



Big Sandy Soil & Water Conservation District

1236 Almarine Drive

Grundy, Virginia 24614

Phone: (276) 935-7750

EMAIL: bsswcd42@outlook.com

Board Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

Big Sandy Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors met Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 10:00 am at the Peking Restaurant, Grundy, VA

Board Members

Josh McGlothlin, Chairman

Ruth E. Horn, Vice Chair

Bobby Looney, Director

James Horn, Director

Leona Wolford, Associate Director

Staff

Jeanne Presley, District Manager

Colten Stiltner, Student Intern

Agency Personnel

Lorie Stevens, DCR

Emerson Kirby, NRCS

Members Absent

Brad Mullins, Director

Samantha Justus, Associate Director

Taylor Burgess, Associate Director

Virginia Looney, Associate Director

Attendance from Public

Nathan Wolford

Ann Looney

Call to Order

Josh McGlothlin, Chairman, called the June 17, 2026, meeting to order at 10:03 am. A quorum was met with 4 of 5 board members present.

Additions to The Agenda

Delegated Authority for Signing

Public Comments

None

Approval of May 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes

The May 20, 2026, board meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Bobby Horn made a motion to approve the May 20, 2026, minutes as submitted. Ruth E. Horn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review, Receive and File the Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2026, was reviewed by Ruth E. Horn in the absence of Samantha Justus, Treasurer. A motion was made by James Horn to receive and file the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Bobby Looney. Motion carried.

Reports From Cooperating Agencies

Lorie Stevens presented her June 2026 DCR-DSWC CDC report. See Attachment A.

Emerson Kirby, NRCS, in the absence of Wess Stanley, District Conservationist, discussed the NRCS report. Attachment B.

Reports from Staff:

Jeanne Presley, District Manager/Education Specialist, reviewed her report with the board for the month of May 2026. See Attachment C.

Jeanne Presley, District Manager in the absence of Jake Hess, Conservation Technician, reviewed his report with the board for the month of May 2026. Attachment D

Jeanne Presley, District Manager in the absence of Jon Fuller, Conservation Technician, reviewed his report with the board for the month of May 2026. Attachment E.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business

Local Working Group

Emerson Kirby, NRCS led the discussion for the Local Working Group. Big Sandy Representatives shared their concerns as they related to the questions Mr. Kirby presented. Mr. Kirby will prepare the report for submission, based upon the answers given.

Local Government Investment Pool Performance

The board was advised that the district had gained interest during the month of May in the three accounts opened with LGIP as follows:

FUND	MAY INTEREST
Building Fund:	\$252.57
Special Projects	\$58.20
Lime/Fertilizer Funds	\$132.10

Donation Request Joshua Smith and Landon Ray

The board was advised that a request was made on behalf of Joshua Smith and Landon Ray to support their efforts in the World/National Championship fishing tournament to be held in Kentucky. After discussion, James Horn made a motion to sponsor the team for \$200.00. Seconded by Bobby Looney. Motion carried

Donation Request Breese Bostic and Easton Stevens

The board was advised that a request was made on behalf of Breese Bostic and Easton Stevens to support their efforts in the 2026 TBF Junior World Fishing Championship to be held in Russellville, Arkansas. After discussion, James Horn made a motion to sponsor the team for \$200.00. Seconded by Bobby Looney. Motion carried

Review Desktop Procedure

The board was advised that they had received a copy of the Desktop Procedures for review. All Board members affirmed that they had reviewed the Desktop Procedures as required.

Dedicated Reserves

The board was advised that the allocation of Dedicated Reserves was not necessary due to the fact that the board does not have more than the required amount of operational funding to carry over.

FLSA Tests

The board was advised that the FLSA Exemption Questionnaires were completed by the District Manager. All employees were deemed to be Learned Professionals and were therefore considered exempt employees.

Increase in Funding VACS

The board was advised that additional funding for Contract 47-26-002 was received from Lonesome Pine Soil & Water Conservation District.in the amount of \$1,792.00 cost share and \$232.96 technical assistance funds. Accepted and signed by Ruth E. Horn on 5-29-2026.

The board was advised that Contract #47-26-001 and #47-26-002 were updated and approved by Ruth E. Horn on June 9, 2026, as was given authority by the board at the May meeting. The cost share had increased for both contracts due to the wrong average cost list used by the Conservation

Technician.

The board was advised that a second request was made for additional funding to Lorie Stevens, CDC an additional funding was received from Big Walker SWCD in the amount of \$3,217.00 cost share and \$418.21 in Technical Assistance funds. Ruth E. Horn accepted and signed on behalf of the board on 6-15-2026.

James Horn made a motion to accept and approve the contracts and additional funding as signed by Ruth E. Horn within her signature authority granted by the board. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. Motion carried.

