



Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D
Executive Board Meeting
January 25, 2010
Minutes

Members present were Edsel Nix, Vice-President; Dennis Brown, Secretary and Larry Nix, Treasurer. Members absent: Jeanette Jamieson, President; Lewis Canup, Member-at-Large and Jim Dobson, Member-at-Large. Others present – James Tillman, NRCS State Conservationist, Chris Groskreutz, Josh Crozier, and Susan Creasy.

Edsel called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Larry, 2nd by Dennis to approve the December 8, 2009 minutes as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ongoing Program Updates

- Wheels-to-Work – A written report was reviewed
 - ❖ A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to write off the \$2,816.00 owed by Charice Bradshaw as uncollectible. Motion carried unanimously.
 - ❖ A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to sell the GEO Tracker rather than try to repair it, along with the repossessed 1996 Town and Country. Motion carried unanimously. Tina anticipates selling the Tracker for \$600 and the Town and Country for approximately \$150.
- Revolving Loan – Jeanette was to provide an update on the status of the current loan. A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to table this topic. Motion carried unanimously.

General Updates/New Business

- The status of the 2010 annual dues was reviewed. Dues payments are pending from Dawson, Forsyth and Lumpkin counties. All other supporting organizations have made payment. Chris will meet with the commissioners of these counties to discuss the RC&D program and how it benefits their citizens.
- Sponsors for 2010 meetings – A draft letter was reviewed and approved. Edsel is going to check with White County about sponsoring the March meeting. The letter will be modified as necessary and distributed following that decision. Dennis suggested adding an additional page that describes the benefits received by each county from RC&D.
- It was reported that the federal mileage rate has dropped from .55 per mile to .50.
- The 2009 financial audit is underway.
- The survey requested by the National RC&D has been completed and returned.
- A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Edsel to contribute \$250 to sponsor the May 13, 2010 Hall County Ag Day. Motion carried unanimously.
- A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to sponsor lunch at the March 3, 2010 North Region Georgia Envirothon. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Projects Report

- Mud Creek 319(h) – An update was included in Josh's written report
 - ❖ All of the funds have been allocated
 - ❖ There is a possible partnership opportunity with the GASWCC and SWCDs to host a field day
 - ❖ A \$604,028 proposal for Phase II was submitted to EPD

- Soque River 319(h) – An invoice has been submitted for work completed to date
- Georgia CIG – Susan reported that most of the work has been completed by the land owners and invoices are pending payment from NFWF.

Coordinator's Report

- USF&W
 - ❖ A project is pending in Cobb County at Shaw Park
 - ❖ A \$250,000 proposal has been submitted in partnership with Limestone Valley RC&D for "Landscape Level" projects in the Upper Coosa River Basin. There will be an emphasis on Better Back Roads projects.
- Farm Bill Workshops – Final invoice is pending submission
- Urban Forestry ARRA Project-An application was submitted as a joint effort with Oconee River RC&D and Upper Ocmulgee River RC&D to plant trees on public property
- Farmer's Market EBT – This statewide program has been funded for placement of electronic machines, training and promotions to provide locally grown fruits and vegetables to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients. A meeting was held on 1/15/10 in Union County regarding this project. Union County representatives and a Rabun County citizen were present and desired to proceed.
- RBEG – There is a new funding opportunity available. Chris shared with the Board some information that will be necessary to gather and submit before preparing a new application for this year's funding request. A motion was made by Dennis, 2nd by Larry to table this item until the next meeting.
- Scrap Tire Baler Program – An official proposal is still pending.
- North Georgia Agritourism Workshop – The proceeds of the workshop (\$864) were received by the council. These will be used to promote future Agritourism activities.
- Potential Projects:
 - ❖ White Feather Farm – Located in Hart County is seeking funding to install a methane digester. Motion was made by Larry, 2nd by Dennis to gather more information, including the possible time commitment and role the Council would play. Motion carried unanimously.
 - ❖ City of Baldwin – Requested assistance with a proposed Animal Control Program. A motion was made by Larry, 2nd by Dennis not to pursue this. Motion carried unanimously.

Other

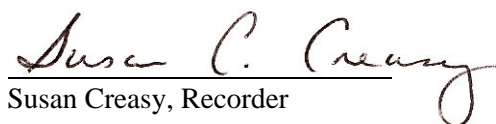
- Josh reported that he assisted Bethany Brown, Union County Soil Technician in pursuing funding for renovating the Union County Ag barn.
- There are funds available from the Georgia RC&D Council to offset the expenses of council members traveling to Washington, DC for the Leadership Forum March 1-2. Susan is to send the meeting information to Larry and Dennis.
- James Tillman reported that there may be funding opportunities available through NRCS in the future for RC&D projects.

Meeting adjourned.

Upcoming Dates:

February 15, 2010 – Next Executive Board Meeting

September 22 – 25, 2010 – Southeastern RC&D meeting – Biloxi, MS


 Susan Creasy, Recorder