

**GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

UGA Center for Continuing Education
December 12, 2013

Participating 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, Regional Representatives John Loughridge, Robert Amos, Rahn Milligan, Keegan Malone, and Luke Crosson, Communications Specialist Mike Wald, Metering Program Manager Jake Fleming, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Wilbur. Representing NRCS was Mr. Tansel Hudson. Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and asked Executive Director Dykes to give an invocation.

On a motion by Carl Brack and second by David Hays, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 31, 2013, Board Meeting.

On a motion by David Hays and second by Hal Haddock, the Board unanimously approved the December Appointment Report (please see attached.)

At this time, Chairman Thompson called on Mr. Dykes to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Dykes began by presenting the Board with an updated draft of the guidelines for the Commission's proposed Award for Outstanding E&SC Practices. The Board discussed the changes; however, no official action was taken at this time. Next, Mr. Dykes gave the Personnel Report. The Commission hired Mr. Berry Collier on November 20th as the 319 Coordinator for Region V. Mr. Collier is currently working out of an NRCS office in Wilcox County.

Mr. Dykes next presented the Board with the budget presentation given to staff at OPB at the November Budget hearing. He especially highlighted the Commission's planned activities in 2014 and the issues and concerns that the Commission felt were most pressing in the upcoming year. Additionally, Mr. Dykes reported that the proposed agency legislation that was discussed after the 2013 General Assembly session will not be included in the Governor's 2014 legislative package.

At this time, Ms. Cynthia Wilbur gave a brief update on the upcoming 2014 District Supervisor elections process. Currently (barring no additional vacancies), the 2014 election will include 126 district supervisor positions in 110 counties. The Commission is still waiting on the Secretary of State's office to release the finalized 2014 State elections calendar, which will include qualifying dates for all district supervisor candidates.

At this time, the Board called on Mr. Eigenberg to give the Deputy Executive Director's Report. Mr. Eigenberg reported on the current state studies involving aquifer storage and recovery. Currently, 13 other states are successfully conducting transfers, and Georgia has concluded that the process will be cheaper than

constructing comparable above-ground reservoirs. A pilot site has been selected in Baker County to test the feasibility of future aquifer transfer and storage methods. In regards to existing aquifers, the Commission is coordinating with EPD and USGS to use a deep-well logging truck to test aquifer properties and gather info for EPD.

Mr. Eigenberg next reported that the Metering Program will have their water-use report completed in February for use in water-use letters that will be sent to producers in March. Commission staff previously met with the Georgia Forestry Commission to plan for the 2013 meter readings. GSWCC staff are also now trained to repair meters, thus decreasing the overall expense for installing new replacement meters.

The Board next called on Mr. Bob Fulmer to give the Watershed Structure Update. Mr. Fulmer reported that grading has now begun on the Ellijay River #1 (Gilmer County) structure, and that the rehabilitation to the South River #29 (Madison County) structure is complete, including the new concrete spillway and the raised auxiliary spillway. In FY14, the agency will start a new maintenance initiative on up to ten dams in addition to developing breach analysis studies and emergency action plans on these dams. In FY13, the Commission has used state money for maintenance, and several districts, including the Limestone Valley district, are working with local counties in an effort to get county-maintenance contracts for 2014 watershed maintenance.

Mr. Fulmer also updated the Board on the two current Commission grants: the Cedar-Folsom grant is located in Wilcox County, and the Nutrient Management Planning is located in the Setting Down Creek and the Lower Altamaha River watersheds.

The Board next called on Ms. Zdunczyk to give the Urban Program Update. She began by reporting that all of the public meetings regarding the Green Book updates had good attendance with good public input. The majority of questions were regarding the transitions to take place throughout 2014, and Ms. Zdunczyk responded that a one-year plan was in place to handle the various aspects of the changes, including the changes for sediment barriers. The new manual will be posted online on January 1st, along with the Testing Procedures and the Responses to Public Comments. Ms. Zdunczyk also reported that Commission staff are working with EPD on the new NPDES permits, which began issuance at the end of September 2013. She noted that the new permits no longer included a need for a buffer variance on watershed structure maintenance sites.

