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 for Water Policy Bob Hanner, Urban Water Resources Program Manager Lauren Zdunczyk, E&SC Technical Specialist Ben Ruzowicz, Regional Representative Rahn Milligan, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Wilbur. Representing Georgia NRCS were Assistant State Conservationist for Programs Aquanda Jones and North Georgia Outreach Coordinator Chris Groskreutz. Guests included Gwinnett County district supervisor Ellis Lamme. Also attending was USDA-NRCS Associate Chief for Conservation Leonard Jordan. Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and asked Executive Director Dykes to give an invocation. Guests that were attending the Small Farms Conference were also in attendance.

On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 18, 2013, Board Meeting.

On a motion by Carl Brack and second by David Hays, the Board unanimously approved the resignations of Lower Chattahoochee River district supervisors Pete Griffith and Dennis Wills.

On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the Board unanimously approved the supervisors and candidates put forth in the June 2013 Appointment Report (please see attached.)

At this time, the Board called on Mr. Dykes to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Dykes began by updating the Board on Action Items from the April Board Meeting. Mr. Dykes reminded the Board of the nominees put forth to the Governor to fill elected district supervisor vacancies. On April 26th, the Governor named Mr. Larry Danese to fill a supervisor position on the DeKalb County District; (Mr. Danese has previously served as a supervisor for that district.) Also, Mr. Dykes informed the Board that the Commission is in the process of setting up a meeting with the Georgia Municipal Association in response to the Douglas, GA water pilot project. Mr. Dykes updated the Board on the Flint River district meeting he recently attended. At the meeting, district supervisors approved moving forward with a full review of the NRCS grant funded project within the district, as well as updates to the for expenditures of district funds.

Mr. Dykes next presented the Personnel Report. The Commission is currently advertising for a new Erosion and Sediment Control Specialist position based out of the Region I-Rome office. A part-time 319-grant funded position will also soon be advertised for the Region V-Dawson office. Additionally, the Commission has also submitted a critical hire request for the Statesboro office to replace the position being vacated by Dianne Griffith when she retires as Regional secretary at the end of June. Mr. Dykes
also announced that Ms. Niki Strain, the Commission’s Administrative Operations Manager, will be retiring at the end of June 2014.

Mr. Dykes proceeded to update the Board on the Commission’s budget at fiscal year-end. He explained that there were no funds available for purchase of additional vehicles due to necessary annual leave pay-outs to departing and retiring employees, as well as expenses associated with the closure of the Region III office and necessary software purchases. Mr. Dykes also explained that the agency had to participate in the new Zero-Based Budgeting reporting for all its programs by submitting information to OP. This Zero-Based Budgeting process is required for state programs on a rotating 8-year basis.

Mr. Dykes finished by reporting on the upcoming scheduled closure of the Conyers office. Guerry Thomas will be moving to office space in McDonough, and Susan Castle will move to the Oconee River District’s office in Winder. Ms. Jenny Searl’s last day with the Commission will be Friday, June 28th. Funds that previously were used to staff the Region III office will be used by the three regional offices affected by the closure, and towards funding the E&SC Specialist position in Rome.

The Board next called on Mr. Dave Eigenberg to give the Deputy Executive Director’s report. Mr. Eigenberg began by reporting that the Commission has proposed $750,000 as the request for the FY14 metering program budget. Currently, there are approximately 12,000 state-and farm-installed meters, with a total of over $18 million invested in the program to-date. The Commission is running a monthly 100-site route through the Flint River basin to collect data. This route takes three days each month to read, and the data collected is being shared with EPD and the Water Policy Center. The Commission has also been sending out postcards on a monthly basis to producers asking them to self-report meter readings. Approximately 390 postcards are mailed each month, with return rates as follows: 51 in March, 71 in April, and 53 in May, for an average 12% return response. However, Mr. Eigenberg did point out that several service calls for repair of faulty equipment have been made as a direct result of the postcards.

Mr. Eigenberg also reported that the Commission’s Pond Program is now complete, as construction on the last pond has been finished and the contract paid out. Inventory of water usage will still be taking place at the ponds, which span a ten-year maintenance period. The irrigation scheduling involving in-field soil moisture monitors is now being implemented in the southeastern part of the state. Jason Mallard out of the Statesboro office will be working on this process.

