

*Collaborative Natural Resource Protection and Conservation Education*



*North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts*

# 2021 Policies, Positions & Action Items



*Building district capacities since 1944*

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Hello Conservation Partners and Friends,

As we enter 2021, there are still many unknowns. Last year brought many of us challenges and concerns for ourselves and our families. Our way of doing the conservation business we are charged with brought new and uncertain opportunities to accomplish the tasks we have worked so diligently on for over 80 years. The resiliency and perseverance of this group proves that Conservation Districts ARE the delivery mechanism for getting conservation on the ground. Though uncertainties still face us as we enter 2021, I am confident that we will continue to deliver the service we have provided for so many years and continued advancements to insure the farmers, landowners and land users of our great state benefit from our contributions.

This year, I have chosen as my theme, “We Have the Answer”. My reasoning behind this is that many times we are not at the table when issues surrounding our environment, resources and landowner needs are discussed. With the expertise of our District, Division and NRCS personnel, we should be the go-to for conservation delivery. It is my goal this year to continue the momentum we have to make sure we are no longer a secret. We cannot wait for decision makers and funders come to us, we must approach them and be willing to be a part of the solution. Therefore, my hope is that as our citizens and leaders have issues around conservation, they know we have the answer.

I look forward to a promising year of advancements in medicine to hopefully put COVID behind us so we can return to coming together and performing the duties we are charged to do. Your commitment over this past year, with the challenges we faced, gives me the confidence I need to serve as your President of our Association in 2021. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for conservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blount Knowles".

Blount Knowles  
President, NCASWCD

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**2021 POLICIES, POSITIONS & ACTION ITEMS OF THE ASSOCIATION  
COMMON ABBREVIATION LIST**

ACSP	NC Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control
AgWRAP	Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program
Association	North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
BMPs	best management practices
CCAP	Community Conservation Assistance Program
CCP	Certified Conservation Planner
CES	Cooperative Extension Service
Commission	NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
Districts	local soil and water conservation districts
Division	NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation
EEP	NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program
FFA	Future Farmers of America
FLP	Project Food, Land & People
FTE	full-time equivalent
Foundation	NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, Inc.
JAA	job approval authority
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
NC	North Carolina
NCDA&CS	North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
NCDEQ	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
PCEP	Professional Conservation Employees Program
RCW	Resource Conservation Workshop
SENACD	Southeast Region of the National Association of Conservation Districts
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VAD	Voluntary Agricultural District

## COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

**Chair – Barbara Bleiweis (Mecklenburg)**

**Vice Chair – Scott Sheffield (Moore)**

### ***Policies & Positions***

1. The Association recognizes the need for land use planning, but opposes any state or federal land use planning act that fails to delegate authority in such planning to local officials. The Association recommends that the Districts become one of the main agents to develop and implement local land use plans. Districts should work to ensure adequate representation with local work groups including; but not limited to Parks & Recreation and Planning & Zoning so that good conservation practices may be implemented and maintained. Promotion of greenways, open spaces, buffers, and other green land use practices are encouraged. Actions of all officials should include adequate public hearings. **2007**
2. The Association encourages Districts to promote soil and water conservation BMPs with contractors, real estate developers, lending institutions, government agencies, and local citizens. To do this, Districts need to provide technical assistance so that their clients will become aware of the importance of conserving all rural, suburban and urban land. **2007**
3. The Association encourages users of eminent domain for the taking of farm or forest land to prove an overriding public need exists--without a reasonable or prudent alternative--before public funds could be invested for roads, streets, water or sewer facilities, and similar items. In addition, this public need must be proven if actions taken were to decrease the productivity or adversely affect the remaining or adjacent farm and forestland. **2015**
4. The Association supports the NC Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973, including the review process required by local ordinances for erosion control plans by District Supervisors, NRCS staff, and District staff. Each District is encouraged to work on erosion and sedimentation problems to maintain agriculture's exemption from the Act. This will be done by providing education on and promoting the use of BMPs to prevent sediment runoff. Each District is encouraged to support local sedimentation and erosion control programs. **2006**
5. The Association will continue to support an effective level of recurring funding for the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Community Conservation Assistance Program. **2014**
6. The Association supports dedicated funding for the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, the NC Land and Water Fund, and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. The Association endorses the preservation of open space by providing incentives to land owners to preserve farm and forest land. **2019**
7. The Association supports district involvement in assisting with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase I and Phase II Regulations to help improve surface water quality. **2007**

8. The Association urges the Division to seek technical assistance funding for District Community Conservationists statewide. **2007**
9. The Association supports the continual expansion of approved BMPs for Community Conservation projects as needs are identified by Districts across the state. **2007**
10. The Community Conservation Committee urges Districts to develop relationships with nonprofit organizations, land trusts, corporations, and other government agencies. **2010**
11. The Association recognizes the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Awards™ Program as an exemplary conservation program and encourages all Districts to implement similar Stewardship Development Awards™ Programs to achieve statewide coverage. The Association will only endorse those Stewardship Development Awards™ Programs that enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Coalition, whereby they agree to adopt the four principal factors in exchange for access to the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Coalition's program materials and experience. The Association urges Districts to take a lead role in implementation of this program. **2010**
12. The Association seeks to encourage more widespread adoption of low impact development (LID) techniques. The Association encourages districts to promote the adoption of LID techniques through adoption of local government ordinances, modifications of state and local mandates for conventional stormwater management, and outreach to developers and/or builders to show the financial benefits of LID using available resources including the Wildlife Resources Commission's Green Growth Toolbox. **2014**
13. The Association will annually confer the "Outstanding Accomplishments in Community Conservation" known as the Jim Stephenson Award for an outstanding District community conservation effort. **2015**

### **Action Items**

1. The Association requests and supports funding for the statewide CCAP, Session Law 2006-78 passed during the 2006 session of the legislature. The Association requests an increase in the amount of recurring funding to \$6.5 million for the program of which \$3 million is for technical assistance and education and outreach, and \$3.5 million is for BMPs, with this funding to be phased in over a period of four years. The Association requests the Community Conservation Committee coordinate with the Executive Director to develop and implement an advocacy plan for the NC 2021 Legislative Session requesting \$1.5 million for the 2021-2022 NC fiscal year. **2019, 2020, 2021**
2. The Community Conservation Committee will distribute a letter for the Districts to send, at their discretion, to their legislative representatives to request support for additional CCAP funding. **2020, 2021**
3. The Community Conservation Committee will develop a steering committee to draft a Stream Care Guide including representatives of the Community Conservation Committee and subject matter experts. This committee will be tasked with determining the scope, roll out, and implementation of the guide as development of this guide progresses. **2021**

## DISTRICT OPERATIONS

**Chair – Gwen Minton (Wilkes)**

**Vice Chair – Kate Campau (Rockingham)**

### ***Policies & Positions***

1. The Association will continue as a leader to improve the quality of NC waters. The Association encourages the Districts to expand their role in developing policies and programs with our conservation partners toward meeting the conservation challenges. This effort must retain our non-regulatory function in assisting cooperators and would be contingent on the provision of adequate funding. **2005**
2. The Association encourages the Division to seek funds and grants to fund additional projects and personnel to assist Districts in addressing water quality problems. **2005**
3. The Association is interested in maintaining a leadership role for improving water quality and other natural resources in NC by encouraging Districts to take State & Local officials on an annual tour of their BMP's, and to express appreciation to State Representatives, Senators and local officials for their support. The Association encourages District Supervisors to maintain contact with their members of Congress, State Legislators and local officials to seek their support in funding Division conservation programs. **2014**
4. The Association supports District employees being properly trained in animal waste management systems and any other aspects of future technical areas. This technical training will be based on the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standards and other applicable information. There needs to be continual training, so that District employees can stay current and new employees are qualified to handle the role of duties associated with inspections. **2005**
5. The Association will continue to support the conservation partnership organization's efforts to provide cooperators with the information and technical support they need to comply with regulations. Having this partnership also serve as the regulatory authority, the role traditionally served by NC Department of Environmental Quality, would threaten the partnership's historical working relationship with producers, which has been very effective in reaching resource conservation goals over the years. **2003**
6. The Association encourages all conservation partners; District supervisors and employees of the Districts, NRCS, Division, NCDA&CS and CES, to participate in the Basic Training for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors. **2006**
7. The Association appreciates and supports the Division for maintaining, updating and posting the NC District Directory, which includes; Districts, the Division and NRCS. **2014**
8. The Association encourages every District to involve NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS and the Division in annual and long-range planning. In addition, the management of NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS, Division and NCDEQ are encouraged to follow the lead in their planning processes. All Districts are encouraged to list in all planning documents; Division, Foundation, NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS and NCDEQ programs. **2016**
9. The Association encourages that any partner with significant policy change or operational changes that may impact another partner notify well in advance all other partners affected by the change via electronic communication and regular mail. **2007**

