



Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D
Full Council Meeting – March 31, 2011
Minutes

A full Council meeting was held on March 31, 2011 at the Lumpkin County Community Center in Dahlonega, GA.

The following council members were in attendance:

Banks County – Leslie George / Milton Dalton
Dawson County – George Lyons
Forsyth County – Brenda Johnson
Franklin County – Tim East
Habersham County – Lewis Canup
Hall County – No Council Members present
Hart County – No Council Members present
Lumpkin County – Tim Bowden / Bill Scott
Rabun County – Katheryn Granberg
Stephens County – Jeanette Jamieson
Townsend County – No Council Members present
Union County – No Council Members present
White County – Edwin Nix
Blue Ridge Mountains SWCD – No Council Members present
Broad River SWCD – No Council Members present
Hall County SWCD – Larry Nix
Stephens County SWCD – No Council Members present
Upper Chattahoochee River SWCD – Leonard Ridings / Edsel Nix
Georgia Mountains RC – No Council Members present

Approximately twelve additional guests and partners attended.

Jeanette Jamieson, Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Edsel Nix, Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Vice-President, gave the Invocation

Tim Bowden, Lumpkin County Commissioner, welcomed the group to Lumpkin County.

The audience members were given an opportunity to introduce themselves and state what organization they represented.

Chris Groskreutz, NRCS/RC&D Coordinator, gave an RC&D Quiz and Orientation. He mentioned the new Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Council Handbook. He also conveyed the importance and benefits of the handbook.

Ms. Jamieson presented an RC&D Program update. She explained the importance of the RC&D program.

Ms. Jamieson reported that Congress is still operating under a Continuing Resolution which will expire on April 8th. She also stated that all 11 Georgia RC&D Councils are members of the National Association of RC&D Council's Circle of Diamonds Tier 1 and that the Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D is the only Council in Georgia that has achieved the Tier 2 level.

Ms. Jamieson reported that the Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Council's Executive Board voted unanimously to remain operating if Congress does not fund the RC&D program. She added that existing grants and agreements will make it possible for the Council to do so.

Joe Chamberlin and Jann George presented a program on the Legacy Tree Project. This is a program created by Valent USA Corporation to help preserve the history and beauty of America's urban forest by providing solutions to protect trees from invasive pests such as Emerald Ash Borer and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. The goal of this project is to help build public awareness of invasive pests by providing treatment of trees located on municipal property in several different states. In Georgia, Valent has partnered with AdelRid, the Hemlock Survival Specialist, a hemlock tree treatment company located in Banks County. The Legacy Tree Project in Georgia will protect several hundred Georgia Hemlock trees from HWA while raising public awareness.

Mr. George discussed how HWA is spreading rapidly across North Georgia and has already left thousands of dead hemlock trees in its wake. Now is the time to take preventive action to save remaining North Georgia Hemlock trees from this fate.

There being no further comments, the business meeting was adjourned.

Following an invocation offered by Ms. Jamieson, a delicious meal was enjoyed compliments of Lumpkin County Commissioners and The Dessertery.



Josh Crozier, Recorder