

**GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
Macon, GA  
May 17, 2012

Present were Chairman Garland Thompson, Vice-Chairman Dennis Brown, Commission Members Carl Brack, Hal Haddock, and David Hays. Participating from Commission staff were Executive Director Brent Dykes, Deputy Executive Director Dave Eigenberg, Executive Manager of Water Policy Bob Hanner, Operations Manager Niki Strain, Urban Water Resources Program Manager Lauren Zdunczyk, Rural Water Resources Program Manager Bob Fulmer, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Wilbur. Also from GSWCC, Regional Representatives John Loughridge, Robert Amos, Russell Toning, Keegan Malone, Luke Crosson, and Rahn Milligan, E&SC Technical Specialist Ben Ruzowicz, and Engineering Technician David Hall. Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and asked Executive Director Dykes to give an invocation. Mr. Dykes introduced Mr. Bob Hanner as the Commission's new Executive Manager of Water Policy, and the Board welcomed Mr. Hanner to the Commission.

On a motion by Dennis Brown, and second by Hal Haddock, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 15, 2012, Board Meeting.

On a motion by Carl Brack and second by Dennis Brown, the Board unanimously approved the nominees put forth in the May 2012 Appointment Report (please see attached). The Board requested that a letter be sent to nominees with 50% less attendance during the last term of office.

At this time, the Board called on Mr. Dykes to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Dykes began with the Personnel Report, noting that the hiring of Mr. Hanner effective May 1, 2012, was the only change since the March Board Meeting. The Commission will internally advertise for the Region II Resource Specialist position through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Dykes also thanked the Board for their participation in the GSWCC All Employee Conference, and welcomed them to stay for the remainder of the program.

Next, Mr. Dykes updated the Board on Agency Rules and the Strategic Plan. The Governor has asked that all agencies review their governing rules for consistency and clarity. Mr. Dykes explained that the Commission has few changes that need to be made, consisting mostly of changes related to funding language, specifically in regards to the Watershed Program and grants. The Governor has also asked that all agencies participate in an update of the State Strategic Plan. Mr. Dykes explained that the Commission has begun planning and development of an updated agency Strategic Plan, and that emphasis on the Governor's "Growing", "Safety", and "Responsible and Efficient Government" goals will be utilized as a part of that four-year plan.

Next, Mr. Dykes updated the Board on Supervisor Elections. Legal advertisements for the elections ran in all relevant county newspapers for two consecutive weeks starting in mid-April. Additional press releases were also sent to those same papers, as well as the Georgia Farm Bureau and the Market Bulletin. An e-newsletter was also sent to the GSWCC's contact list with e-mail. Elections qualifying will be held Wednesday, May 23, through Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Dykes next opened the floor for the Board to discuss the per diem amount for Supervisor Training. He informed the Board that current law will allow local districts to pay per diem up to the level set by the GSWCC Board and mileage at the state travel rate from local district funds. On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by Hal Haddock, the suggestion was approved that the normal meeting standard per diem rate be \$120, with the state paying \$40 and the option of augmenting with local district funding up to \$80. On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by Carl Brack, the Board approved the suggestion that for the 2012 Supervisor Training, the Commission will pay a rate not to exceed \$80 per day. These changes take effect July 1, 2012.

Next, Mr. Dykes discussed the recent 2012 Washington DC Trip. The participating group, consisting of Mr. Dykes, Mr. Eigenberg, Mr. Danny Hogan, Mr. Dennis Brown, and Mr. James Tillman, traveled to Washington, D.C. on March 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> to meet with 13 of the 15 Georgia Congressional offices. All of the information prepared by the Commission was well-received and the group was able to engage in beneficial discussion related to the Farm Bill and conservation programs.

Board Member Hays discussed the need for clarification on how urban land is converted back to agricultural land and the necessary permit or zoning requirements. Mr. Dykes stated that the Department of Community Affairs would be contacted regarding this issue.

At this time, the Board called on Mr. Dave Eigenberg to give the Deputy Executive Director's report. He began with an update on funding options for the Metering program. The current available options range from using roll-over funds estimated to be \$114,000 up to \$2.6 million for maximum data, info retrieval, and new installations. The Commission is currently operating on a maintenance and data collection basis, while producers who get new permits are now installing their own meters. Mr. Eigenberg explained that the Commission's recommendation is to secure the \$605,256 Maintenance/Data Retrieval option or greater. The Commission is currently working with the Department of Community Affairs and the One Georgia Authority, and is also working to set up a meeting with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to explore funding options. Mr. Haddock inquired about the feasibility of requiring farmers and producers to read their own meters. Mr. Eigenberg agreed that USGS has encouraged the Commission to conduct more monthly meter readings, but currently that is cost-prohibitive. The Board recommended that the Commission staff start sending monthly requests via postcard for voluntary monthly meter readings to permit holders. Mr. Eigenberg and Mr. Dykes agreed to explore that option.

