



Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D  
Executive Board Meeting  
February 22, 2010  
Minutes

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

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

Motion was made by Larry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lewis to approve the January 25, 2010 minutes as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Larry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lewis to allow Tina to reduce her hours to four hours/week. If more funding becomes available, this decision will be revisited. Motion carried unanimously.
- Revolving Loan – A draft certified letter was reviewed and approved by the Board. This letter will now be sent to Jeanette for review and signature.

#### General Updates/New Business

- The status of the 2010 annual dues was reviewed. Dues payments are pending from Dawson and Lumpkin counties. All other supporting organizations have made payment. Lumpkin County has requested that the invoice be re-sent and has appointed two new representatives (Bill Scott and Tim Bowden). Edsel will speak with Charles Tatum regarding the status of Dawson County.
- Sponsors for 2010 meetings – With White County offering to sponsor the March meeting, the sponsorship letter has been modified. The revised letter will be sent out to the counties that have not hosted a meeting in the past two years.
- The 2009 financial audit is underway.
- Susan reported on the availability of a two-day Quickbooks class being offered by the Georgia Small Business Development Center. A motion was made by Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry to pay the \$199 tuition. Motion carried unanimously.
- An update was provided on Jim Dobson. He is home resting following a hospital stay for bronchitis.
- Dennis Brown will be representing the Council at the upcoming Leadership Forum March 1-2 in Washington, DC.
- Susan reported that she was asked to serve on a planning committee for statewide training for Council members. Details will be provided as they become available.
- Josh reported that he will be taking over the maintenance of the Council's website.

#### Special Projects Report

- Mud Creek 319(h) – (An update was included in Josh's written report)
  - ❖ A field day will be held in April. The exact date has yet to be determined but it will probably be the 7<sup>th</sup> or the 9<sup>th</sup>. Several sponsors have been lined up and details will be forthcoming. In addition to fliers being distributed, details will be posted on the Council's website at chestchattred.org.
- Soque River 319(h) – (An update was included in Josh's written report)
  - ❖ 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. The agreement was recently modified and this should simplify the financial reporting process and facilitate the requests for reimbursement.

#### Coordinator's Report

- RBEG – With the very short timeframe between receipt of requirements and deadline for submission, there was not sufficient time to apply for this potential funding opportunity. This potential opportunity will be presented to the Board next year if the information is made available.
- Mud Creek 319(h)
  - ❖ An invoice has been submitted for landowner reimbursement – payment is pending.
  - ❖ The closeout report is being generated.
  - ❖ The EPD decision for Phase II funding is still pending.
- Scrap Tire Baler Program – Nothing to report
- USF&W
  - ❖ A project is still pending in Cobb County at Shaw Park
  - ❖ A \$125,000 proposal was 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. Notification of approval for \$60,000 was received 2/19. Details are pending.
- Farm Bill Workshops – Final invoice has been paid and the project is closed out.
- Urban Forestry ARRA Project
  - ❖ An application was submitted for approximately \$380,000 as a joint effort with Oconee River RC&D and Upper Ocmulgee River RC&D to plant trees on public property
  - ❖ Approval was received for \$225,000
  - ❖ A meeting is to be held 2/25 with GFC to finalize details
- Farmer's Market EBT – While this opportunity was open to all 13 counties, only Union County and Rabun County have chosen to participate at this time and we are moving ahead to assist these markets.
- North Georgia Agritourism Workshop – A meeting is being planned to evaluate the 2009 meeting and plan the 2010 workshop.
- WAE – Josh will be a part-time NRCS employee for 200 hours this year. The Council has agreed to offset the salary deficit.
- The Blairsville Garden Club requested that the Council have a rain barrel display at their upcoming meeting April 24. Staff is not available. However, the club has agreed to sell barrels at the event. Details are pending. A motion was made by Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry to provide the barrels for sale. Motion carried unanimously.
- A motion was made by Larry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lewis to sponsor a REAP/Energy Audit Workshop tentatively scheduled for March 23 in Franklin County. Motion carried unanimously. Details will be available on the Council's website when available.
- There has been some interest in the Council setting up a Paypal account to accept credit/debit card payments. The Board tabled a decision until more information regarding the expenses can be obtained.
- While Tier 1 recertification has been received, several Georgia councils are pursuing the Tier 2 level of the Circle of Diamonds. The specific requirements for Tier 2 will be presented at the next Executive Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held at 9:00 March 30, 2010 in White County immediately preceding the Council meeting.

See website for other important upcoming dates.

  
Susan Creasy, Recorder