



**GSWCC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Via Zoom**

**TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING:**

The Board Meeting for the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 via zoom.

**CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Martin at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Bob Martin gave the invocation.

The following board members in attendance via zoom: Chairman Bob Martin, Vice Chairman Vikki Consiglio, Edwin Nix, and Jim Waters. A quorum was established.

Supervisors in attendance in via zoom: Andrew Standard, Coastal SWCD, and Deetra Poindexter, Clayton County,

Partners in attendance via zoom: Jake Ford, Katelyn Poppell, Leanne Hopper, and Katie Sponberger, GACD, Terrance Rudolph, NRCS and Courtnee Davenport, GA RC&D,

Members of the Public in attendance via zoom: No one attended

Attending members of the Commission in attendance via zoom were: Mitch Attaway, Executive Director, Robert Amos, Deputy Director, Ben Ruzowciz, Urban Program, Ben Hyer, Rural Project Manager, Greg Walker, Rural Project Manager, and Jacqueline Holt, Administrative Assistant.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Martin asked for approval of the minutes from the April 8, 2025 meeting. A motion by Edwin Nix to approve the minutes, and second by Vikki Consiglio, passed.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY MITCH ATTAWAY:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:**

Mitch stated that Karen Bruce has official resigned from the Commission at the end of May and Commission staff held a luncheon for her on May 29, 2025. He said Dylan DiNello is filling Marla Whittington's position.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Mitch stated Marla was not in attendance at this meeting because she is attending the last required class through the Department of Agriculture. He stated Marla has taken over the financial responsibilities. Mitch stated we are looking at having a 7% surplus when covering the end of month/year expenses.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **SWCD Allotment:**

Mitch stated the District Allotment is the same as last year and it has been the same since FY 23 when we received a \$80,000 increase. He said a 35% base is sent to each district and 65% is based on the number of counties in each district.

Chairman Martin asked for approval of the District Allotment. A motion to approve the District Allotment by Vikki Consiglio, and second by Edwin Nix, passed.

#### **Annual Meeting per Diem:**

Mitch stated the annual per diem for Supervisors was \$120 per day but last year the GSWCC Board agreed to increase it to \$160 per day. He stated he would like to request an increase in the annual meeting per diem to \$210 per day. He said the \$210 will cover the cost of the hotel room per night for the GACD Annual Meeting and that one way to get participation is to help the Supervisors and Board members with the per diem and hotel meeting costs.

Chairman Martin asked for approval of the increase in the per diem. A motion to approve the increase in the per diem by Vikki Consiglio, and second by Edwin Nix, passed.

Vice Chairman Consiglio asked about the reimbursement of registration, food and hotel costs for GSWCC Board members.

Mitch Attaway stated that the Board would be treated like a staff member and would be refunded for expenses and GACD staff member Leanne Hopper sent the board members information about the registration fee recently.

Attaway mentioned important dates coming up for GSWCC stating the GACD Annual Meeting is August 17-19, 2025. He said we share a booth with the GACD at the GA National Fair and the Sunbelt Agri Expo will be in Moultrie this year.

Attaway stated Katie Sponberger reached out to him with an idea about helping the Districts have more contact with their local legislators. He said he thought this was a great idea. He said Katie's idea is to target something in the fall for Supervisors to get in front of their local legislators when their schedules were not so full. He said with the DOGE cuts, we may not have funds to do what we need to do.

### **DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY ROBERT AMOS:**

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS:**

Amos stated that he is at ABAC this week and he has a really great group kids this year.

He said Jackie has sent the appointments and resignations for this meeting in the Board packet.

Chairman Martin asked for a motion to approve the appointments. A motion by Vikki Consiglio to approve the appointments, and second by Edwin Nix, passed.

Chairman Martin stated there were no resignations to be presented at this meeting.

## **UPDATES:**

Robert Amos stated that all Regions are really busy and that Region 4 is extra busy preparing for ABAC. He stated Michelle Conner is doing a great job with ABAC this year. He wanted to let the Board know how much the kids appreciate being able to come to this camp at no cost to them.

## **URBAN REPORT BY BEN RUZOWICZ:**

### **Updates:**

Ruzowicz stated there have been 719 plans reviewed from April 8, 2025 through June 10, 2025. He stated there have been 226 courses with a total of 1,714 attendees and of that total 1,114 were re-certifications and 600 were new certifications. He stated there were 30 Awareness, 457 Level 1A, 63 Level 1B, and 50 Level II courses held.

### **BMP Approval:**

Ruzowicz stated there are 4 BMP's for approval but he did not receive all of the information on Gator Guard Environmental standard and Extreme Wattle until Friday, June 6, 2025. He said it is up to the Board as to whether they want to include this one in the approval process today. Chairman Martin stated he thinks it is right to table this BMP until the meeting next month. Chairman Martin requested a motion be made. Edwin Nix made a motion to table the BMP for Gator Guard Environmental Standard and Extreme Wattle until the next meeting, with a second by Jim Waters, passed.

Ruzowicz stated the remaining 3 BMPS were Friendly Environmental Smart Fence 36 to be used as SD1-s Sediment Barrier Sensitive; Profile Products Profile Wood with Tack (HECP) SS=Slope Stabilization, and American Excelsior Company Curlex Sediment Log to be used as SD1-s Sediment Barrier Sensitive. Chairman Martin called for a motion to approval the 3 BMPS listed. Edwin Nix made a motion to approve the BMP, and second by Jim Waters, passed

### **MOA-Union County:**

Ruzowicz stated the LIA made the request, and the District voted to proceed. He stated the Overview Report was completed by Josh Jackwood, who is the Regional Representative for that district, and the Co plan review.

## **RURAL REPORT BY BEN HYER AND GREG WALKER:**

See attached report.

**PARTNER UPDATES:**

GACD: See attached report

NRCS: See attached report

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None made.

Attaway discussed the next meeting. He said the agenda states August 12, 2025 but since the GACD Annual Meeting is the week following August 12, we could do a hybrid meeting during the Annual Meeting.

Martin asked if there were any comments about the next board meeting during the GACD Annual Meeting. None were made.

Attaway stated he will work out the details with GACD in the next two weeks.

Chairman Martin stated he would table the idea and give Attaway two weeks to let everyone know.

The next meeting is to be determined.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectively Submitted by:

Jacqueline Holt

Approved by:

 8/18/25  
GSWCC Chairman      Date

 6/10/25  
GSWCC Executive Director      Date