Annual Plan of Work

The board was advised that the Annual Plan of Work had been developed and was submitted for their review. After discussion, Ruth E. Horn made a motion to approve the Annual Plan of Work as submitted. Bobby Looney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Average Cost List

The board was advised that the Average Cost List had been reviewed and prepared by the district staff. James Horn made a motion to approve the Average Cost List as submitted. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. Motion Carried.

Secondary Considerations

The board was advised that the Secondary Considerations had been prepared by the district staff. After discussion, James Horn made a motion to approve the Secondary Considerations as submitted with knowledge that they will need to be approved by Sara Bottenfield, NRCS. Seconded by Bobby Looney. Motion Carried

4th Quarter Technical Assistance Disbursement

The board was advised that a memo from Lorie Stevens, CDC, dated June 8, 2026, advising that Technical Assistance in the amount of \$4,214.68 and Cost-Share in the amount of \$32,420.60 for a total of \$36,635.28 will be deposited into the district account within 30 days.

Freddie Viers Extension

The board was advised that Contract #47-24-0001 will be cancelled if not completed by June 30, 2026. Staff had spoken with Lorie Stevens, who advised requesting an extension from Sara Bottenfield. The request was submitted, although it was outside of the submission deadline. On May 29, 2026, Ms. Bottenfield notified the staff that the contract had been extended and must be completed by 6/30/2027. After discussion, Bobby Looney made a motion to approve the extension of contract #47-24-0001 through 6/30/2027. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. Motion Carried.

Coalfield Sheep Association Field Day

The board was advised that the Coalfield Sheep Association Field Day will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 10:00 am at the Coalfield Agriculture Center. All individuals are welcome to attend.

Adams & Company Contract

The board was advised that a new contract was received from Adams & Company for the period 7/1/26 through 6/30/27. The fees will increase from \$950.00 to \$1150.00 per month. After discussion, Bobby Looney made the motion to continue with Adams & Company for accounting services for FY2026-2027 at \$1,150.00 per month. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. Motion carried.

Audit Findings

The board was advised that the audit subcommittee found deficiencies and did not request that the district make a direct response to the Review Committee. For documentation purposes, it is noted that the board discussed the paying of sales tax on products purchased by employees and board members. The board will not pay sales tax on any items purchased for use by the district.

DWR Insurance

The board was advised that Risk Management Services are currently in place or available to SWCD Districts by the Division of Risk Management. After discussion, James Horn made a motion that the District Manager should seek information regarding the cost of the insurance. Bobby Looney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Appointed Director

The board was advised that there was discussion held at the previous meeting but there was no official vote taken regarding the appointment of director, the term of which is now being held by Ruth E. Horn. Ruth E. Horn advised that she would agree to continue as the appointed director. Bobby Looney made a motion to appoint Ruth E. Horn to continue as appointed director for the Big Sandy Soil & Water Conservation District. James Horn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Delegated Authority to Sign

The board was advised that Ruth E. Horn had previously been designated to sign on behalf of the board for end-of-year or necessary documents. The board was informed that Ms. Horn will be out of state for an extended period of time and therefore a new board member would need to be appointed. Bobby Looney made a motion to appoint Josh McGlothlin to replace Ms. Horn with the capacity to sign end-of-year or necessary documents. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee

Ruth E. Horn, Chair of the Personnel Committee, advised the board that the Personnel Committee met on May 24, 2026, at 1:00 pm at Grundy Baptist Church to discuss Employee Evaluations. The board evaluated Jonathan Fuller, Jacob Hess and Jeanne Presley and each employee signed off on their evaluation.

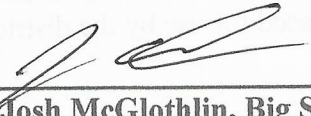
Leona Wolford made a motion to give Colten Stiltner a bonus of \$250.00 Josh McGlothlin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Motion was made by James Horn to approve the bonus based on the Personnel Committee Recommendation. Bobby Looney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

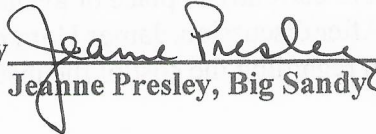
Motion was made by James Horn to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting as presented. Seconded by Bobby Looney. Motion carried.

Announcements: The next meeting will be held on July 15, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Breaks Park Restaurant, Breaks, VA.

Adjourn: Bobby Looney made the motion to adjourn at 11:28 am. Seconded by Ruth E. Horn. The motion carried.