Mr. Eigenberg finished his report by updating the Board on the Baker County demonstration site regarding aquifer storage and recovery, as related to the recent SB215. Currently, selection is underway at GEFA for a firm to handle construction on the project; the contracted company will be announced within the next six weeks.

The Board next called on Mrs. Lauren Zdunczyk to give the Urban Program Update. Mrs. Zdunczyk began her report by updating the Board on several program developments. The current BMP grant ends September 30th, and the latest revisions and updates to the BMP manual will be presented for public comment in mid-July. Also, NPDES permits are set to expire on July 31st. Mrs. Zdunczyk
explained that the Commission is working with several other agencies, including local governments and the Georgia Homebuilders Association, in response to the expiration date and changes to the NPDES permitting process and timeline.

Next, Mrs. Zdunczyk presented the Board with Memorandum of Understanding agreements from both the City of Augusta and the City of Woodstock for each entity to conduct their erosion control plan reviews. On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by Hal Haddock, the Board approved the M.O. A. for the City of Augusta. On a motion by David Hays and second by Carl Brack, the Board approved the M.O.A. for the City of Woodstock.

Next, Ms. Zdunczyk updated the Board on proposed changes to the Commission’s current Re-Certification 90-Day Grace Period Policy (please see attached). The Commission’s recommendation is to replace current requirements with a four-hour course regardless of how long a certification has been expired. On a motion by Dennis Brown and second by David Hays, the Board approved the proposed changes to the Re-Certification process, as presented. Ms. Zdunczyk also presented the Board with a list of Trainers for review and approval (please see attached.) On a motion by David Hays and second by Carl Brack, the Board approved the list of Trainers as presented.

At this time, Mr. Hays made the recommendation that the Commission develop a process to recognize developers and companies who showed a willingness and commitment to meet and exceed required standards for E&SC plan review and construction. The other Board members agreed, and Mr. Dykes assured the Board that such options for public recognition would be explored and presented at upcoming Board Meetings.

The Board called on Ms. Aquanda Jones to give the NRCS update. Ms. Jones reported on several current and upcoming NRCS programs. Thus far, GA-NRCS has obligated 80% of the current fiscal year funding, amounting to $16.9 million dollars in 1,149 contracts statewide. The CSP sign-up has been closed out, and the Wetland Reserve program has received 33 applications. As a reminder, Local Work Group Meetings are scheduled for August. Ms. Jones stressed that any developments on the Farm Bill will influence funding and allotment priorities for next fiscal year.

Mr. Leonard Jordan spoke to the Board briefly regarding the USDA-NRCS Farmer/Ranchland Protection Program, and stressed the importance of this and other easement programs.

Chairman Thompson opened the floor to public comment. Several attendees thanked the Broad River district for hosting the Small Farms Conference.

Mr. Dykes reminded the Board that their next meeting could be scheduled in conjunction with the upcoming NACD Southeastern Meeting in August. The Board agreed to hold their next meeting at 3:00 P.M., on Monday, August 12th, in Savannah. On a motion by Hal Haddock and second by Carl Brack, the Board approved $120 per day for a maximum of two days district supervisor per diem for the NACD Southeast Meeting.
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia Wilbur

Approved by:

[Signatures]

GSWCC Chairman  Date  GSWCC Executive Director  Date
April 10, 2013

Memo To: Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission Board
From: Pete Griffith
Address: 608 State Highway 195
        Leesburg, Georgia 31763
Subject: Resignation Letter

Please allow this letter to serve as my immediate resignation of the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil & Water Conservation District, Supervisor of Lee County. My other commitments have become too great for me to fulfill the requirements of my position as Supervisor. Please accept my resignation and best wishes to the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil & Water Conservation District.

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 4/15/2013
April 16, 2013

Memo To: Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission Board
From: Dennis Wills
Address: 851 Wills Road
       Preston, Georgia 31824

Subject: Resignation Letter

Please allow this letter to serve as my immediate resignation of the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil & Water Conservation District, Supervisor of Webster County. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as Board member over the last 23 years and I'm thankful for the opportunity. Please accept my resignation and best wishes to the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil & Water Conservation District.