10. The Association supports District involvement, where appropriate, in creating and implementing Local Ordinances that protect important natural resources; these local ordinances include, but are not limited to, Erosion and Sediment Control ordinances, Low Impact Development ordinances, Stormwater ordinances, Steep Slope ordinances, and Water Conservation ordinances. **2008**
11. The Association fully endorses the NC Conservation District Employee Training & Certification Initiative. The Association supports the workgroup in carrying out the training by including this in the Program Objectives of the Association. The Association supports a survey of the current trainings, from all available partners and resources that are available to District employees. District staff and supervisors shall provide input to the training needs or training that could be improved upon. **2010**
12. The Association encourages all District Supervisors to become aware and knowledgeable of the importance of Job Approval Authority (JAA), the level of authority currently held by technical district staff, and encourage all staff to seek the highest possible JAA for commonly used practices in the District. The Association encourages all District Supervisors to work with staff to ensure all employees have comprehensive training plans. The Association requests that each Area Chair focus a portion of their spring area meetings on discussions relative to employee training, the importance of JAA, and the importance of training plans for all employees. **2011, 2015, 2019**
13. The Association supports the Division of Soil and Water Conservation exploring the option of utilizing engineering graduate students from NCSU and or other engineering schools to assist with implementation of conservation practices, as needed. **2020**
14. The Association encourages each District in the state to include, as part of each official meeting, a conflict of interest statement be read and affirmed by District officials before any business of the District is conducted. **2019**
15. The Association supports full and continued effort by NACD to enable NRCS to fill vital conservation technical assistance positions and vacancies, even during hiring freezes. These positions are crucial supports of Districts' effort to provide conservation programs. **2020**
16. The Association, along with the Division and other partners, will continue to encourage the NC Department of Transportation to allow the Districts to post signs at each county line and major thoroughfare in the state in a uniform and professional manner as to be beneficial to the public. **2020**
17. The Association supports the PCEP in its efforts to create and maintain a database to document and track partnership employees in their efforts to enhance and expand their professional knowledge, skills and abilities. The database would track efforts such as successful completion of the training courses and workshops, securing JAA, or obtaining related certifications (e.g. Certified Conservation Planners (CCP)). **2020**
18. The Association encourages Districts to support the Foundation through an annual donation to the Foundation's Sustainability Fund. **2020**



## **Action Items**

\* Action items #1 and #2 are the top two priorities of this committee.

1. The Association will urge the NRCS leadership to supply a portion of their conservation technical assistance and BMP funds to the Foundation and other capable non-profits, to allocate these funds to the 96 Districts for the implementation of BMPs. **2019**
2. The District Operations Committee will take a strategic look at the Contests Workshops and Awards Handbook and review Conservation Farm Family contest eligibility and selection criteria, ensuring the program is based on sound conservation practices, family farming and production agriculture. This committee should report by the September 2021 Association Executive Committee meeting. **2020, 2021**
3. The Association encourages the partnership to develop the framework for mutual aid procedures used by districts who are willing to share the personnel and resources with other districts for training and assistance. The partnership will investigate the coordination of the exchange of statewide personnel and resources. **2020**
4. The Association will work with the partners to establish the criteria, process, and certification for design, installation, and construction certification of BMPs that meet standards set or adopted by the Commission. In addition, the Association will work with the partnership to develop and implement the needed training for District and Division employees to gain the needed competencies. **2019**

## **EDUCATION**

**Chair – David Harris (Durham)**

**Vice Chair – Richard Hayes (Chatham)**

### **Policies & Positions**

1. The Association encourages all local Districts to participate in the following educational activities:
  - a. assist schools in developing projects on and off campus.
  - b. obtain a conservation plan on all school grounds and recognize these schools for installing this plan.
  - c. distribute Soil and Water Conservation materials in schools.
  - d. support 4-H Environmental Quality Demonstration Contests, FFA Land Judging Contests, the Forestry Contest, and any other career conservation education programs.
  - e. support Soil and Water Stewardship Week. Districts will be responsible for copying and distributing available materials.
  - f. support the Resource Conservation Workshop by sponsoring a student representative. **2014**

2. The Association supports and endorses Project Food, Land & People, Project Learning Tree, Project Wild, Project Catch, Project WET and Ag in the Classroom as additional conservation education programs for Districts. **2003**
3. The Association encourages and requests districts to embrace Project Food, Land & People as a core educational program. The Association requests each Area to schedule and implement an annual FLP teacher's workshop or activity. The Association encourages the Division to support FLP by providing adequate staff hours and resources to implement the statewide coordination of the program as staff to the FLP committee. The Association encourages the Division to support the FLP Committee's Action Plan objectives for recurring funding, marketing materials, facilitator and teacher workshop and strategy. The Association proclaims October as the NC Project Food, Land and People Month. **2014**
4. The Association supports implementation of a comprehensive natural resource program to be used for teacher renewal credit workshops offered by Districts along with the Mathematics and Science Education Centers/Office of Special Programs within the University of North Carolina (UNC) System. This program would be based on a need to offer natural resource education material that can supplement the existing curriculum in grades K-12. **2003**
5. The Association supports the Area and State Envirothon competition for grades 5-8 and 9-12 and encourages all Districts in NC to sponsor at least one team from their District to the Envirothon competition. **2003**
6. The Association will provide \$300 cash award and \$150 travel allowance to each of the Conservation Teachers of the Year to attend the state association annual meeting awards banquet. **2003, 2019**
7. The Association encourages each District to include all children in its diverse educational programs. **2014, 2019**
8. The Association strongly encourages each of the Association's eight areas continue to sponsor two Resource Conservation Workshop counselors on an annual basis by covering their registration fee, meal costs and mileage as applicable. In addition, the Association encourages each area to give their respective counselor a stipend after he/she has completed the one-week of service at the workshop. The suggested amount of the one-week stipend is \$100.00 per counselor per week. **2014**
9. The Association requests that each District appoint one person to act as an Education Coordinator. Each District should send the name of its Education Coordinator to the Division Education Coordinator. Upon receipt, a list will be sent to the Education Committee Chairperson. **2014**
10. The Education Committee Chairperson and the Division Education Coordinator are encouraged to develop a list of resource materials applicable to assigned topics for poster, essay and public speaking contests. The District Educators are encouraged to assist in development and sharing of these resources at the annual Conservation Employee Training Institute. To the extent feasible, this list should be available by September 1<sup>st</sup> each new school year and will be provided to each Area of the Association. **2020**
11. The Association shall provide an educational display at the NC State Fair and at the Mountain State Fair promoting the Districts of NC. **2014**

12. The Association does hereby proclaim April as Environmental Awareness Month in NC and that the Governor of NC adopt this proclamation. **2003**
13. The Association supports the growth of the River Friendly Farmer Program and the distribution of information about it to the Districts. **2005**
14. The Area I Association will be allowed to draw \$250.00 from the Association's State Fair budget for the Mountain State Fair. A representative from the Mountain State Fair shall be appointed to the State Fair Committee by the Education Committee Chairman. Also, all handouts and other materials for the Mountain State Fair shall be ordered with the material for the NC State Fair. **2014**
15. The Association shall continue to improve the website to provide information on educational programs, guidelines and templates to be used by the districts in developing educational outreach. **2014**
16. The Association will join the Division as a sponsor of the NC Environmental Education Certification Program. All District educators are encouraged to obtain this certification. Districts are encouraged to support their personnel in this effort both financially and with paid work time to enable the employee to accomplish certification. **2019**
17. The Association will annually facilitate a state-wide survey of Districts regarding current and projected use of intern programs and will enunciate the educational component of the internship program. The Association encourages Districts to implement local intern programs for high school and college students. **2019**

