute ideas for the upcoming Group Meetings and Supervisor Training. The training will be held August 20-21, 2010 in Dublin. The tentative schedule includes classes from 1:00-5:00 PM Friday, with supper to follow, and a group tour on Saturday.

At this time, Mr. Dykes reminded the Board that their next meetings will be Thursday, May 20, 2010, and Thursday, July 15, 2010. The suggestion was made to hold the May meeting at a location to be determined.

There being no further business, on a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia Wilbur

Approved by:

GSWCC Chairman

Date

GSWCC Executive Director

Date

**NOMINEES FOR THE POSITION OF DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
TO BE APPOINTED BY GEORGIA SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

REGION	DISTRICT	COUNTY	NAME	CITY	%	FUTURE TERM WILL EXPIRE
I	Blue Ridge Mountain	Union	1. James W. Dobson	Blairsville	92%	10/30/11
			2. Bud Hill			
			3. J. W. Payne			
		Towns	1. John W. Kay	Young Harris	88%	07/09/11
			2. Audie Bradley			
			3. Jimmy Taft			
	Coosa River	Bartow	1. Davis R. Nelson	Cartersville	**47	10/30/11
			2. Dean Bagwell			
			3. Barry Shinall			
		Chattooga	1. James E. Parker	Lyerly	57%	10/30/11
			2. Wayne Hurley			
			3. Mike Hutchin			
		Dade	1. Thomas R. Black	Trenton	74%	10/30/11
			2. Ellen Marie Moore			
			3. Mrs. Robert Ryan			
		Floyd	1. Samuel T. Rush	Rome	88%	04/13/11
			2. Waldo Dodd			
			3. Jack Dickey			
		Gordon	1. George M. Stewart	Calhoun	**49	10/30/11
			2. William B Anderson			
			3. Joe R. Powell			
		Paulding	1. James S. Smith	Hiram	57%	10/30/11
			2. Billy Auston			
			3. John Vaughn			
		Polk	1. John F. Groover	Cedartown	73%	10/12/09
			2. Early Vinson			
			3. Clinton Lester			
		Walker	1. Roger P. Neal	Summerville	70%	10/30/09
			2. Robert Swanson			
			3. Charles Chambers			
	Roosevelt	Troup	1. Julian M. Jones III	LaGrange	90%	01/24/12
			2. Raymond Burgess			
			3. Gaines Hart			
		Meriwether	1. Glen Gosa	Manchester	NEW	03/11/12
			2. James Moreland			
			3. Ryan Fuller			
	West Georgia	Carroll	1. Hugh L. Brock	Carrollton	96%	07/09/11
			2. Ray Kent			
			3. J. G. McCalmon			
		Coweta	1. Matthew L. Burns, Jr.	Newnan	62%	01/24/12
			2. Leroy Johnson			
			3. Henry Johnson			
		Douglas	1. M. Claude Abercrombie	Douglasville	98%	10/30/11
			2. Dan Brantley			
			3. Freddie Waldrop			
		Haralson	1. Joan M. Boalch	Buchanan	77%	07/09/11
			2. Jim Brown			
			3. Paul W. Moragn			
		Heard	1. Denny H. Rogers	Ephesus	93%	01/24/12
			2. [Name]			
			3. [Name]			

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			2. Benjamin Hyatt			
			3. Alvin Ginn			
II	Broad River	Elbert	1. Laura Bass	Bowman	68%	09/20/11
			2. Virginia Thomas			
			3. Casey Freeman			
		Hart	1. Charles Brown	Canon	86%	01/24/12
			2. Morris King			
			3. Kenny York			
		Madison	1. Frank Fleming	Comer	97%	02/10/11
			2. Bill Lewis			
			3. Dudley Hartel			
		Oglethorpe	1. Russ Yeany	Crawford	88%	10/30/11
			2. Mike Whitehead			
			3. Jimmy Yarboro			
		Wilkes	1. Herman Wheatley	Washington	50%	02/27/12
			2. David Reville			
			3. Elizabeth Gunby			
	Hall	Hall	1. Jane Hemmer	Gainesville	97%	05/18/11
			2. Charles Adams			
			3. C. A. Blackstock			
		Hall	1. Sewell Blackstock	Talmo	97%	11/09/11
			2. Charles H. Adams			
			3. Cecil A. Blackstock			
	Lincoln	Lincoln	1. Marcus Matthews	Lincolnton	98%	10/19/10
			2. Billy Mims			
			3. Chris Goman			
			1. Olin Reed	Lincolnton	98%	03/11/12
			2. Billy Mims			
			3. Staton Tankersley, Jr.			
	McDuffie	McDuffie	1. Donald Palmer	Thomson	97%	03/13/12
			2. Lindy McTier			
			3. Billy Rogers			
			1. Carroll Burton	Thomson	96%	10/12/11
			2. Billy Rogers			
			3. Lindy McTier			
	Oconee River	Jackson	1. Tony Michael Embrick	Commerce	NEW	11/09/11
			2. Daryl Williamson			
			3. Aaron McKinney			
		Barrow	1. David Jackson	Winder	84%	10/30/11
			2. Darrel Sellers			
			3. John Mobley			
		Clarke	1. Balfour Hunnicut	Athens	78%	11/09/11
			2. Kenneth Shealy			
			3. Buford Kesler			
		Oconee	1. Bernard Garrett	Statham	90%	09/20/11
			2. Charles Osborn			
			3. Bobby Sanders			
	Stephens	Stephens	1. Willard Kimsey	Toccoa	73%	10/30/11
			2. Roger Camp			
			3. Neal Sheppard			
	Upper Chattahoochee RV	Dawson	1. Charlie Tatum	Dawsonville	92%	09/20/11
			2. Jerry Smith			

