

Tidewater Soil and Water Conservation District
6969 Fox Hunt Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061
July 23, 2026

Those Present:

Amanda Armstrong, Chairman, Gloucester
Amy Maloney, Vice Chair, Middlesex
Richard Hicks, Mathews
Jean Howard, Mathews
Ronnie Lewis, Associate Director

LaVerne Calhoun, District Manager
Meredith Rose, Conservation/Education Specialist
Debbie Billings, Conservation Office Assistant
Olivia Leatherwood, DCR Coordinator

Absent

Keith Horsley, Treasurer, Gloucester
Frank Long, Secretary, VCE Appointed
William Richardson, Jr., Appointed

Guest

Barbara Smith, Menges Scholarship Recipient

Call to Order:

A. Armstrong, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the office conference room at 6969 Fox Hunt Lane; Gloucester, VA 23061.

A. Maloney made a motion to approve the June 25, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by J. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

A. Maloney made a motion to approve the June 25, 2026 Ag Committee Meeting Minutes. Seconded by J. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Agenda:

A. Armstrong welcomed Barbara Smith, Martin Menges Scholarship Recipient, and presented her with a framed award certificate. Barbara thanked TSWCD for the scholarship and shared that she will be attending William & Mary College in the fall. She will major in Environmental Studies and minor in Business Administration.

L. Calhoun announced that there will be an Area III Legislative Feed Back Session with Kendall Tyree, VASWCD. The Zoom meeting is scheduled for August 11 from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Meghan Jones, VASWCD Intern, has been coordinating efforts to connect districts to their General Assembly representatives. She has sent letters to all representatives of the Senate and House of Delegates thanking them for protecting vital conservation initiatives.

M. Rose shared that it is time to approve the 2026 Clean Water Farm Award Recipient. She asked A. Maloney to leave the room for the discussion. A. Maloney left the room. R. Hicks made a motion to approve William Wright as the "2026 Clean Water Farm Award Recipient" and if he does not accept the award that Revere Farms be the recipient. Seconded by J. Howard, the motion carried unanimously. A. Maloney returned to the meeting.

L. Calhoun reviewed the Draft FY 26-27 Budget for approval. R. Hicks made a motion to approve the FY 26-27 budget with a total income of \$505,950.00 and total expenses \$445,633.00. Seconded by J. Howard, the motion carried unanimously. The budget may need to be amended after the VSWCB approves the grant agreements.

L. Calhoun reviewed the Annual/Sick Leave Payout report. R. Hicks made a motion to approve transferring \$2,326.00 from DCR operational fund into the annual/sick leave payout fund. Seconded by A. Maloney, the motion carried unanimously.

L. Calhoun reviewed the highlighted changes to the FY 26-27 Vehicle Use Policy that was Board approved June 25th. It was the consensus of the board to accept the Vehicle Use Policy as written.

M. Rose announced that Tidewater SWCD will be hosting the 2027 Area III Virginia Dominion Energy Envirothon in the spring. Monacan SWCD will be the vice host and all districts will provide assistance.

J. Howard volunteered to assist M. Rose in any way possible.

Reports:

The Treasurer's Reports, Outstanding Check Detail Report, and the Budget vs. Actual Report were reviewed and filed for audit.

M. Rose reported that the Cost Share Sign-up runs from July 20th to August 14th by appointment only. The VA Ag EXPO will be on July 30th at the Meadow Event Park in Doswell. The Graves Mountain Lodge VACDE Annual Training takes place August 18th to 20th. The OAG recommended that producers sign a "Nutrient Management Planner Requirements" statement to verify producers were notified of the requirements.

O. Leatherhead, DCR Coordinator, reported FY 27 Grant Agreements will be delayed, so take action to approve them as soon as possible. Q1 Disbursement Letters will be sent July 30th contingent upon receipt of signed grant agreements. Cost share file audits will begin soon.

The VCE report was reviewed. On October 24th there will be a Middlesex Community Conservation Day. There will be a VDACS Pesticide Disposal and Collection on August 25th - Warsaw, August 26th - Middlesex, and August 27th - Aylett.

L. Deaton, VDOF, sent an announcement that Dylan Green has started work as the Forest Technician for Mathews, Gloucester, and Lower King and Queen. He will be conducting Water Quality/Harvest Inspections in these counties.

The York River Steward provided a report that was reviewed.

Other Business:

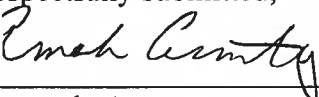
R. Hicks asked M. Rose when the Poster Contest will be announced. She will have a flyer ready for the next board meeting.

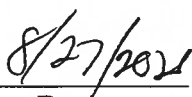
A. Armstrong reminded all elected directors that their current term ends 12/31/27 and asked if they plan to be re-elected. She suggested they contact their local registrar's office for election guidance.

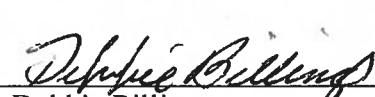
Adjourn:

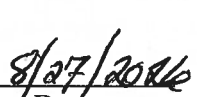
There being no further business, R. Hicks made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 pm. Seconded by J. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Amanda Armstrong
Board Chairman


Date


Debbie Billings
Conservation Office Assistant


Date