### **Action Items**

1. A steering-committee will be formed to include the Mobile Soils Classroom (MSC) Committee Chair, the Division Education Coordinator, two District supervisors, representatives from the host districts, and a representative(s) from the lesson planning steering-committee. Their function will be:
  - a. Mobile Soils Classroom programs
    - 1) Create Host District Memorandum of Understanding with the Association
    - 2) Plan and schedule Annual Host Meeting
    - 3) Plan and schedule Annual Host Training
    - 4) Create a MSC trailer maintenance schedule
    - 5) Plan and schedule training on the Groundwater Simulation model
    - 6) Create a new lesson annually and update any MSC lesson plans that are currently incomplete
  - b. Seek funding
  - c. Develop displays & handouts on activities of the classroom

- d. Explore electronic advertising and outreach including but not limited to social media and website for Mobile Soils Classroom projects. **2014, 2019, 2020, 2021**
2. The Association will continue to pursue partnerships and contact in developing an active conservation education program and soil displays across the state of NC in memory of Dr. Hugh Hammond Bennett. A listing of current statewide soils displays should be compiled, critical areas in the state where there are gaps in public soil health information should be identified, and potential funding sources should be researched and listed. The Association Education Committee appointed a sub-committee to pursue this goal. This subcommittee should also explore possible actions to increase the number of soils displays across the state. **2014, 2018, 2020, 2021**
3. The Association authorizes its Education Committee to form a sub-committee to research and draft details of a Conservation Volunteer or AmeriCorps Member Program that includes:
  - a. Isolating funding sources to run the program and/or provide living stipends to participants (AmeriCorps).
  - b. Identifying and recruiting willing conservation partnership volunteers
  - c. Developing a method for matching volunteer interest/expertise/availability with an association program, project or initiative in need of assistance.
  - d. Creating an outreach strategy to promote the conservation volunteer corps to retired and non-employed conservation partners.
  - e. Developing a plan and methodology to coordinate, implement and sustain an effective statewide conservation volunteer corps that mutually benefits volunteers and association alike. **2014, 2020**
4. The Association will support the Soil and Water Conservation State Fair Committee in working with the State Fair Management group to increase the visibility of the Soil and Water Conservation State Fair display booth. Begin the design process through a subcommittee as to what the message at the booth should be. Update the "Wheel of Conservation". During the design phase for the new Soil and Water Conservation/NC Forestry building displays, the planning committee will partner with the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society to research options for providing a permanent commemoration of Hugh Hammond Bennett and the history of the Soil and Water Conservation movement. **2018, 2020, 2021**
5. The Association is in the process of establishing a Conservation Education NC DMV specialty license plate to help benefit the new Association Education LLC created to support the Districts' Conservation Education Programs. The Association Education Committee will encourage Areas and the Association Executive Committee to create a competition between Districts to facilitate obtaining 500 license pledges. **2019, 2020**

## FINANCE

**Chair – Shane Whitaker (Randolph)**

**Vice Chair – Melinda James (Macon)**

### ***Policies & Positions***

1. The Association will operate in 2020 by paying dues as assessed. The following dues assessment will be used to fund the Association's budget: Base dues \$400 per county, plus \$1.00 for each 1,000 population, and \$1.50 for each 10,000 acres per county effective fiscal year 2017. The Association Treasurer will use the most recent estimate of census data to determine population. An updated assessment will be done every five years thereafter using January 1996 as the base date. **2020**
2. The Association shall contribute an amount not to exceed \$1,500 to the host District and/or County in paying itemized expenses of the NC Association of Future Farmers of America to conduct an annual statewide land-judging contest. **2014**
3. The Association endorses the selection of an outside auditor to be hired to audit the financial records of the Association. The books will be closed on November 30 and audited as soon as possible thereafter and reported to the Association. A full audit will be done every third year with compilation reviews in between. **2021**
4. The Association encourages gifts and contributions to the Association Endowment Fund with interest income used to help defray expenses of the Association. Should the Association be dissolved, the Executive Committee shall place all remaining funds of the Association Endowment Fund with the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. **2003**
5. The Association recommends that District Supervisors who are requested to attend meetings called by the Association or government agencies pertaining to Association business be reimbursed mileage at \$0.40 per mile rate. If overnight lodging is required, lodging and meals will be reimbursed at actual cost not to exceed the State rate. Receipts are required. **2008**
6. The Association adopts the Finance Committee recommendation that the Association provide funds for travel expenses for the following meetings: NACD and SENACD Meetings \$1,600 per delegate, up to 8 delegates for the NACD meeting and \$1,000 per delegate, up to 8 delegates for the SENACD Meeting. **2019**
7. The Association will be responsible for one room and banquet costs (up to 6 tickets) per regional winner to defray Conservation Farm Family expenses to attend the annual meeting. The Area/District will be responsible for all other expenses. **2016**
8. The Association will provide \$1,200 to help cover costs of sending the NC Envirothon Committee Chairman, or his designee (giving District Supervisors first priority) to two National Envirothon Committee Meetings. **2003**
9. In the case of death of any past or present supervisor, the Association will send a memorial of \$50.00 to the endowment fund. **2003**
10. a. There will be a \$30.00 differential between Annual Meeting early registration and registration at the door. (An attendee saves \$30.00 by registering early.) An exception will be made for new supervisors whose service begins on or after the registration

deadline. The State Association Executive Committee will set the registration deadline each year.

- b. The Finance Committee will give no refunds of Annual Meeting Registration fees after the Wednesday prior to the start of the Annual Meeting without special approval of the Executive Committee. **2017**
11. Special requests for approval of refunds must be presented to the State Association Executive Committee. Approval or disapproval of such special requests or emergency situations is solely at the discretion of the State Association Executive Committee. **2005**
12. The Finance Committee institutes a past dues collection policy as follows:
  - a. The Association President will send a letter to the district chairman of any district with any dues outstanding as of September 1. **2014**
  - b. The Association President or designee will call the district chairman of any district with any dues outstanding as of November 1. **2014**
13. The Association has the right and expectation for existing and new programs to collect an administration fee up to 15%. **2021**

### **Action Items**

1. The Association Finance Committee requests the President to appoint an ad hoc subcommittee to develop standard operating policies and procedures to present to the Executive Committee at the September 2021 meeting that includes reviewing the budget, 990, and any other necessary funds management items. **2021**

## LEGISLATIVE

**Chair – Craig Frazier (Randolph)**

**Vice Chair – Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)**

### **Policies & Positions**

1. The Association expresses its appreciation to the members of the General Assembly for their continued support given to the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, the Community Conservation Assistance Program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, Disaster Funding, and their support in sustaining the local conservation infrastructure in Districts. The Association strongly encourages the General Assembly to continue to provide strong support for non-regulatory programs delivered through Districts. **2020**
2. The Association supports the restoration of full technical assistance funding for the NRCS to the level required to have one NRCS employee per District. **2017**
3. The Association supports recognition by the Environmental Protection Agency, state and local water quality programs that nonpoint source program funding seriously lags behind point

source programs, and is not allocated to NC based on the attributed nonpoint source proportion of the water quality problem. **2014**

4. The Association supports federal and state legislation or other action to compensate landowners, through tax benefits or other incentives, for conservation actions taken in response to federal and state regulations for wetlands, animal waste management, buffers, and other water quality related programs. **2003**
5. The Association believes that a collaborative and coordinated effort by the Section 319 Program is essential to achieve clean water goals, and urges the NC Congressional Delegation to support the continued funding of the Section 319 grant program. **2007**
6. The Association will take action through NACD (e.g., via resolutions) to ensure NC plays a leadership role in dealing with national conservation issues. **2003**
7. The Association supports common conservation goals and actions taken through the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA) and the National Association of State Foresters (NASF). **2018**
8. The Association strongly opposes any barriers such as federal technical assistance user fees that prevent or impede conservation planning and the implementation of BMPs for landowners. **2014**
9. The Association supports that Supervisors for North Carolina always serve as non-partisan elected and appointed positions. **2020**
10. The Association requests that the USDA-NRCS accept and provide assistance with supervisors interested in participating in any program that could assist with the Districts to legally hold and legally monitor conservation easements of working lands. **2018**
11. Any new or existing funding request should not come from any existing NCDA&CS funds unless so specified. **2021**