Signature: Dennis Wills

Date: April 27, 2013

"OUR SOIL IS OUR NATION'S GREATEST RESOURCE"
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MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE BRIER CREEK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AND

THE AUGUSTA – RICHMOND COUNTY COMMISSION

This Memorandum of Agreement entered into between the Brier Creek Soil and Water Conservation District, hereinafter referred to as the "District" and the Augusta–Richmond County Commission, hereinafter referred to as Augusta, Georgia.

WHEREAS, Augusta, Georgia has adopted an erosion and sedimentation control ordinance governing land-disturbing activities, which ordinance meets or exceeds the standards, requirements and provisions of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, Ga. Laws 1975, p. 994, as amended to date of execution of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, Augusta, Georgia has been certified by the Director of the Environmental Protection Division as an issuing authority for purposes of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Augusta, Georgia has demonstrated to the District its capabilities to review and approve erosion and sediment control plans and has requested an agreement with the District to conduct such review and approval; and

WHEREAS, the District enters into this agreement with the intent of allowing Augusta, Georgia to conduct the review and approval of erosion and sediment control plans without referring the applications and plans to the District, in compliance with Section 7(d) o- the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended; and

WHEREAS, both parties to this agreement, the District and Augusta, Georgia, understand that this Agreement cannot be effective until the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission gives its written concurrence hereto, as indicated by execution of this document;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties to this Agreement, the District and Augusta, Georgia, based on the mutual considerations as set forth below, hereby agree as follows:

I. 1. Augusta, Georgia shall maintain compliance with all standards, requirements, and provision of a certified local issuing authority as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 12-7-8 et seq, as amended.

2. Augusta, Georgia shall conduct technical review and approval of erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control plans in accordance with standards set forth in the Soil
Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance of Augusta, Georgia. Augusta, Georgia shall take appropriate steps to assure that approved plans are properly installed and maintained and that all measures and practices are in compliance with Augusta, Georgia’s Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance.

3. Augusta, Georgia shall submit to the District on a quarterly basis a report of the erosion and sediment control program. The report shall contain the number of plans reviewed and the overall program status. The report shall be submitted on a timely basis and of a form and content that is acceptable to the District and to Augusta, Georgia.

4. Augusta, Georgia shall keep the District informed of land-disturbing plans that might affect soil and water conservation.

5. Augusta, Georgia shall maintain a system of records, plans, applications, etc., of all actions taken under this Agreement, and shall make such records available to the District or its representative upon request.

II. 1. The District will allow Augusta, Georgia to conduct the review and approval of erosion and sediment control plans without the necessity of referring the application and plan to the District, so long as Augusta, Georgia complies with the conditions specified in this Agreement.

2. The District will review and carefully consider the reports submitted by Augusta, Georgia and shall make recommendations with regard to the adequacy of the program and its compliance with the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended.

3. The District shall provide Augusta, Georgia with expertise available through the District and through memoranda of agreement between the District and other agencies.

4. The District assures that erosion and sediment control assistance shall continue to be a priority item of the District program.

5. The District shall, upon request, provide or conduct informational, educational, and training programs, including but not limited to, the review of erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control plans and the implementation and enforcement of the Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance.

6. The District shall provide to Augusta, Georgia an annual evaluation of the quality of plan reviews and effectiveness of its erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control program.

III. It is mutually understood and agreed as follows:

1. This memorandum shall not be amended without consent of both parties and concurrence of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

2. Augusta, Georgia’s files of erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control plans and actions shall remain accessible to the District.
3. This memorandum may be terminated at any time by either party, upon sixty (60) days written notice. It shall terminate automatically and without written notice if the Environmental Protection Division revokes the certification of Augusta, Georgia program pursuant to Section 8 (c) of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended.

