

**Kent Soil and Water Conservation District**  
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Kent Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

The following individuals were present at the meeting Charlie Miller, Chair, Lewis McDonald, Vice Chair, Tim Redman, Treasurer, Frank Barnes Jr., Board Supervisor, Bill Langenfelder, Board Supervisor, Jimmy Miller, Associate Board Member, Alice Mason, Associate Supervisor, Dwayne Joseph, University of Maryland Extension Ag. Agent, Nancy Metcalf, District Conservationist, and Robert Baldwin, District Manager.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Charlie Miller.

**I. Review and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the April 17, 2025 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes from both meetings as presented by Tim Redman, Bill Langenfelder seconded the motion. The motion passed**

**II. Plan of Work**

There was a brief discussion of the Plan of Work for the months of May and June 2025.

**III. Financial Statements, Bills and Cash Management**

Robert reviewed the balance sheet, profit and loss statement, reserves, budget sheets, bills, and reviewed the present cash management details. **A motion was made by Tim Redman to accept the financial statements and pay the bills. Lewis McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**IV. Erosion and Sediment Control Program**

Robert reviewed the Erosion and Sediment Control Plans that had been submitted for the month. He said that things have been slow again this month, but still busy with some very small projects that get submitted but don't need plans

**V. Supervisor Activities**

Charlie attended the May Staff Meeting and the Cooperators Dinner After Action Review meeting.

**VI. Extension Report**

Dwayne let everyone know that there will be a Private Pesticide Applicators test on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The review course will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, from 6 pm to 8 pm. Both the review session and the test will be held at the Extension office.

**VII. Conservation Plans & Field Work**

The Report was included in the Board Packet and reviewed by Nancy.

### **VIII. NRCS Report**

**Regional Conservationist Roundtable** – Nancy reported that Kasey Taylor, NRCS Regional Conservationist spent two weeks in Maryland visiting the state and held a listening session for the Upper Eastern Shore counties to hear from local producers about their experiences, concerns and suggestions for conservation implementation in the region.

**NRCS Reorganization Update** – The release of the proposed reorganization plan has been paused for two weeks. It's possible the plan could be available later this week.

**Federal Return to Office** – The deadline for federal remote staff to return to the office is approaching. Kelly Ireland with NRCS Easement Division will be reporting to Kent as her duty station. We've given her Tina Stevens' desk and moved Tina to Jesse's old desk for the time being.

**CRP** – FSA is approaching the national cap for CRP acreage, so they've established a batching process in order to approve contracts before final contracting is completed to ensure the cap isn't exceeded. The first batching round ends June 6<sup>th</sup>. All CRP status reviews for re-enrolls and suitability and feasibility forms for any new enrollments need to be sent to FSA by this date. Nancy met with staff and all assignments have been divided up amongst the planning staff. Everyone feels they can meet this deadline.

**FY26 Programs** – NRCS is preparing for FY26 program year. With the loss of the IRA funding in FY25, Kent and Queen Anne's obligated contract numbers was down leaving 46 unfunded applications for over 5 million dollars. It was mentioned that the loss of team allocations has made it harder to compete for statewide funding.

#### **District Managers Report**

**Cooperators Dinner After Action Review** – Robert discussed the After-Action Review that was developed by the Staff and Charlie. He asked that everyone take it home and read it and submit any comments or suggestions back to Robert so he can incorporate them in a final document. This has been the second year in a row that this has been done, and it helps with the planning stage as well as executing the days before the event and the event itself.

**Cooperators Dinner Cash vs Donation for Sponsorship** – Robert shared an example of where someone who donated a non-monetary gift that wasn't solicited, assigned a value to that gift that exceeded the top sponsor level and then demanded that they receive a top sponsor level and the benefits that went along with it. Robert is asking that the Board think about this and for the Board to revisit this issue prior to the announcement of the next Cooperators Dinner as we have a policy established one way or the other.

**MDA All Hands Meeting** - Robert discussed the MDA All Hands Meeting that was held recently. He shared with the board copies of several handouts regarding potential changes to the Cover Crop program as well as some information that was shared at the meeting.

## **IX. New Business/District Activities Report**

**Letters of Support Request** – Three letters of support from two different organizations were included in the Board Packet for the Boards consideration. After discussion and review, the Board declined to act on these requests. The Board felt that the letters were both presumptive of the Boards support (without providing and material for the Board to review) and disingenuous as to the relationship between the District and the requesting organizations.

**MASCD Monthly Report** – The MASCD Monthly report was included in the board packet.

**MDA Monthly Report** – Loretta Collins had put together a one-page training reference document that was included in the board packet.

**NACD Update on Executive Actions** – Several weeks’ worth of NACD Updates on Executive Actions were included in the board packet.

## **X. Old Business**

**MASCD Endowment Auction** -The Board reviewed the request and discussed their options as well as previous year’s donations. **A motion was made by Frank Barnes Jr. to donate a gift of \$200 to the 2025 MASCD Endowment Auction, Lewis McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **XI. Closed Session**

Statutory authority to close session General Provision Art. § 3-305(b) (1) This exception allows a public body to close a meeting to discuss various personnel actions with regard to, or the evaluation of, “an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction” or “any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.”

**Robert stated there was no change this past month in the ongoing personnel action and that there was no need to go into a Closed Session this month.**

## **XII. Adjourn**

**A motion was made by Frank Barnes Jr, to adjourn the meeting, Lewis McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

**The next scheduled meeting of the Kent Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be on Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 @ 7:00 pm. Dinner will be available at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Baldwin