### **Action Items**

1. The Association will request that each District submit annually the name of a District supervisor who will serve as an active Legislative Liaison to the Association for that District. **2020**
2. The Association will seek increased funding for the statewide CCAP, established in NCGS-106 Article 73. The Association requests an increase in the amount of recurring funding to \$6.5 million over the next four years of which up to \$3 million would be committed for technical and education resources and to include establishing Community Conservationist positions statewide, and \$3.5 million for BMP funding. For FY2021, the requested amount is \$1.5 million. **2021**
3. The Association will request that the General Assembly establish a stream maintenance and debris removal cost share program, to be administered through the Division, with a minimum recurring funding level of \$1 million per year. **2020**
4. The Association will request the Commission to consider debris removal as a component of the cost share programs. **2020**

5. The Association will request that the Governor and the General Assembly fund three (3) engineering positions for the Division as part of the FY2020 budget process. **2019**
6. The Association will request the Governor and the General Assembly raise the annual recurring appropriation from \$4.5 million to \$6 million for the NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund. **2021**
7. The Association will request that the Governor and the NC General Assembly increase the appropriation of recurring funds made available each year to reimburse District Supervisors for necessary travel and training expenses to conduct their official duties by the number sufficient to meet the needs and increase matching funds by \$240,000 during the FY2020 budget process. Additional funding increases would be for required training hours (per statute NCGS 139-7.2) enacted by the NC General Assembly. The Association President, the Commission Chairman, and Director of the Division, will work in concert with NCDA&CS, the Governor and the General Assembly to achieve this priority funding need. **2020**
8. The Association will seek increased funding for the ACSP best management practices and technical assistance. The Association will request additional amounts of \$2.0 million for best management practices and \$635,000 for District technical assistance. **2019**
9. The Association will seek an additional recurring appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) for financial and technical assistance. Funding should not come from a reduction in other soil and water conservation cost share programs. **2014**
10. The Association will actively support the permanent reinstatement of the NC State tax credits for conservation easements for farm and forest lands, military buffers, floodplains, and public access. **2018**
11. The Association is on record as requesting the NC General Assembly and County Government in NC adding potential benefits for land owners who sign-up and participate in Voluntary Agriculture Districts (VAD) or Enhanced Voluntary Agriculture Districts (EVAD). **2020**
12. The Association requests that the NACD works closely with the appropriate congressional committees to re-establish general and adequate technical assistance funding for NRCS personnel within USDA that is separate and independent from Conservation Programs that are delivered through each occurring Farm Bill. **2017**
13. The Association is requesting that the State Legislature fund five (5) match funded positions to address watershed management issues through a two-year pilot program with possible extension if needed. The pilot will include the following seven counties Columbus, Dare/Currituck, Robeson, Bladen, Carteret, and Craven. **2019**



## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

**Chair – Donald Rogers (Johnston)**

**Vice Chair – Bruce Ryder (Rowan)**

### **Policies & Positions**

1. The Association recommends that Districts take a stronger initiative in encouraging improved forest land management and forest health programs in their Districts.
  - a. The Association recommends that all Districts devote at least one meeting a year to evaluating and developing a specific program for improved forestland management in their Districts, and invite the local NC Forest Service to participate.
  - b. The Association supports the following programs:
    - 1) The NC Forest Service Forest Development Program, the NC Tree Farm Programs, and Forest Stewardship and Forest Legacy Programs;
    - 2) The NC State University School of Forest Resources' Small Woodlot Research and Demonstration Program; and,
    - 3) The implementation of forest BMPs by forest landowners, timber buyers, and harvesting loggers when harvesting and/or re-foresting timberlands to reduce accelerated erosion, to reduce stream sedimentation and improve water quality.
  - c. The Association supports, under supervision of the NC Forest Service and other certified burners [as defined in GS 113-60.41], the practice of prescribed burning as a tool in forest management.
  - d. The Association and Districts are urged to take a strong stand on increasing financial assistance for the Forest Development Program (FDP) and other forestry incentive programs and also, to work with our state and national legislators toward a better understanding of forestry practices and costs. **2013**
2. The Association supports the Wildlife Resources Commission in its program efforts to focus on cropland, forestland, and right-of-way management. **2003**
3. The Association endorses the extension of Conservation Reserve Program contracts and asks that local Districts encourage program participants to extend their Conservation Reserve Program contract. **2003**
4. The Association supports the partnership established to administer the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and encourages Districts to actively promote this program to eligible landowners. The Association also supports adequate new funding for CREP. **2003**
5. The Association supports the NRCS in:
  - a. the creation and enhancement of wildlife habitat under the Working Lands for Wildlife;
  - b. the protection and enhancement of soil, water, air, wildlife, forests and natural resources under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP); and,

- c. implementing the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) as authorized in the 2014 and 2018 Farm Bill. Continue to support the legacy easement programs (WRP, FRPP, GRP) as authorized. **2019**
6. The Association supports the State's goal of preserving open space and encourages the state to consider ways to maintain private ownership of working farm and forest lands as a means of achieving this goal. **2021**
  7. The Association supports preserving the state's farmland and encourages emphasis on prime farmland:
    - a. Districts to take an active role in developing and implementing state and/or local farmland preservation initiatives and creation of Agricultural Districts.
    - b. The General Assembly and local governments to provide financial and other incentives to farmers to preserve working farmlands. **2021**
  8. The Association supports Districts holding conservation easements generated by the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, NC Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), NC Land and Water Fund, and other open space preservation programs and encourages the State to make long term funding available for monitoring conservation easements. **2019**
  9. The Association recognizes and supports Waterway Cleanup and does further hereby urge every District to do their part to restore the beauty and function of our lakes and streams with promoting, supporting, volunteering, or in-kind services for the event. **2016**
  10. The Association supports prescribed grazing on pastureland and encourages Districts to emphasize this practice. **2015**
  11. The Association encourages District supervisors to work with county officials to encourage Present Use Value (PUV) at the local level. The Association also encourages revenue sources to maintain PUV data that supports the program. **2020**
  12. The Association strongly encourages NACD to request USDA and NRCS, to deliver all Federal conservation assistance programs in a way that maximizes the locally led process, fully utilizes decisions and priorities formulated through local work groups, and allocates financial cost share resources and ranks program applications at the lowest possible organizational level, preferably at the local District level. The Association recommends support for a standardized advertising criterion for local workgroup meetings. **2014**
  13. The Association strongly encourages the waiver or exemption of state and local permit fees associated with conservation practices included in a technically sound conservation plan meeting published approved standards. **2013**
  14. The Association will encourage a forestry representative to serve on each county's voluntary agriculture district board. **2013**
  15. The Association through local Districts shall identify major sources of nonpoint source pollution within each District and shall work cooperatively with the NC Division of Water Resources, other agencies and the private sector to develop and implement local and regional strategies to address identified water quality concerns. These local strategies shall be included in District

Strategic Plans for ACSP and offered for incorporation into NC Division of Water Resource's river basin plans and any Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), ELG's, or other Implementation Strategies developed to address water quality concerns. **2019**

16. Districts are encouraged to develop strategies for addressing water quality concerns in impaired and impacted streams under the Association's Impaired and Impacted Streams Initiative and to work cooperatively with other Districts, the Division, and other entities to seek funds and implement BMPs to affect water quality improvement. **2015**
17. The Association supports the Beaver Management Assistance Program (BMAP) and Districts that identify nuisance beaver problems. **2019**
18. The Association will support partners to produce training and provide education and outreach on conservation easement topics, including legal and fiduciary responsibilities with easements and land ownership for Districts with yearly updates. **2017**
19. The Association supports the policies for the State of NC to conserve and/or protect our prime, unique, state and locally significant farmland, prime forestland, wildlife habitat, and natural heritage survey sites (hereinafter referred to as important farm and forestlands) and endorses agriculture districting, farmland preservation and estate planning in NC. The Association encourages all Districts in NC that are located in a county without a Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) Ordinance in place to work with their county commissioners towards adoption of a VAD Ordinance in their county. **2017**
20. The Association supports debris clean out and maintenance of rivers, creeks, streams, and canals, etc., to maintain adequate drainage and help alleviate flooding. **2020**
21. The Association supports the continuation of soil health training by the Conservation Partnership as a priority for all field employees in NC so that there is direct farmer access to quality technical assistance from conservation professionals. **2020**
22. The Association supports Conservation employees receiving education and training to ensure they understand the relationship between conservation measures and food safety, and continues to support financial assistance provided for BMPs to maintain viable marketable products. **2020**
23. The Association supports working with Districts, NRCS, North Carolina Longleaf Coalition and others to restore the Longleaf Pine habitat of this historic, economically valuable and environmentally desirable resource. **2020**

### **Action Items**

\* Action item #1 is the top priority of this committee.