Mr. Eigenberg and Ms. Niki Strain presented the Quarterly Expenditure Report, explaining that the Commission was still on-track with all budget items approaching the fiscal year-end. Mr. Eigenberg finished his report by discussing a letter send by EPD to the Chairmen of all of the Regional Water Councils requesting information related to ongoing funding sources and opportunities for the individual councils throughout the state.

At this time, Ms. Lauren Zdunczyk presented the board with a list of trainers for their review. On a motion by Dennis Brown, and second by Carl Brack, the Board unanimously approved the trainers (see attached).

The Board recognized Mr. Tillman, and requested that he give an update on NRCS activities. Mr. Tillman reported that EQIP has received \$20 million in funding thus far, and will be receiving an additional \$7 million allocation soon. Georgia has had a larger increase in EQIP funding than any other state. Last

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 17, 2012

Page 3

year, the program received 3200 applications, this year the amount has increased to 4700 applications to-date. Mr. Tillman also thanked the Board for their emphasis on district supervisor attendance, as supervisor input is vital for NRCS program success. With this in mind, he also reported that the Local Work Groups will start meeting in August 2012.

The Board next called on Mr. Danny Hogan to give the GACDS update. Mr. Hogan explained that the focus of GACDS has shifted to highlight the need for district finances. Plans are being made for the upcoming Supervisor Training and next year's Annual Meeting, which is prospectively being scheduled for the Cobb Galleria in Marietta. Mr. Hogan explained that this location was suggested by Group I districts as convenient to hold a Legislators' Breakfast in Atlanta on the Friday morning prior to the start of the Annual Meeting. Mr. Hanner agreed that reaching out to legislators would be a wise use of district time and resources, and suggested that even doing events at a local-level would be very beneficial.


At this time, the Board opened up the floor for any public comments. The Regional Representatives and other Commission staff in attendance thanked the Board for attending the conference. Mr. Dykes suggested that the Board next meet in person at the August Supervisor Training to review the Commission Budget, and that they meet via conference call in the interim months should a meeting be necessary. The Board agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia Wilbur

Approved by:

 8-17-12

GSWCC Chairman

Date

 8-17-12

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	Limestone Valley	Gilmer	1. Charles Paul Nealey 2. Billy Jones 3. Justin Wingate	Ellijay	*53%	10/30/13
	West Georgia	Coweta	1. Matthew "Buddy" Burns 2. Ned Chambliss 3. William Cline	Newnan	63%	01/24/14
III	Clayton	Clayton	1. Rufus Ladson 2. Lonnie Philpot 3. Van Cladwell	Jonesboro	90%	06/10/14
IV	Towaliga	Fayette	1. Thomas H. Kerlin, Jr. 2. Roger A. Greuel 3. Richard Minter	Fayetteville	*44%	09/20/13
		Monroe	1. James Vernon Ham 2. James Vaughn 3. Charles Floyd	Smarr	*50%	09/20/13
V	Flint River	Baker	1. Chris Moore 2. Les Rentz 3. Robert Duane Hayes	Colquitt	NEW	10/30/13
	Middle South GA	Turner	1. Alex Sumner 2. Ross Kendrick 3. Scottie Raines	Sycamore	*50%	11/25/13
		Worth	1. William Young 2. Jerry Young 3. Jimmy Bryant	Sumner	*50%	11/25/13
VI	Ogeechee River	Candler	1. Randy Durden 2. Wayne Rivenbark 3. J. L. Ward, Jr.	Metter	NEW	01/14/14
		Bulloch	1. Fred G. Blitch 2. Raybon Anderson 3. Lee Cromley	Statesboro	100%	01/14/14
	Ohoopee River	Treutlen	1. Jim L. Gillis, Jr. 2. Jim L. Gillis, III 3. Gene Bowers	Soperton	67%	04/09/14
		Toombs	1. Chris Hopkins 2. Bud Hart 3. Ben Curry	Lyons	*40%	02/27/14
	Satilla River	Ware	1. Daniel E. Good 2. Thomas Gill, Jr. 3. Brantley Jordan	Waycross	NEW	01/14/14

Page 1 of 2

**Trainers to be approved by  
The Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission Board  
and the Stakeholder Advisory Board**

**Trainer Level I**

**Requirements:**

Education/Experience – 4 yr college degree and 5 yrs experience in E&SC

-OR-

Experience Only – 10 yrs experience in E&SC

**1. Torris Babbs, PE**

Education – BS Civil Engineering, Auburn University

Experience – 2008 – Present – Babbs Engineering Consultants, LLC

2007 – 2008 - Black & Veatch, Inc

2005 – 2006 - Carr and Associates, Inc

2002 – 2005 – Khafra Engineering and Consultants

1993 – 2001 – Alabama Department of Transportation

Duties Performed:

- Reviewed all proposed BMPs for all phases of construction
- Traffic control, E&S control measures on all construction projects
- Supervised inspectors on all traffic control, E&SC measures used throughout projects

Mr. Babbs exceeds requirements with education, experience and professional licensure.

