



# Anderson County SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## *Minutes of Meeting*

The board meeting for the Anderson Conservation District was held on **Friday, January 12, 2024**, at 8:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 1521 Pearman Dairy Road, Anderson, SC.

### **Commissioners Present**

Tom Garrison  
Alex Kostik  
Jay Copelan  
Van James  
Art Garrison

### **Absent**

### **Others Present**

Brian Stoddard, NRCS  
Jessie Egan, SCDNR  
John Hayes, SCDNR  
Pamela Richey, ASWCD  
Anasotn Porter, ASWCD  
Harley Failor, ASWCD

Commissioner Garrison called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

**The Board reviewed the minutes from November 2023. Commissioner James made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Kostik, all approved.**

### **Financial Report**

The Board discussed supporting the SCACD Foundation personally this year since it is not already budgeted. It will be discussed as to an amount to budget for 2024-2025 budget. Pay increases will be implemented starting with the current pay period (1/7/2024 - 1/20/2024). The Pickens SWCD agreement was updated to reflect the pay increase and will be provided to PSWCD for their February meeting. The Board reviewed the proposed budget and will use it to complete the Anderson County funds when the request is received. It was discussed that the District 2023 annual report will be printed (about 30 copies to begin with) to give to the County Council and any other presentation it may be needed for. The back page with NRCS numbers will be revised to add a chart comparing multiple years. The Board reviewed the January 2023 financial report and took it for information.

### **Current Business**

District employee reports were provided in binders.

*2024 SCACD Partnership Conference* - A reminder of the details was shared. Anaston Porter will not be attending due to time of pregnancy and the distance of the conference in Myrtle Beach.

*Yearly Reminders* - Reminders of FOIA compliance and ethics filing deadline was reviewed.

*SCDNR Monthly Report and Strategic Plan* - Both were shared during the meeting.

*Commissioner License Plates* - Details on how to apply for plates were provided to commissioners.

SCDNR Annual District Report - The Board was provided a copy of the 1-page Anderson report that will be included in the SCDNR State compiled report with all 46 counties

2024 Rain Barrel Event - The Rain Barrel Sale will run January 22nd through March 8th this year. Barrels are \$85.

2024 Pop-up Seed Library - Pop-ups have been scheduled. This year, pop-ups will consist of a traveling library that will stay at each location for a week, transported between locations by the library courier. The District will still hold a 2-hour session one day that week to bring in additional seeds, as well as offer assistance and education to the location.

Important Dates - Information was shared as to annual dates and events that will be happening during Anaston's maternity leave.

### **NRCS Report**

Brian Stoddard provided a written NRCS report.

### **Public Comment:**

Devin Orr was not able to make the meeting. He plans to attend the February meeting. John Hayes with SCDNR Watersheds introduced himself and gave a brief overview of assistance for Districts. Jessie Egan also attended from SCDNR to support the District.

Commissioner James made a motion to go into executive session at 10:13 a.m.

Commissioner James made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 10:31 a.m.

Commissioner Copeland as Vice-Chairman requested a motion to provide Anaston Porter six (6) days of maternity leave. Commissioner James made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Art Garrison, all approved.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. was made by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Kostik, none opposed.

The **next meeting will be February 9, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.** at the USDA Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Richey, District Manager