1. The Association will request the Commission to establish stream debris removal as a permanent BMP with the ACSP in accordance with NC NRCS Practice Code 326, Clearing and Snagging. **2021**
2. The Association will seek matching funds statewide for Districts and / or local governments to annually clear debris from rivers, creeks, streams, and canals, etc., to maintain adequate drainage and help alleviate flooding. **2020**
3. The Association will seek funds statewide to help identify the causes of, and solutions to the algal blooms, specifically in order to identify the specific sources of nutrients and sediment entering our waterways. **2020**

4. The Association will request NACD work with USDA departments to modify the termination letters to put the landowner on notice that the expiring CRP may not relieve them of other program responsibilities such as CREP, and the landowner should check with the other programs prior to management. **2020**

## RESEARCH and TECHNOLOGY

**Chair – Charles Mitchell (Franklin)**

**Vice Chair – Denny Norris (Watauga)**

### ***Policies & Positions***

1. The Association encourages and should seek new funding to enable the NC Agricultural Research Service, the NC Cooperative Extension Service, and USDA - Agricultural Research Service to continue and expand research and technology transfer in soil and water conservation. Key research needs include:
  - a. Continue research to perfect methodologies for estimating the natural resources and economic benefits of implementation of conservation practices for various production systems. **2021**
  - b. Improve methodologies for targeting limited cost share and technical assistance resources for implementing effective conservation practices. **2021**
  - c. Remote Sensing and Precision Farming
    - 1) Research and demonstration on economical on-farm use of Remote Sensing Technology and Precision Farming to evaluate crop nutrient, water, and pest status and improve the efficiency of crop inputs. **2021**
    - 2) Research 'precision irrigation' systems and techniques to improve irrigation efficiency and irrigation water management. **2021**
  - d. Soil Health
    - 1) Continue to promote research on evaluating and improving soil health on working land. **2021**
    - 2) Research and demonstration on grazing cover crops (including both winter and summer annuals) as part of cropping systems to support soil health. **2021**
    - 3) Research and demonstration of farm implement technology that is capable of uniformly distributing cover crop seed mixes containing different sized seeds. **2021**
  - e. Herbicide-resistant weed management
    - 1) Evaluate alternative weed control methods, such as heavy cover crops, alternative modes of action for pesticides and crop rotation. **2021**

- 2) Support development of economically viable crop rotations to address herbicide-resistant weed concerns. **2021**
- f. Research and demonstration on developing new and protect existing pollinator habitat. **2021**
- g. Evaluate and demonstrate alternative techniques for waste treatment, application systems, nutrient recycling, and other procedures that use soil as a receiving medium. **2021**
- h. Develop models to quantify wetland functions and values, as well as the economic and social impact of wetlands, in order to support land-use flexibility decisions and landowner participation in environmental markets. **2021**
2. The Association actively promotes alternatives to tillage as a means of weed control. **2021**
3. The Association actively promotes the use of soil health systems to increase soil organic matter, moisture retention, and weed suppression on very low residue crops. **2021**

### **Action Items**

1. The Research & Technology Committee will continue to develop a list of the priority research needs related to soil and water conservation and related research concerns.  
  
This list will be presented, through the Association President, to the Dean of CALS at NC State University, NC A&T State University and the USDA Agricultural Research Service for consideration when developing their respective research agendas.  
  
This list will be compiled annually and presented by the June meeting following the approval of this document by the Association. **2021**
2. The Association will encourage and maintain communication between the Research and Technology Committee and USDA-ARS to continue funding opportunities for both organizations and provide mutual support when requested. **2021**
3. The Research & Technology Committee will designate a liaison to the USDA-ARS to attend the annual briefing at the Coastal Plain Soil, Water, and Plant Conservation Research Center in Florence, SC, and to identify ways for the Association and the ARS (including the Plant Science Research Unit at NC State University) to be mutually supportive. The designated liaison will report to the Committee on highlights of ARS research and findings of interest to the Association. **2021**
4. The Committee will provide recommendations to the NRCS State Conservationist for priorities for state-level Conservation Innovation Grant request for proposals. **2021**

## WATER RESOURCES

**Chair – Gerda Rhodes (Washington)**

**Vice Chair – Larry Baker (Rockingham)**

### ***Policies & Positions***

1. The Association supports continuation of Drainage/Service Districts and the creation of new districts as needed. **2019**
2. The Association urges the State and Federal Water Quality Organizations to continue funding and working together in ongoing comprehensive, integrated water quality and water quantity planning at the watershed and basinwide scale. **2020**
3. The Association recommends that local Districts become actively involved in developing and implementing targeted ag sediment and stormwater management projects to identify and deal with problems in identified watersheds and impaired stream segments. The Association urges the Division of Water Resources and Division of Soil and Water Conservation, to support and assist District's efforts by providing additional funding, guidance and coordination of sediment projects with accelerated technical assistance and cost-share funding. **2010**
4. The Association actively supports the Aquatic Weed Control Program of the NC Division of Water Resources and encourages management alternatives that can minimize aquatic weed infestations. **2020**
5. The Association supports the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of PL-566 Small Watershed Program Structures. The Association:
  - a. Encourages Federal and State funding to address rehabilitation, restoration and repair or removal of older watershed structures which have reached their design life-span and/or no longer meet safety requirements based on a change in land use, new dam safety requirements, or other factors not associated with inadequate operation and maintenance. The Association shall support NACD, World Environmental and Water Resources Congress, and the National Watershed Coalition in their work with Congress to obtain and sustain funding to support restoration and maintenance of PL-566 structures. **2020**
  - b. Encourages Districts to work with other local sponsors of PL-566 structures to assess the maintenance needs of these structures to enable them to continue to safely provide the benefits for which they were initially installed. **2013**
6. The Association supports the increase of recurring funding for AgWRAP, to expand water efficiency BMPs and farm pond improvements to increase resiliency against damage from future storms and it encourages the use of this program for conservation of our fresh water resources while providing fresh water for farm production and improving the water quality. **2020**
7. The Association strongly encourages Districts to develop and implement strategies to improve water use efficiency. **2013, 2021**
8. The Association supports the responsible construction and maintenance of farm ponds and the 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, Section 111 which requires the Clean Water Act, Section 404(f)(2) to be less burdensome for agricultural activities. **2015**

9. The Association encourages the authorization of funding to support scientists, engineers and health professionals to continue testing and ensure water protection statewide. Additionally, the Association encourages adequate understanding of environmental and public health implications prior to any discharge of wastewater. **2020**

### **Action Items**

\* Action items #1, #2 and #3 are the top three priorities of this committee.

