Kent Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
May 21st, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Kent Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, May 21st, 2026, at 7:00 a.m. in the Kent Co. USDA Service Center conference room.

The following individuals were present at the meeting Charlie Miller, Chair, Lewis McDonald, Tim Redman, Treasurer, Frank Barnes Jr., Board Supervisor, Bill Langenfelder, Board Supervisor, Jim Miller, Associate Supervisor, Alice Mason, Associate Supervisor, Sean Jones, Associate Supervisor, Dwayne Joseph, UME Ag. Ext. Agent, Nancy Metcalf, District Conservationist, Joel Burley, Soil Conservationist, Chris Schlett, Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy, Eric Haddaway, District Supervisor, Baltimore County, and Robert Baldwin, District Manager.

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

II. Review and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of April 16th, 2026, meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from April 16th, 2026, meeting by Tim Redman, Bill Langenfelder seconded the motion. The motion passed

III. Plan of Work

Included in the Board Packet was the Plan of Work for May and June. Robert reviewed this in the meeting discussing some of the highlights. Robert stated that it has been a very busy spring construction season.

IV. Financial Statements, Bills and Cash Management

Robert reviewed the reserves, budget sheets, bills, and reviewed the proposed cash management details.

A motion was made by Lewis McDonald to accept the financial statements and to pay the bills; Tim Redman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. Introduction of Guests

Chris Schlett, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy, introduced himself. He stated that he is making his way around to all the Districts, letting Boards know that he is available and that he is the person to contact regarding, vehicles, office leases, equipment and other things related to running to providing support for the NRCS Staff and District Boards.

Eric Haddaway, Board Supervisor, Baltimore Soil Conservation District, introduced himself. Eric said that he has moved back to Kent County since his retirement and is completing his term as Supervisor of Baltimore County SCD and then will like to start attending the KSWCD as an interested citizen of Kent County. He wanted to introduce himself to the Board and discuss with the Board any opportunities that may exist for him as a person interested in helping KSWCD.

VI. Erosion and Sediment Control Program

Robert discussed the current workload of the Sediment Control program. He said that the Solar projects are continuing to be a significant workload. He also stated that the new fee structure on sites with 10 acres or more of disturbed area went into effect on May 1st, 2026.

VII. Supervisor Activities

Sean Jones hosted and participated in the USDA-NRCS producer Round Table meeting for animal agriculture on April 28th. There was a lot of discussion about this meeting regarding timing, the short notice, the purpose of this meeting, and that there was no virtual option to attend. Charlie Miller and Sean Jones hosted the Chesapeake Bay Commission Field Tour at their respective farms on May 12th.

VIII. Extension Report

Dwayne discussed the following events:

- Strawberry Field Day on 5/14 at Wye Research and Education Center
- Private pesticide training an exam on 5/27
- Small grain field day on 5/27 at Wye Research and Education Center
- New intern at the office, Casie Turner.

IX. Conservation Plans & Field Work

The field work report was included in the Board Packet. Nancy stated that the technicians have done a lot of waterways this spring, over 4 miles of them.

X. NRCS Report

Staff Update – NRCS hired a new Program Support Specialist to assist the QA and Kent offices. Brianna Allen was hired through the RC&D Agreement and started May 18th. Her duty station is in Centreville and she'll be splitting her time between the two offices.

Program Update – NRCS staff are working on our 1st and 2nd round preapprovals for EQIP and CSP.

NRCS Round Table Meeting – Nancy reported NRCS was pleased with the dairy round table meeting held at Jones' Station on April 28th. Dairy farmers from Harford, Cecil and Kent attended and beef operators from Queen Anne's and Delaware participated. NRCS was grateful to Sean Jones and the Board for hosting and providing lunch.

XI. District Managers Report

Cooperators Dinner After Action Review- A copy of the final AAR was included in the Board Packet. Robert discussed the highlights and some of the findings of the AAR process and things we could improve upon for the next time. Sean Jones stated that they have engaged someone to improve the acoustics of the venue and they are looking to make some of the recommended changes. There was general agreement that it was a successful event and expressed their appreciation to the staff again for their hard work.