4. This memorandum shall be effective on the date of the concurrence herewith by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 18th day of June, 2013

[Signature]
Notary Public
My commission expires: 7/1/14

Augusta, Georgia
By: C.E. Alexander
Title: Mayor

Brier Creek Soil & Water Conservation District
By: Arthur M. Riden
Title: Vice-Chairman

This memorandum is hereby concurred in by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission this 21st day of June, 2013.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 21st day of June, 2013

[Signature]
Notary Public
My commission expires: 12-13-16

State Soil and Water Conservation Commission
By: [Signature]
Title: Executive Director
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE LIMESTONE VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AND

THE CITY OF WOODSTOCK, GEORGIA

This Memorandum of Agreement entered into between the Limestone Valley Soil and Water Conservation District, hereinafter referred to as the "District" and the City of Woodstock, hereinafter referred to as the City.

WHEREAS, the City has adopted an erosion and sedimentation control ordinance governing land-disturbing activities, which ordinance meets or exceeds the standards, requirements and provisions of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, Ga. Laws 1975, p. 994, as amended to date of execution of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City has been certified by the Director of the Environmental Protection Division as an issuing authority for purposes of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City has demonstrated to the District its capabilities to review and approve erosion and sediment control plans and has requested an agreement with the District to conduct such review and approval; and

WHEREAS, the District enters into this agreement with the intent of allowing the City to conduct the review and approval of erosion and sediment control plans without referring the applications and plans to the District, in compliance with Section 7(d) of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended; and

WHEREAS, both parties to this agreement, the District and the City, understand that this Agreement cannot be effective until the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission gives its written concurrence hereeto, as indicated by execution of this document;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties to this Agreement, the District and the City, based on the mutual considerations as set forth below, hereby agree as follows:

I. The City shall conduct technical review and approval of erosion and sediment control plans in accordance with standards set forth in the ordinance of the City. The City shall take appropriate steps to assure that approved plans are properly installed and maintained and that all measures and practices are in compliance with the City’s erosion and sedimentation control ordinance.
2. The City shall submit to the District on a quarterly basis a report of the erosion and sediment control program. The report shall contain the number of plans reviewed and the overall program status. The report shall be submitted on a timely basis and of a form and content that is acceptable to the District and to the City.

3. The City shall keep the District informed of land-disturbing plans that might affect soil and water conservation.

4. The City shall maintain a system of records, plans, applications, etc., of all actions taken under this Agreement, and shall make such records available to the District or its representative upon request.

II. 1. The District will allow the City to conduct the review and approval of erosion and sediment control plans without the necessity of referring the application and plan to the District, so long as the City complies with the conditions specified in this Agreement.

2. The District will review and carefully consider the reports submitted by the City and shall make recommendations with regard to the adequacy of the program and its compliance with the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended.

3. The District shall provide the City with expertise available through the District and through memoranda of agreement between the District and other agencies.

4. The District assures that erosion and sediment control assistance shall continue to be a priority item of the District program.

5. The District shall, upon request, provide or conduct informational and educational programs to train individuals charged with review of erosion and sediment control plans, manpower and funding permitting.

III. It is mutually understood and agreed as follows:

1. This memorandum shall not be amended without consent of both parties and concurrence of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

2. The City's files of erosion and sediment control plans and actions shall remain accessible to the District.

3. The District may secure additional review services before making recommendations on the adequacy of the program of the City.

4. This memorandum may be terminated at any time by either party, upon sixty (60) days written notice. It will terminate automatically and without written notice if the Environmental Protection Division revokes the certification of the City program pursuant to Section 8 (c) of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, as amended.

5. This memorandum shall be effective on the date of the concurrence herewith by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 17th day of June, 2013

Rhonda Lynne Pizzello
Notary Public
My commission expires: 6-30-13

City of Woodstock, Georgia
By: __________________________
Title: Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 18th day of June, 2013

Mary Sue Stiles
Notary Public
My commission expires: 4-11-15

MARY SUE STILES
NOTARY PUBLIC
Glimer County
State of Georgia
My Commission Expires
April 11, 2015

This memorandum is hereby concurred in by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission this 21st day of June, 2013.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 21st day of June, 2013

Lauren Ann Zdonczyk
Notary Public
My commission expires 12-13-2016

State Soil and Water Conservation Commission
By: __________________________
Title: Executive Director
Proposed Change to the GSWCC Re-certification 90 Day Grace Period Policy

Since 2005, GSWCC has issued close to 124,000 certifications. Although so many certifications have been issued, there are only about 30,000 active certifications in the State as of today. Over the last few months GSWCC has seen an increase in the number of calls from individuals with expired certifications. GSWCC expects the calls to increase as construction picks up.