1. The Association supports the creation of a statewide Voluntary Water Management Initiative to (1) provide non-reverting seed funds and technical assistance for critical restoration and maintenance for aging watershed structures for flood control and prevention (such as PL-566 Structures), (2) provide funding for drainage, flooding and safety concerns that may include removal of storm debris from streams and drainageways resulting from severe storm events, and (3) provide technical assistance to develop and implement regional voluntary water management improvement plans. The Association requests \$5,000,000 in recurring appropriations for cost-share and for three new Division positions to implement and maintain this program. The Association further requests \$66,700 in non-recurring funds to equip these positions. **2016**
2. The Association is committed to the proper drainage while maintaining water quality in all areas of the state. The Districts are available to assist the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in assessing the drainage needs within the supervisors' individual communities. The Association urges the NCDOT to continue to work on the drainage issues throughout NC and seek additional funds if needed to work on the problem areas. **2019**
3. The Association encourages and requests the State of North Carolina, in conjunction with US EPA, to establish and enforce water quality standards on the discharge of perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), to protect the environment and public health. **2020**
4. The Association urges Districts to become active participants and leaders for local nonpoint source planning and implementation activities using a watershed approach. Individual Districts are encouraged to consider multiple programs and funding sources (such as 319, Environmental Quality Incentive Program, CREP, NC Land and Water Fund, Federal Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Wetland Reserve Easements, Division of Mitigation Services, Community Conservation Assistance Program, etc.) when addressing water quality issues. **2017**
5. The Association President, Water Resources Committee chair, NRCS State Conservationist and the Directors for Energy, Minerals and Land Resources, Water Resources, and Soil and Water Conservation are encouraged to meet and begin efforts to develop a comprehensive long-range strategy to address the restoration, maintenance and safety concerns associated with PL-566 Small Watershed Program structures in North Carolina. **2014**
6. Join with NACD, NASDA, NASCA, Farm Bureau Federation, NC State Grange, and other agricultural interests to seek resolutions and actions from their organizations in support of revising and strengthening the NRCS policy for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program for use with removal of storm-related stream debris affecting agricultural land. **2020**
7. The Water Resources Committee authorizes the Chair to form a subcommittee to comment on active Interbasin Transfer proposals during public comment on an as needed basis. **2011**





## North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

### Budget Worksheet

Income From All Sources	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	
1 Cash Balance Brought Forward	\$ 173,133.04	\$ 173,133.04		
2 Dues From Districts	\$ 57,000.00	\$ 50,068.00	\$ 58,000.00	
3 Assn. Income-State Convention	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 65,287.98	\$ 65,000.00	
4 Interest Income-Checking Acct.	\$ 500.00	\$ 688.48	\$ 900.00	
5 Endowment Fund	\$ 1,700.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	
6 Expo	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 12,593.06	\$ 15,000.00	
7 Raffle Income	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 361.00	\$ 8,000.00	
8 Workshops/Grants	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 7,065.81	\$ 10,000.00	* Grant
9 District Grants thru Association	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
10 Farm Family Celebration	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	
11 Restricted Fund Admin Fees	\$ 4,200.00	\$ -		
12 State Envirothon			\$ 32,000.00	added
13 CET			\$ 24,000.00	added
14 FLP			\$ 6,000.00	added
15 RCW			\$ 35,000.00	added
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 355,033.04</b>	<b>\$ 309,197.37</b>	<b>\$ 260,400.00</b>	

Restricted	11/30/2020	2020 Income	2020 Expense	11/30/2020
Endowment Fund	\$ 74,100.96	\$ -		\$ 74,100.96
Envirothon Scholarships	\$ 6,500			\$ 6,500.00
RCW Scholarships	\$ 2,050			\$ 2,050.00
				<b>\$ 82,650.96</b>

Reserve				2021 Budget
Envirothon	\$ 66,345.53	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 11,149.60	\$ 16,000.00
CET	\$ 13,974.84	\$ 11,686.75	\$ 3,592.90	\$ 12,000.00
Food, Land, People	\$ 19,261.92	\$ 2,685.00	\$ 1,487.48	\$ 3,000.00
Resource Conservation Workshop	\$ 129,680.47	\$ 900.00	\$ 34,185.92	\$ 17,500.00
Conservation Awareness	\$ 3,986.31	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,486.31
Executive Director	\$ 57,872.87	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 63,624.29	\$ 32,000.00
Mobile Soils Classroom/Trailers	\$ 13,945.19	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,945.19
	<b>\$ 373,772.90</b>			<b>\$ 97,931.50</b>

Bank accounts	<u>Bal on 11/30/20</u>
Wells Fargo	\$ 310,379.84
Branch Banking & Trust	\$ 113,293.62
Roxboro Savings	\$ 186,459.99
Bank balance total	<b>\$ 610,133.45</b>
Restricted Fund balance	<b>\$ 82,650.96</b>
Reserve Accounts	<b>\$ 97,931.50</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>\$ 527,482.49</b>

**Unrestricted Fund Carry Forward**

2018	\$105,888.14
2019	\$173,133.04
2020	\$527,482.49

## Budget Worksheet

Disbursements	2020 Budget	2020 Disbursed	2021 Budget
1 NACD Assessments or Dues	\$0.00	\$1,776.00	\$1,776.00
2 Travel Expense non-Association Officers			
A. NACD Convention	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.95	\$12,000.00
B. SE Regional Meeting	\$5,600.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
C. Committee Meeting	\$4,000.00	\$300.00	\$4,000.00
3 Expenses of NC Association Annual Meeting	\$50,000.00	\$57,772.25	\$55,000.00
4 Office Expense	\$2,500.00	\$666.15	\$2,500.00
5 Expenses of the President	\$9,000.00	\$3,624.66	\$9,000.00
6 Expenses of Vice President	\$6,500.00	\$1,256.06	\$6,500.00
7 NACD Board Member	\$7,000.00	\$2,893.09	\$7,000.00
8 Alt. NACD Board Member	\$5,000.00	\$138.80	\$5,000.00
9 Auxiliary	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
10 FFA Land Judging	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
11 NCDEA Donation for Secretarial Assistance	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
12 Education Awards	\$3,300.00	\$2,100.00	\$3,300.00
13 Teacher's Travel State Meeting	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
14 Endowment Fund	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
15 Envirothon Chairman Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
16 NC Envirothon	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	<b>\$32,000.00</b>
17 Food, Land, & People	\$1,000.00	\$1,487.48	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
18 State Fair Booth/Mtn. State Fair Booth	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
19 Expo	\$7,500.00	\$5,830.06	\$7,500.00
20 Farm Family Celebration	\$4,500.00	\$500.00	\$4,500.00
21 Farm Family Prize Money	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
22 Conservation Awareness Support	\$3,500.00	\$500.00	\$3,500.00
23 Marketing and Outreach	\$2,200.00	\$307.06	\$2,200.00
24 Raffle	\$13,000.00		\$10,000.00
25 Accounting	\$8,000.00	\$4,560.00	\$6,000.00
26 Workshops/Grants	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,500.00
27 Executive Director	\$25,000.00	\$27,624.29	\$33,000.00
28 Executive Director Expenses	\$10,000.00	\$6,159.48	\$10,000.00
29 Water Resources Conference	\$1,000.00	\$980.00	\$1,000.00
30 Expenses for Association Award Recipient	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
31 Audit / Annual Information Return	\$6,000.00	\$5,750.00	\$6,000.00
32 Insurance	\$3,000.00	\$2,821.00	\$2,600.00
33 Permits & License	\$0.00	\$227.00	\$100.00
34 Bank Charges	\$150.00	\$224.76	\$350.00
35 CET			<b>\$24,000.00</b>
36 RCW			<b>\$35,000.00</b>
37 Mobile Soils Classroom/Trailers			<b>\$2,000.00</b>
38 Contingency Fund	\$33,526.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00

<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$231,526.00</b>	<b>\$135,499.09</b>	<b>\$320,076.00</b>
Yearly Comparisons	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Income	\$153,168.12	\$157,600.00	<b>\$260,400.00</b>
Expenses	\$183,087.08	\$217,800.00	<b>\$320,076.00</b>
	<b>-\$29,918.96</b>	<b>-\$60,200.00</b>	<b>-\$59,676.00</b>

These comparisons remove the contingency amounts counted as income in previous budgets

