**NORTH CAROLINA**

**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISION**

**SPECIAL-CALLED TEAMS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**February 10th, 2025**

Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Division of Soil & Water Conservation

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Commission Members** | **Guests - Online** | **Guests -Online** |
| John Langdon, Chair | Gail Hughes |  |
| Billy Kilpatrick | Jennifer Roach |  |
| James Lamb | Lisa Fine |  |
| Brian Parker | Michael Shepherd |  |
| Patrick Baker | Elise McLaughlin |  |
| Barbara Bleiweis | Allie Dinwiddie |  |
|  | Ken Parks |  |
| **Commission Counsel** | Shelby Kaplan |  |
| Phillip Reynolds |  |  |
| **Guests - Online** |  |  |
| David Williams |  |  |
| Julie Henshaw |  |  |
| Matt Safford |  |  |
| Kristina Fischer |  |  |
| Rick McSwain |  |  |
| Josh Vetter |  |  |
| John Beck |  |  |
| Cayle Aldridge |  |  |

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

**II. PRELIMINARY:** Chairman Langdon charged the Commission members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were declared.

**III. BUSINESS:**

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon asked if there were any objections to the agenda as distributed. None were noted.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Consideration of Options for Supplemental Allocation for ACSP at the March Commission meeting:** Chairman Langdon recognized Director David Williams to present. PowerPoint will be included as an official part of the report.

Director Williams reminded the Commission of the special disaster policies adopted by the Commission at its October 16, 2024 Teleconference meeting. He also presented the language describing allocation of contingency funds for ACSP from rule 59D.0103 c. He informed the Commission that presently there are $728,000 available to be allocated at the March Commission meeting. The Division is seeking direction from the Commission as to whether it wants to dedicate all or some of the available funds for addressing ag road repairs and emergency access restoration for the counties included in the Presidential declaration for Hurricane Helene. He presented two options:

1. Using all available funds for regular cost share allocation statewide
2. Using all available funds for ag road repairs/emergency access restoration in the Helene counties.

Chairman Langdon suggested that since the available funding had increased from approximately $500,000 to more than $728,000 he would prefer to devote 60% of the available funds to road repairs for Helene counties and retain 40% for statewide allocation. After some discussion, Commissioner Bleiweis offered a motion to approve the 60/40 split proposed by Chairman Langdon. Commissioner Lamb offered a second to the motion. Chairman Langdon polled each Commission member for their vote on the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

Director Williams added that if there is a special disaster appropriation any funds allocated for Helene road repairs not already committed to contracts would be transferred back as regular CS funds and allocated out to eligible districts statewide.

Director Williams reminded everyone that the next Commission meeting would be in Dare County on March 11-12. He will distribute the lodging information later in the week.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chairman Langdon asked for any public comments.

**V. ADJURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

David B. Williams, Director David B. Williams, Recording Secretary

Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

***These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on March 12 , 2025.***