Next, Mr. Tansel Hudson gave the NRCS Update. He began with a brief program update: the Local Work Group Meetings are complete for 2013, EQIP has received 6,000 applications to-date, and the CSP sign-up ends on January 18th. The agency-wide administrative re-alignment continues, and is targeted at increasing specialization throughout offices. Mr. Hudson cautioned that this might result in changes to the signing process for NRCS agreements. Lastly, Mr. Hudson stated that he assumed that NRCS would have their usual attendance at the upcoming 2014 GACDS Annual Meeting scheduled for January 24th-26th in Macon.

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At this time, Mr. Dykes took the opportunity of updating the Board on additional news regarding the Annual Meeting. Zippy Duvall and Chris Clark will both serve as speakers at the event. This year's meeting will not include a raffle as in past years; however, there is a multi-stop tour scheduled for Saturday, January 25th, which will include several sites south of Macon.

At this time, Chairman Thompson opened up the floor for public comments.

Mr. Dykes reminded the Board that their next meeting was scheduled to coincide with the Annual Meeting. The suggestion as made to meet at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, January 24th, at the Macon Marriott.

At this time, Mr. Dykes requested that the meeting be adjourned and be re-convened at 9:30 A.M. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Board agreed to this request.

The Board unanimously agreed to come out of Executive Session. No official actions were taken at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia Wilbur

Approved by:



GSWCC Chairman Date 1-24-14



GSWCC Executive Director Date 1-24-14

AFFIDAVIT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Before an officer duly authorized to administer oaths appeared Chairman Garland Thompson, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

- (1) I am competent to make this Affidavit and have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- (2) Pursuant to my duties as Chairman, I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission held on the 12th day of December, 2013. A portion of said meeting was closed to the public.
- (3) It is my understanding that O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

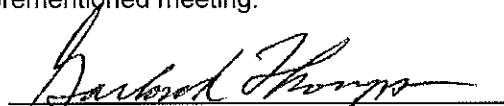
When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the person presiding over such meeting, or, if the agency's policy so provides, each member of the governing body of the agency attending such meeting, shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

- (4) The subject matter of said meeting, or the closed portion thereof, was devoted to matters within exceptions to public disclosure provided by law. Those specific relevant exceptions are identified as follows:

A meeting to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(2).

This affidavit is executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) and is to be filled with the official minutes for the aforementioned meeting.

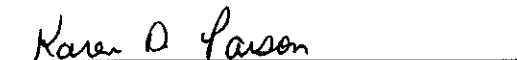
This 12th day of December, 2013.



Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This 12th day of December, 2013.



Notary Public

**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	West Georgia	Douglas	1. Mac C. Abercrombie	Rome	100%	10/13/15		
			2. Dan Brantley					
			3. Freddie Waldrop					
III	Altamaha	Appling	1. Jeffery Deen	Baxley	87%	11/13/15		
			2. Eddie Miles					
			3. Tom Craven					
			Jeff Davis	1. Brazle H. Claxton	Hazelhurst	87%	02/27/16	
			2. Bobby Kirkland					
			3. Charles Pace					
		Satilla River	Atkinson	1. James Cray Grantham	Willacoochee	67%	01/08/16	
								2. Mark Tucker
				3. Jim Paulk				
			Camden	1. William Alexander	Woodbine	88%	11/25/15	
			2. Dwight McCollough					
			3. Kenneth Gay					
	Ohoopce River	Wheeler	1. Lynn Johnson	Alamo	83%	01/24/16		
							2. Frank Thomas	
							3. Martin Wilcher	
IV	Towaliga	Fayette	1. Ricky Minter	Fayetteville	NEW	09/20/15		
			2. Stephanie Minter Adamek					
			3. Michael Wade Harp					
V	Alapaha	Clinch	1. Roy Crumbly	Homerville	NEW	10/30/15		
			2. Wiley Henson					
			3. Chester Mattox					
		Ocmulgee River	Bibb	1. Donald Newberry	Lizella	70%	10/30/15	
								2. Phillip Ivey
								3. Jimbo Hatcher
			Crawford	1. Jimmy Moncrief	Roberta	90%	10/30/15	
				2. Larry Spillers				
				3. Larry Cooley				
			Houston	1. David Muse	Perry	75%	10/30/15	
				2. Robert Thompson				
				3. Wayne Talton				
		Pulaski	1. Bobby Lancaster	Hawkinsville	100%	10/30/15		
			2. Bobby Carter					
			3. Doyle Simmons					
		Wilcox	1. Leon Arant	Pitts	90%	10/30/15		
			2. David Self					
			3. Marty Bloodworth					