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	Blount Knowles (Bertie)
<b>First Vice-President:</b>	Chris Hughes (Watauga)
<b>Second Vice-President:</b>	George Teague (Guilford)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bill Yarborough (Haywood)
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	Shane Whitaker (Randolph)
<b>NACD Board Member:</b>	Franklin Williams (Duplin)
<b>Alternate NACD Board Member:</b>	Myles Payne (Alexander)
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Marvin Cavanaugh (Stokes)
<b>Assistant Chaplain:</b>	Tracy Warren (Beaufort)

### 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>President:</b>	Blount Knowles (Bertie)
<b>First Vice-President:</b>	Chris Hughes (Watauga)
<b>Second Vice-President:</b>	George Teague (Guilford)
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	Chris Hogan (Orange)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bill Yarborough (Haywood)
<b>NACD Board Member:</b>	Franklin Williams (Duplin)
<b>Finance Committee Chair:</b>	Shane Whitaker (Randolph)
<b>Legislative Committee Chair:</b>	Craig Frazier (Randolph)
<b>Area 1 Chair:</b>	Doug Harrell (Mitchell)
<b>Area 2 Chair:</b>	Kathy Bunton (Alexander)
<b>Area 3 Chair:</b>	Cal Berryhill (Person)
<b>Area 4 Chair:</b>	Donald Rogers (Johnston)
<b>Area 5 Chair:</b>	Richard Cannon (Martin)
<b>Area 6 Chair:</b>	Vincent Lewis (Onslow)
<b>Area 7 Chair:</b>	James Norfleet (Scotland)
<b>Area 8 Chair:</b>	Chester Lowder (Stanly) / Jeff Goforth (Cabarrus)

### 2021 STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

<b>At Large Member:</b>	John Langdon, Chairman (Johnston)
<b>Association President Seat:</b>	Blount Knowles (Bertie)
<b>Association First Vice-President Seat:</b>	Chris Hughes (Watauga)
<b>Association Immediate Past President Seat:</b>	Chris Hogan (Orange)
<b>Mountain Region Seat - 2020-2022:</b>	Mike Willis (Caldwell)
<b>Piedmont Region Seat – 2019-2021:</b>	Wayne Collier, Jr. (Cumberland)
<b>Coastal Region Seat – 2021-2023:</b>	Derek Potter (Pamlico)

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

#### **COMMUNITY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Chair: Barbara Bleiweis (Mecklenburg)  
Vice-Chair: Scott Sheffield (Moore)  
Recorder: Betsy Gerwig (Henderson)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Drew Brannon (Henderson)  
Area 2 Marvin Cavanaugh (Stokes)  
Area 3 Scott Sheffield (Moore)  
Area 4 Laura Marie Davis (Durham)  
Area 5 Blount Knowles (Bertie)  
Area 6 Sue Hayes (New Hanover)  
Area 7 Matthew Lindsay (Hoke)  
Area 8 Barbara Bleiweis (Mecklenburg)

#### **Alternates:**

Charles Sink (Wilkes)  
Shane Whitaker (Randolph)  
  
Steve Harris (Albe/Pasquotank)  
Tara Hughes (Lenoir)  
Gary Hendrix (Hoke)  
Roger Hurst (Gaston)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Julie Henshaw	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Tom Hill	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Stuart Lee	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dru Harrison	NC District Employees Association

#### **DISTRICT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair: Gwen Minton (Wilkes)  
Vice-Chair: Kate Campau (Rockingham)  
Recorder: Sabra Cahoon (Pamlico)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1: James Ferguson (Haywood)  
Area 2: Michael Willis (Caldwell)  
Area 3: Kate Campau (Rockingham)  
Area 4: Nervahna Crew (Wake)  
Area 5: Joe Rogers (Beaufort)  
Area 6: Dietrich Kilpatrick (Craven)  
Area 7: Clifton McNeill, Jr. (Cumberland)  
Area 8: David Smith (Davidson)

#### **Alternates:**

Gwen Minton (Wilkes)  
Craig Frazier (Randolph)  
  
Stuart Pierce (Hertford)  
Patrick Baker (Pamlico)  
  
Kevin Marion (Davie)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Cayle Aldridge	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Eric Pare	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Odessa Armstrong	USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Caroline Wicker	NC District Employees' Association

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Chair: David Harris (Durham)  
Vice-Chair: Richard Hayes (Chatham)  
Recorder: Marybeth Watkins (Brunswick)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Charles Boyd (Haywood)  
Area 2 James Booth (Stokes)  
Area 3 Richard Hayes (Chatham)  
Area 4 David Harris (Durham)  
Area 5 James Pugh (Bertie)  
Area 6 Frank Meares (New Hanover)  
Area 7 Jim Chandler (Richmond)  
Area 8 John Peeler (Davie)

#### **Alternates:**

Susie Devine (Catawba)  
Ray Briggs (Guilford)  
  
Jeff Goforth (Cabarrus)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Allie Dinwiddie Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Sandra Weitzel Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Milton Cortes USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Lisa Marochak NC District Employees' Association

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chair: Shane Whitaker (Randolph)  
Vice-Chair: Melinda James (Macon)  
Recorder: Pamela Bowman (Alexander)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Melinda James (Macon)  
Area 2 Johnny East (Stokes)  
Area 3 Bruce Whitfield (Person)  
Area 4 Thomas Farmer (Vance)  
Area 5 Guy Davenport (Washington)  
Area 6 Macon Wooten, Jr. (Lenoir)  
Area 7 Wayne Collier, Jr. (Cumberland)  
Area 8 Tommy Houser (Lincoln)

#### **Alternates:**

Wes Schollander (Forsyth)  
Roy Stanley (Alamance)  
  
Jimmy Mason (Hertford)  
  
Lloyd Phillips (Davidson)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Ralston James Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Michelle Lovejoy NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation  
Leslie Vanden Herik NC District Employees' Association

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

#### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Craig Frazier (Randolph)  
Vice-Chair: Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)  
Recorder: Kaitlyn Johnson (Randolph)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Pam Bell (Macon)  
Area 2 Chris Hughes (Watauga)  
Area 3 Bill Alston (Randolph)  
Area 4 Charles Hill (Johnston)  
Area 5 Maurice Berry, Jr. (Albe/Pasquotank)  
Area 6 Sam Davis (Jones)  
Area 7 James Sarvis (Columbus)  
Area 8 Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)

#### **Alternates:**

Jo R. Linville (Yadkin)  
Don Thompson (Montgomery)  
  
Harvey Roberts (Albe/Currituck)  
  
Lloyd Ransom (Columbus)  
Tommy Porter (Cabarrus)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Bryan Evans	NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Vernon Cox	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Tim Beard	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Jenny Parks	NC District Employees' Association

#### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Donald Rogers (Johnston)  
Vice-Chair: Bruce Ryder (Rowan)  
Recorder: Pam Steuer (Caldwell)

#### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Randy Cabe (Jackson)  
Area 2 Ed Spivey (Caldwell)  
Area 3 Tony Ragan (Lee)  
Area 4 Robert Glover, Jr. (Nash)  
Area 5 J.W. Spencer (Hyde)  
Area 6 Marlene Salyer (Craven)  
Area 7 Willie Beard (Bladen)  
Area 8 Bruce Ryder (Rowan)

#### **Alternates:**

Dowel Lester (Stokes)  
Chris Hogan (Orange)  
Donald Rogers (Johnston)  
James Allen (Beaufort)  
James Hardison (Pamlico)  
Charles Gillespie (Bladen)  
Matthew Pence (Iredell)

#### **Resource Contacts:**

Josh Vetter	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Eric Galamb	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Greg Walker	USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Christie Watkins	NC District Employees' Association



## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

#### RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chair: Charles Mitchell (Franklin)  
Vice-Chair: Denny Norris (Watauga)  
Recorder: Jason Byrd (Rockingham)

##### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Matthew Reynolds (Macon)  
Area 2 Denny Norris (Watauga)  
Area 3 George Teague (Guilford)  
Area 4 Charles Mitchell (Franklin)  
Area 5 Richard Saunders (Albe/Perquimans)  
Area 6 Sam Smith (Brunswick)  
Area 7 Jeff Joyner (Richmond)  
Area 8 Bruce Miller (Rowan)

