

MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 2023 11:00 AM - GSWCC - VIA ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Martin at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held in person and via zoom. Jake Ford gave the invocation

The following board members were present in person: Chairman Bob Martin. The following board members were present via zoom: Vice Chairman Vikki Consiglio, Edwin Nix, and Jason Winters. A quorum was established.

Others in attendance in person: Jake Ford, Jim Waters, Ellis Lamme, Danny Hogan, Tom Mimbs, Brian Ponder, Mark Masters, Katelyn Poppell and Leanne Hopper GACD. Dominic Lariccia and Mrs. Morgan from ABAC.

Attending members of the Commission who appeared in person were Executive Director Mitch Attaway, and Rural Project Manager Ben Hyer, and Conservation Regional Manager for Region III, Ben Roberts. Attending members of the Commission who appeared via zoom: Karen Bruce, Office Manager, Greg Walker, Rural Project Manager, and Jackie Holt, Administrative Assistant.

Chairman Martin asked for approval of the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting. There was a motion by Mr. Edwin Nix to approve the minutes, a second by Mr. Jason Winters and the motion carried to unanimous approval

Executive Director's Report — Mr. Attaway stated there is no old business. Mr. Attaway stated there are 2 new employees starting today, Karen Page in the Athens office and Miki Smith in the Soperton office. He also stated there is 1 vacancy in the Athens office because Lillian Kalla has chosen to leave the GASWCC. There is one promotion of Christi Brantley to Resource Specialist in the Soperton office. He stated the financial report is in the packet. Mr. Attaway said the new business is the per diem for the Annual Meeting. He requested to increase the per diem from \$120 per day to \$160 per day. Chairman Martin requested a motion. Jason Winters made a motion to approve the increase, a second by Ms. Vikki Consiglio and the motion carried to unanimous approval. Mr. Attaway stated there is no change to the FY '24 District Allotment and the \$2000 increase from 2023 is still in the allotment. Chairman Martin called for a motion to approve the FY '24 District Allotment. There was a motion by Mr. Edwin Nix to approve the allotment, a second by Mr. Jason Winters, and the motion carried to unanimous approval.

<u>Conservation Report</u> —Mr. Amos was not present so Mr. Mitch Attaway gave the Conservation Report. Mr. Attaway stated that there are 10 supervisors that need to be approved by the board. Mr. Attaway stated there are 3 resignations Mr. Ralph D. Caldwell from West Georgia, Mr. Paul Folsom from Alapaha, and Mr. Wayne Thomas from Flint River. Chairman Martin called for a motion on the appointments and resignation. Ms. Vikki Consiglio made a motion to approve the appointments and resignation, a second by Mr. Jason Winters and the motion carried to unanimous approval. Mr. Attaway stated some of the Conservation staff helped this week with ABAC and I would like to thank them for that. There is a pollinator workshop scheduled for next week, Region II is busy hosting events throughout the state with us.

Urban Report — Mitch Attaway gave the Urban Report due to Ben Ruzowicz's absence. Mr. Attaway stated there have been 660 plan reviews completed since the last meeting. Mr. Attaway stated that there have been 235 certification courses completed with almost 1600 people in attendance. Out of 1,600 less than 1/2 were new attendees. The overview for the City of Madison had to be postponed due to an issue with their staff and in Banks County they are waiting on the final report. Mr. Attaway stated there are 7 different BMP's. The BMP process is Ben gets the information and works with each company, the Board approves the product, the product goes to the Overview Counsel, then if they Overview Counsel approves the product it is listed in the Green book. Ben Howell and Jennifer Howell put everything together. Mitch stated he would like to do each BMP separate to keep track of them. We recommend approval of all 7 BMP's. The BMP's are listed as follows: 1. SKAPPS-A motion for approval was made by Ms. Vikki Consiglio, a second by Mr. Edwin Nix, and the motion carried to unanimous approval; 2. American Excelsior-A motion for approval was made by Ms. Vikki Consiglio, a second by Mr. Edwin Nix and the motion carried to unanimous approval; 3. Winfab-A motion for approval was made by Mr. Jason Winters, a second by Mr. Edwin Nix and the motion carried to unanimous approval; 4. Rubber Form-A motion for approval was made by Ms. Vikki Consiglio, a second by Mr. Edwin Nix and the motion carried to unanimous approval; 5. Global Management Group-A motion for approval was made by Mr. Edwin Nix, a second by Ms. Vikki Consiglio and the motion carried to unanimous approval; 6. Winters Excelsior Company-A motion for approval was made by Mr. Edwin Nix, a second by Mr. Jason Winters and the motion carried to unanimous approval; and 7. Silt Saver-A motion to approved was made by Mr. Jason Winters, a second by Mr. Edwin Nix and the motion carried to unanimous approval

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Rural Report: Mr. Ben Hyer and Mr. Greg Walker gave the report. See the attached report.