Langford Watershed Alliance –Robert discussed the kickoff meeting of the Langford Watershed alliance on 5/14. He felt that the whole relationship between KSWCD, Shore Rivers and Washington College had changed as the result of us participating in this meeting. We are now an active partner vs a "paper partner" as we have been on past projects. KSWCD will be putting together a half-day field tour for the partnership that will include visits to various sites in the watershed from the headwaters to the tidal portions on June 22nd.

MDA Interviews for State Positions located in District Office – Robert shared with the Board a recent e-mail exchange that occurred among the District Managers statewide regarding MDA's position on having non-State employees excluded from participating in interviews for State positions located in SCD offices. He stated that there is a general frustration over this issue and that many of the SCD Boards around the State are sending a letter to Hans Schmidt expressing their concern that SCD's are not being allowed to participate or have a voice in the hiring of some of the classifications (planners and technicians) for State positions that will be place in SCD offices. The Board asked Robert to draft a letter from them to Hans expressing their support for allowing SCD's to participate or have input in all of the State position interviews for result in placing a State employee in an SCD office.

MACS/MASCD Legislation – Robert shared with the Board that MASCD and Provident Strategies (Mike Mason) tried to get the MACS 100% Cost Share legislation extended for another 5 years but was unable to do so. They will try again next session.

New Deadline for ADA Compliance for Websites and Social Media – Robert gave a very brief discussion on the new deadline for ADA compliance of websites and social media sites. He stated that MDA still wants us to have our websites ADA compliant with he original 2027 date as the new date is being challenged in Court and may be overturned.

2025 CAFO General Permit, Effective 5/8/2026 – Robert gave a quick update on the new CAFO general permit that is in effect. He explained that there are some interim steps that need to be taken by people who need this permit for their operations. Most importantly, they pay the invoice from MDE when they receive it to keep their existing permit active.

Smart Sheet Software for Project Tracking – Robert stated that KSWCD has purchased 3 one-year licenses for Smartsheet Gov software and are at the beginning stages of using the program. He said the group working on this sees a lot of potential for working within the software and its ability to work across the firewalls of the Federal, State and County computing networks.

XI. New Business/District Activities Report

Scholarship Presentations – Robert reminded everyone that the scholarships will be presented tonight, (5/21/2026) @ 6:00 p.m. in the office to Mary Jane Joiner and John (Scottie) Ford. Please attend if you are able.

MASCD Monthly Report, and MDA Report – These documents were included in the board packet.

NACD Summer Meeting - Robert stated that this meeting is coming up, it will be held in Grand Rapids, MI. Please let him know if you would like to attend, and he will make the arrangements.

MASCD 2026 Annual Meeting – Robert reminded everyone that this meeting will be held in Cambridge, MD August 3-5, 2026, at the Hyatt. Please let Robert know if you would like to attend, and he will make the arrangements. Charlie Miller said that he would like to attend the entire meeting, Frank Barnes would like to go for one day to the business meeting.

NACD NE Regional Meeting – Robert stated that this meeting will be held in Wilmington, DE August 24-27,2026, there are several options to attend including just for a day. Please let Robert know if you would like to attend, and he will make the arrangements.

XII. Old Business

Board Meeting Times – Robert reminded everyone that they had completed the "trial run" of holding Board Meetings the third Thursday of the month @ 7:00 a.m. and asked if they wanted to continue or go back to 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month? There was general agreement to continue holding board meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 a.m.

XIII. Closed Session

1. 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."

There was a brief discussion on potential pay increases for staff effective 7/1/2026

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 8:40 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Kent Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be on *Thursday, June 18th, 2026 @ 7:00 a.m.* Breakfast will be available at 6:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Baldwin Digitally signed by Robert Baldwin
Date: 2026.07.06 13:10:07 -04'00'

Robert Baldwin