##### **Alternates:**

Dr. Bill Davis (Wilkes)  
David Dycus (Lee)  
  
Franklin Williams (Duplin)  
Ryan Patterson (Harnett)  
Ben Hege (Davidson)

##### **Resource Contacts:**

Rick McSwain Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
David Williams Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Rafael Vega USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Charlie Bass NC District Employees' Association

#### WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chair: Gerda Rhodes (Washington)  
Vice-Chair: Larry Baker (Rockingham)  
Recorder: Lea-Ann Branch (Burke)

##### **Area Delegates:**

Area 1 Richard Smith (Polk)  
Area 2 Dennis Benfield (Caldwell)  
Area 3 Larry Baker (Rockingham)  
Area 4 Patrick Johnson (Wake)  
Area 5 Gerda Rhodes (Washington)  
Area 6 Donna Mills (Wayne)  
Area 7 Michael Herndon (Robeson)  
Area 8 Jim Summers (Rowan)

##### **Alternates:**

Brian Parker (Wilkes)  
Joan Slade (Caswell)  
  
Leroy Smith (Pitt)  
  
James Norfleet (Scotland)  
Wayne Moser (Union)

##### **Resource Contacts:**

Sydney Mucha Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Jeff Young Division of Soil & Water Conservation  
Jim Kjelgaard USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Randy Freeman NC District Employees' Association

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 STATE ASSOCIATION: OTHER POSITIONS and COMMITTEES

#### **Crowdfunding Sub Committee (of District Operations Committee):**

Temporarily on Hold

#### **Food, Land & People Committee:**

Chairman – Charles Boyd, Haywood SWCD

#### **Hall of Fame:**

Chairman – Franklin Williams, Duplin SWCD

#### **Leadership Development Committee:**

Chairman – Dietrich Kilpatrick, Craven SWCD

#### **Personnel Committee:**

Blount Knowles, Bertie SWCD – Chair (Association President)

Chris Hogan, Orange SWCD – member (Association Past President)

Chris Hughes, Watauga SWCD – member (Association Vice President)

George Teague, Guilford SWCD – member (Association Second Vice President)

Shane Whitaker, Randolph SWCD – member (Association Finance Committee Chair)

Bill Yarborough, Haywood SWCD – member (Association Treasurer)

#### **Mobile Soils Classroom Committee:**

Rich Hayes, Chatham SWCD

#### **Parliamentarian:**

David Harris, Durham SWCD

#### **Past Presidents Committee:**

Myles Payne, Alexander SWCD

#### **Resource Conservation Workshop Committee:**

Chairman – Bruce Whitfield, Person SWCD

#### **State Envirothon Committee:**

Chairman – Rich Hayes, Chatham SWCD

## 2021 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

### 2021 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR MEMBERS: SERVING ON OTHER CONSERVATION RELATED BOARDS and COMMITTEES

*\*For a complete list of Board/Committee members and activities, please visit the listed websites*

#### **Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Advisory Committee:**

<http://www.ncagr.gov/swc/commission/CAC.html>

William "Bill" Hart, New Hanover SWCD – member

Scott Sheffield, Moore SWCD – alternate member

#### **National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)**

<http://www.nacdnet.org/>

##### **District Operations and Member Services Committee:**

Franklin Williams, Duplin SWCD – member (board member)

Myles Payne, Alexander SWCD – member (board alternate)

#### **North Carolina Ag Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Committee:**

<http://www.ncadfp.org/>

Blount Knowles, Bertie SWCD – member (Association President)

#### **North Carolina Board of Agriculture:**

<http://www.ncagr.gov/htm/agboard.htm>

Maurice K. Berry, Jr., Albemarle SWCD – Pasquotank – member

#### **North Carolina Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation Board of Directors:**

<http://www.ncsoilwater.org>

Chris Hogan, Orange SWCD – member (Association Past President)

Blount Knowles, Bertie SWCD – member (Association President)

Chris Hughes, Watauga SWCD – member (Association First Vice President)

Bill Yarborough, Haywood SWCD - member

#### **Technical Review Committee (TRC)**

<http://www.ncagr.gov/swc/commission/TRC.html>

##### **2020-2021 Supervisor Representative:**

Jody Smith, Stanly SWCD – member

## NC ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

1944 O. J. Holler ~ Rutherford County	1983 Charles Patton ~ Buncombe County
1945 Dane S. Rhine ~ Gaston County	1984 Garland Strickland ~ Nash County
1946 A. C. Edwards ~ Greene County	1985 David Holland, Jr. ~ Onslow County
1947 W. Herbert White ~ Rockingham County	1986 H. Gray Ashburn, Jr. ~ Wilkes County
1948 Wade E. Eller ~ Ashe County	1987 John Y. Phelps, Jr. ~ Wake County
1949 J. Hawley Poole ~ Moore County	1988 William V. Griffin ~ Jones County
1950 W. W. Eagles ~ Edgecombe County	1989 Rebecca H. Rhyne ~ Gaston County
1951 H. S. Hogan ~ Orange County	1990 William Butler ~ Bladen County
1952 W. J. Fonville ~ Alamance County	1991 Tom Burns ~ Pasquotank County
1953 J. T. Graham ~ Rowan County	1992 James Ferguson ~ Haywood County
1954 S. Vernon Stevens ~ Lee County	1993 Charles Snipes ~ Orange County
1955 Allen Swindell ~ Beaufort County	1994 Samuel D. Davis ~ Jones County
1956 Charles Ladd ~ Durham County	1995 Don Abernethy ~ Burke County
1957 B. L. Angell ~ Davie County	1996 John W. Finch ~ Nash County
1958 Neal M. Craig ~ Mecklenburg County	1997 David M. O'Neal ~ Hyde County
1959 Charles L. Davis ~ Jones County	1998 Eddie Stroup ~ Mecklenburg County
1960 A. W. Nesbitt ~ Buncombe County	1999 Jeff Turlington ~ Harnett County
1961 A.J. Flanagan ~ Pitt County	2000 Franklin Williams ~ Duplin County
1962 Leon Ballance ~ Hyde County	2001 Jim Hollifield ~ Rutherford County
1963 J.B. Slack ~ Randolph County	2002 Albert Troutman ~ Moore County
1964 James Bellamy, Jr. ~ Brunswick County	2003 James Mason ~ Hertford County
1965 Thomas H. Bonham ~ Buncombe County	2004 Grover McPherson ~ Forsyth County
1966 James T. Moss, Sr. ~ Franklin County	2005 Tom Davidson ~ Durham County
1967 Lloyd C. Bunch ~ Chowan County	2006 Don Rawls ~ Pender County
1968 George B. Collins ~ Wilkes County	2007 Ned Hudson ~ Cabarrus County
1969 George Winchester ~ Wake County	2008 Bobby Stanley ~ Columbus County
1970 William G. Sullivan ~ Duplin County	2009 William "Bill" Pickett ~ Duplin County
1971 Blair Goodson ~ Lincoln County	2010 James Ferguson ~ Haywood County
1972 A.W. Bunch ~ Scotland County	2011 Craig Frazier ~ Randolph County
1973 M. E. Knight ~ Gates County	2012 Donald Heath ~ Craven County
1974 G. C. Palmer ~ Haywood County	2013 Tommy Houser ~ Lincoln County
1975 C. Roy Nifong, Jr. ~ Forsyth County	2014 John Langdon ~ Johnston County
1976 Joseph L. Williams ~ Duplin County	2015 Manly West ~ Currituck County
1977 John B. Harris ~ Burke County	2016 Ben Knox ~ Rowan County
1978 Stewart Adcock ~ Wake County	2017 Chris Hogan ~ Orange County
1979 Ralph Tucker ~ Pitt County	2018 Dietrich Kilpatrick ~ Craven County
1980 Wade Carrigan ~ Iredell County	2019 Myles Payne ~ Alexander County
1981 D. R. Huff, Jr. ~ Hoke County	2020 Samuel Green, Jr. ~ Vance County
1982 F.C. Laughinghouse ~ Beaufort County	<b>2021 <i>Blount Knowles ~ Bertie</i></b>