Public Comment: No Public Comment

Next Meeting to be determined.

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Martin at 12:06 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by:

Jacquline Holt

Approved by:

Bl mass 10/10/23

06/16/2023 GSWCC Chairman Date

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GSWCC Executive Director Date

Watershed Dam Update

- 1. Noon Day 17- Construction drawings have been approved and a construction permit has been issued by EPD. There is one easement agreement remaining that needs to be executed. Negotiations are in currently in progress with the landowner. Once it is executed, then bid documents will be released to the qualified bidders. An offer letter has been presented to the remaining landowner for the required easements.
- 2. Little River 25- Golder and Associates has submitted the Supplemental Watershed Plan to NRCS for final authorization. The permanent access road and removal of the trees has been completed. Contract negotiations are underway with FNI for design services.
- 3. Bull Creek 14- Construction is currently underway.
- 4. Bull Creek 12- Construction is currently underway.
- 5. Trion-Chattooga River Dike System- FNI has received comments from the NRCS National Headquarters. Comments will be addressed and final authorization is anticipated soon. FNI is in the process of advanced planning in anticipation of the SWP approval. Design is funded by NRCS pending approval of the Supplemental Watershed Plan.
- 6. **Supplemental Watershed Plans-** NRCS has received draft SWPS for 12 watershed dams located in Cherokee and Forsyth counties.
- 7. Maintenance Funds- Currently in various stages of dam maintenance projects in Banks and Paulding County. New trash racks have been installed in Paulding and Forsyth County due to increased beaver activity. Contracts have been executed for mowing bundles for previously cleared dams throughout the state with Rolling Hills RC&D and Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D.
- 8. Bull Creek 3- This project is currently under contract with Cline Service Corp. and activities are anticipated to start this week. Borrow material is being sourced and tested for the repair to this structure.
- 9. Assessments- 9 Assessments and 7 EAPs are being completed by FNI and Tetra Tech. Draft reports and EAPs are a being reviewed.
- 10. **Permitting** Currently in the process of contracting multiple engineering firms to submit permit applications to GA Safe Dams for watershed structures that can possibly be permitted "as is" or with only minor repairs. Permit application comments were received from GA Safe Dams Program and are being addressed for Sharp Mountain 13 and 14, and Ellijay 9 Watershed Structures.

Grants Update

1. A new Watershed Management Plan for Hard Labor Creek is being finalized and will be sent to GA EPD for their review and approval. Work continues in the North Fork Broad River-Middle Fork Broad River (Banks, Franklin, Habersham, and Stephens) and Wahoo

Creek-Little River (Hall, Lumpkin, and White). Agricultural BMP projects are underway with \$53,086 of BMP projects under contract.

A draft of a new Agricultural BMP manual for GA Cattle Producers is, complete and is under review, a draft document for GA Poultry Producer BMPs is underway.

 A Resource Conservation Partnership with NRCS is currently held and seeks to provide workshops statewide outlining available technical and financial opportunities available. This partnership also seeks to promote the NRCS Standard Practice 340 for using Cover Crops. Golden Triangle RC&D and the UGA Extension office in Terrell County have completed their cover crop demonstration.



Bull Creek #12 Muscogee County

Wing and Labyrinth Wall Progress

6.12.2023

Bull Creek #12 Muscogee County Wing and Labyrinth Wall Progress

6.09.2023



Bull Creek #12 Muscogee County Wing and Labyrinth Wall Progress

6.09.2023







4.4.2023



Rooty Creek #25

Putnam County- Elevated Water Level remediation

Flood Pool 4.4.2023



Rooty Creek #25 Auxiliary Spillway and High Flood Pool

4.4.2023



Rooty Creek #25-

Siphon Installed over the crest of the dam to reduce the impoundment.

5.8.2023





Rooty Creek #25 Reduced Flood Pool



Riser & Impoundment Almost at Normal Pool.



Rooty Creek #25

Riser After Cleanout and New Metal Works.

6.8.2023