**2. Charles Clark P.E., CPESC**

Education – BS Civil Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology

Experience – February 2005 – Present, EMC Engineering Services, Branch Manager

February 1993 – December 2004, Lowndes County Board of Commissioners, County Engineer

Duties Performed:

- Complete site work design, which includes grading, drainage, erosion and sedimentation, water, sewer, landscaping and roads.
- Enforcement of local erosion and sedimentation ordinance
- Design of county road projects

Mr. Clark exceeds the requirements with education, experience and professional licensure.

**3. Daniel Delair**

Experience – May 2009 – Present, Response Environmental and Site Services, LLC, Partner

June 2001 – August 2011 K&D Erosion Control, Partner

Duties Performed:

- Reviews permits, applications and records to ensure compliance
- Observe and record field conditions, gathering, interpreting and reporting data
- Determine the nature of code violations and action to be taken and issue written notices of violations and participate in enforcement hearings.
- Monitor projects during and after construction to ensure projects meets design specifications
- Installation of BMPs for commercial and residential projects

Mr. Delair meets the requirements with experience.

#### **4. Ray Dorsey**

Education – BS Landscape Horticulture, Colorado State University

Experience – December 1997 – Present, Georgia Department of Transportation, Agronomist Manager

November 1994 – May 1996, Buncombe County Planning Department, Erosion Control Technician

Duties Performed:

- Manage statewide vegetation planting and maintenance activities for beautifying state right ways.
- Monitor integrated vegetation management programs from DOT throughout GA
- Develop agronomy and horticulture standards for wildflower establishment
- Reviewed erosion and sedimentation control plans.
- Conducted site inspections and enforced compliance

Mr. Dorsey meets the requirements with education and experience.

#### **5. Shea Groebner**

Education – BS, Environmental Sciences, Georgia College and State University

Experience – August 2011 – Present, Georgia College and State University, Coordinator of Environmental Health and Safety

February 2007 – August 2011, Environmental Protection Division, Environmental Specialist

November 2005 – February 2007 – Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Resource Specialist

Duties Performed:

- Enforcement of NPDES General Permits
- Aiding local governments with technical guidance concerning the NPDES permits and Erosion and Sedimentation Act
- Conducting education and certification courses to regulatory agencies and the private sector
- Investigated citizen complaints concerning environmental regulations

Mr. Groebner meets the requirements with education and experience.

#### **6. Matthew Pittard, PE**

Education – BS, Agricultural Engineering, University of Georgia

Experience – December 2011 – Present, Southeast Connections, Environmental Coordinator

February 2007 – December 2011, Jacobs Engineering (JJG), Civil Engineer

May 2006 – February 2007, LIA Engineering, Civil Engineer

Duties Performed:

- Oversee large gas line projects
- Supervise subcontractors implementing BMPs throughout project
- Assist in federal, municipal and commercial projects in Georgia
- Plan reviewer for the City of Madison (Jacobs Engineering)
- Project representative for water reclamation facilities in Athens – Clarke County (Jacobs Engineering)

Mr. Pittard exceeds the requirements with education, experience and professional licensure.

#### **7. James Studder, PE**

Education – BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky

Experience – June 2002 – Present MACTEC Consulting, Principal Engineer

June 1974 – June 2002, Law Engineering and Consulting, Staff/Senior/Principal Engineer

Duties Performed:

- Lead design principal engineer on numerous civil design projects including townhouses, condominiums, parks streets/infrastructure, restaurants, banks, dental offices, landfills and similar facilities.
- Site stormwater management, preparation of erosion and sediment control plans and drawings, comprehensive monitoring plans, design of detention/retention/water quality ponds

Mr. Studer exceeds the requirements with education, experience and professional licensure.

## **Trainer Level II**

Education/Experience – 4 yr college degree in engineering or natural science and 5 yrs experience in E&SC

-OR-

Experience Only – 5 years of professional licensure in the field of engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, forestry, geology or land surveying or as a CPESC for a total of 10yrs field experience.

### **1. Wayne Lloyd**

**Education** – MBA, University of Georgia, B.S. Industrial Management, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Experience** –2005 - Present, Clarion Stormwater Consultants, LLC, President  
2003- 2005, WB Lloyd and Associates, LLC

#### **Duties Performed:**

- Provide turkey site monitoring, water testing, reporting, and design consultation to property owners and contractors
- Liaison between owners/contractors and the Georgia EPD, EPA and local agencies
- Bought raw land, developed into finished lots and sold to builders
- Responsible for budgeting, arranging financing, acted as general contractor through development process

Mr. Lloyd meets requirements with education and experience.