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			3. Greg Gilreath			
		Forsyth	1. E. H. Reid	Cumming	96%	11/09/11
			2. Emory Martin			
			3. David Stanford			
		Habersham	1. Gilbert Barrett	Demorest	70%	09/20/11
			2. Roy Jamieson			
			3. Wayne Franklin			
		Lumpkin	1. Kenneth Beasley	Dahlonega	98%	09/20/11
			2. John Fields			
			3. Bobby Pittman			
III	Rockdale	Rockdale	1. Fox McCarthy	Conyers	78%	02/10/12
			2. Elaine Nash			
			3. Gil Pallen			
IV	Central Georgia	Dodge	1. James B. McCranie	Eastman	74%	10/30/11
			2. John B. Williams			
			3. D.W. Linder			
		Johnson	1. Ralph Veal, Jr.	Wrightsville	NEW	
			2. Franklin Crabb			
			3. Mathew Waters			
		Laurens	1. Harry David Green	Montrose	**43%	08/13/11
			2. Johnnie B. Hall			
			3. Stephen L. Barfoot			
		Twiggs	1. Alton V White, III	Dry Branch	79%	10/30/11
			2. Clay Floyd			
			3. Fleix Floyd			
		Washington	1. Wendall Glenn Waller	Harrison	90%	10/30/11
			2. Robbie Lindsey			
			3. Willis Hartley			
		Wilkinson	1. Dan M. Dixon	Gordon	98%	10/09/11
			2. A.W. Stuckey			
			3. Lance Rogers			
	Lamar	Lamar	1. Andy Battle Bush	Barnesville	94%	09/20/11
			2. Brian Abernathy			
			3. Mary Jo Hardin			
	Piedmont	Baldwin	1. Robert David Blizzard	Milledgeville	80%	10/30/11
			2. W. R. Blizzard			
			3. B. H. Archer			
		Greene	1. Larry J. Eley	White Plains	86%	03/11/12
			2. David Conley			
			3. Charles Crumbley			
		Hancock	1. William Robert Woodall, Jr.	Sparta	67%	10/30/11
			2. Joe Sidney Davis			
			3. George Edward Brown			
		Morgan	1. Pat Hardy	Madison	94%	03/11/12
			2. S. J. Saffold			
			3. Amos Jones			
		Putnam	1. Grady V. Calvert	Eatonton	95%	10/30/11
			2. Mike Rainey			
			3. Clayborn McMichael			
		Taliaferro	1. Stanly Jackson	Crawfordville	50%	10/30/11
			2. Frank G. Mitchell III			

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			3. Bob Moore			
	Towaliga	Butts	1. Arthur Thomas Presley	Jackson	96%	10/30/11
			2. Harold McMichael			
			3. Mark Cook			
		Fayette	1. Thomas H. Kerlin, Jr.	Fayetteville	70%	09/30/11
			2. Roger A. Greuel			
			3. Richard Minter			
		Monroe	1. James Vernon Ham	Smarr	56%	09/20/11
			2. James Vaughan			
			3. Charles Floyd			
		Pike	1. Rex J. Yerkes	Meansville	100%	02/27/12
			2. Emory Alexander			
			3. Chuck Sword			
		Spalding	1. Walter Clifford Futral, Jr.	Griffin	61%	12/04/11
			2. Ronnie Robinson			
			3. Phil Ogletree			
		Upton	1. Harold D. Fallin	Thomaston	100%	04/13/11
			2. Mike Greene			
			3. Ray Corley			
	Upper Ocmulgee RV	Jasper	1. Charlie Lane	Monticello	91%	09/20/11
			2. Roger Bell			
			3. Paul Kelly			
	Warren	Warren	1. Charles L. Harper	Warrenton	83%	03/13/12
			2. Terry Johnson			
			3. Jamie Gunn			
		Warren	1. Edgar Joe Shurley	Warrenton	90%	08/22/11
			2. James Gunn			
			3. James A. Johnson			
	Pine Mountain	Chattahoochee	1. Larry Dillard	Cusseta	84%	08/22/10
			2. David Jankowski			
			3. Buddy Patterson			
		Harris	1. Keith Edwards	Hamilton	59%	07/09/11
			2. Gilbert Andrews			
			3. Morgan Marlowe			
		Talbot	1. Frank Jordan, Jr.	Talbotton	**31%	10/30/11
			2. Josh Buckner			
			3. Jeff Ingram			
			* LETTER PROVIDED			
			* PLEASE SEE SEPARATE PAGE			