Due to the high number of certifications that are or will be past the 90 day grace period, GSWCC is considering making changes to the current policy that would improve customer service while maintaining the integrity of the program.

Below is the current policy and the proposed revision GSWCC staff is considering. Any changes to the policy could potentially take effect July 1, 2013.

**Current Policy:**
Individuals that fail to obtain at least 4 hours of continuing education prior to their expiration date will have a 90 day grace period to attend a continuing education course. Failure to attend a continuing education course after the 90 day grace period will require the individual to attend the full course and pass the exam.

Please note that the 90 day grace period does not apply to your certification status. If an individual allows their certification to expire, they will be in noncompliance with the State Law and are subject to any enforcement actions that may occur. The 90 day grace period will only exempt them from retaking the course and exam. For example if they are a design professional, certification must be current at the time the plan is submitted for review.

**Proposed Revision to the Policy:**
Individuals seeking to extend or renew an expired certification, regardless of how long a certification has been expired, must attend at least 4 hours of continuing education as established by GSWCC.

Please note that, if an individual conducts a land disturbing activity with an expired certification, that individual is in noncompliance with O.C.G.A. 12-7-1 and may be subject to enforcement action.

**Other Licensing Board Policies**
- Professional Engineer – pay an additional fee to get license reinstated. The fee increases with amount of time the license is lapsed.
- Pesticide License – once certification expires, individuals must retake the test. However there are some exceptions which are at the discretion of the Pesticide Board.
- Professional Geologist – Pay additional fee to get license reinstated if lapsed less than 2 years. 2 years or more, individual has to retake the exam.
Trainees 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. Melissa Echevarria

Education - MS Environmental Policy and Management, American Military University
BS Environmental Studies, University of West Georgia

Experience – 2011 – Present – SR, Environmental Inspector/Fats, Oils & Grease, City of East Point
2007 – 2011 – Plan Reviewer/E&S Specialist, Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Duties Performed:
- Reviews plans for environmental compliance with the City’s commercial pretreatment, stormwater and E&S ordinances.
- Performs site inspections to ensure sites are in compliance with the approved ES&PC plan
- Provided technical review of the ES&PC plans on behalf of the metro area Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- Handled complaints and sites inspections for the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation’s Region Three office.

Ms. Echevarria meets requirements with education and experience.

2. Brad McCook

Experience – 2005 – Present – Permit Supervisor, Athens-Clarke County Transportation and Public Works
2002 – 2004 – Owner/Project Manager, Environmental Site Management
2001 – 2002 – Project Manager, Metro Erosion Company

Duties Performed –
- Issues Land disturbance permits for Athens-Clarke County
- Oversees all active land disturbing activity within Athens-Clarke County
- Completes E&S reports required by Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
- Conducts NPDES inspections
- Turbidity Sampling
- Oversaw installation of BMPs on site

Mr. McCook meets the requirements with experience.
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 10 yrs field experience.

1. Jason Davis, PE

Education – BS Civil Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
Experience – December 2009 – Present – Davis Engineering & Surveying, LLC, President
    • August 2006 - December 2009 – GeoImage, LLC, Project Engineer
    • July 2004 – August 2006 – B.C. Engineering, Inc, Staff Engineer
Duties Performed:
- Manage and coordinate projects with clients, LIAs, and contractors from inception to completion
- Designs plans, including grading, utility, ES&PC for residential, commercial and industrial sites.

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

2. Marcus Wilkes - CPESC

Education – 2008 Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control
Experience – 2000 – 2006, Forsyth County, Erosion Control Inspector
    • 2006 – Present, Forsyth County, Erosion and Sedimentation Supervisor
Duties Preformed:
- Conducts environmental audits, inspections and investigations of violations.
- Conducts stream delineations of perennial, intermittent and ephemeral streams
- Reviews and approves stream buffer restoration projects
- Supervises and manages six Erosion Control Inspectors
- Monitors environmental impacts of development activities
- Executes daily inspections of construction sites

Mr. Wilkes meets requirements with experience and CPESC Certification.