The attached minutes were approved by the Board on 7/15/26

Signed by  7/15/26
Josh McGlothlin, Big Sandy SWCD, Chair

Prepared by 
Jeanne Presley, Big Sandy SWCD, Secretary



June 2026 – Conservation District Coordinator (CDC) Report

Lorie M. Stevens, Conservation District Coordinator
DCR-Division of Soil and Water Conservation – Abingdon Regional Office
lorie.stevens@dcr.virginia.gov | 276.451.5821

1) Administrative and Operational Items

- **FY26 4th Qtr. Mid-Quarter Disbursements:** Disbursement letters are scheduled to be emailed to SWCD's on 06/08/26. Direct deposits should be issued within 30 days of the date of the disbursement letter.
- **FY26 Self-Assessment Questionnaire** - Due on or before 07/15/26: Administrative and/or managerial staff submit the questionnaire; however, technical staff should assist with providing data. Assessment Questionnaires were sent to SWCD staff via email on 05/16/26. As a reminder, assessments will have input from DCR program managers & will not be presented to SWCDs until August or September.
- **FY26 Grant Agreement Deliverables / Year End Item Reminder(s):** All FY26 deliverables for both the Administrative & Operational Grant and Cost-Share & Technical Assistance Grant must be satisfied before 06/30/26. Any outstanding items should be addressed at the June 2026 board meeting. For a full list of Grant Agreement Deliverables and Year End Item Reminders please reference my May CDC report.
- **FY26 4th Quarter and End-of-Year Reports due 07/15/26:** In addition to the routine submission of the Attachment E, Balance Sheet, and Profit & Loss, also the FY26 Attachment E "roll up", Cost-Share Cash Balance, and Carry Over Reports are due. Remember all signed hard copies, such as the Attachment E, should be emailed to the CDC no later than 07/15/26. Instructions for completion were sent to SWCD staff via email on 05/16/26.
- **Status of FY27 Grant Agreements:** The VA Soil and Water Conservation Board will still meet on June 17th to handle business, however, due to no approved State budget, the VSWCB will schedule an additional meeting in early July to approve the FY27 policies and grants. FY27 Grant Agreements will most likely be delayed due to the late budget and policy approvals. You may wish to delegate authority to your board Chair to sign grant agreements, especially if your district board meets in early July.
- **Audit Updates:** Scott County SWCD is scheduled for an audit for FYs 25 & 26. RFC will be contacting districts to schedule audits for late 2026.
- **Status of State Budget:** The state budget has yet to be approved. The House plans to meet on 6/18/26 with the Senate meeting on 6/22/26. If the budgets from both the House and Senate are identical, the budget will be advanced to the Governor for signature. agreements
- **FY27 SWCD Budget:** Board approval by June 30th; Remember that the budget can be updated and/or approved in July once the state funding is known; Email final approved budget to assigned CDC.
- **At-Large Director Appointments Expire 12/31/26:** Directors, currently holding At-Large appointments, need to let your District know your intentions about seeking re-appointment. Nominations for appointment will go to the VSWCB in September 2026 and are due to DCR by September 1, 2026. SWCD board action should be taken in July or August. In addition to draft and/or approved minutes, a completed DCR Form 199-014 and 199-015 is required for new appointments and a completed DCR Form 199-014 is required for reappointments.
- **Personnel Evaluations:** I want to remind all SWCDs that one written personnel evaluation per fiscal year is required for all SWCD staff. This means written personnel evaluations should be scheduled and completed in advance of 06/30/26.
 - The Personnel and/or Executive Committee should hold a meeting for the purpose of completing employee written evaluations.

- Individual staff should have one-on-one time with the committee, so plan a date and time that works for a majority of the committee membership and staff.
- The District Manager or the Administrative Secretary (depending on office structure) should be responsible for having all the required paperwork ready for the day of the committee meeting.
- The employee evaluation form should be a standard format for all positions. The approved job description for individual positions should be referenced when creating individual position evaluation forms.
- Although each member of the personnel committee may receive a blank evaluation form, this is for the purpose of reference. The committee chair should lead the committee through each item of the evaluation, and the group should come to a consensus as to the evaluation rating. There should be one official completed written evaluation form that is presented to the employee and signed by the committee chair and/or all those attending the evaluation. It is not advisable to have everyone in attendance fill out individual evaluation sheets.
- The committee should review the written evaluation with individual employees during the scheduled evaluation. The employee should sign the evaluation to acknowledge that it has been reviewed with them, and they were provided a copy. The employee's signature does not mean that he/she agrees with the evaluation.
- The original evaluation form should be retained in the confidential personnel file.
- This fiscal year I have seen some ranking measures that were confusing for both the evaluator and the employee. I recommend a straightforward measuring tool: Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Below Expectations OR Exceeds Contributor, Contributor, Below Contributor.
- When choosing a rating that is above or below Meets Expectations or Contributor, the evaluation should explain in writing why such ratings were given.

2) Ag and Cost-Share Items

- **Cost-Share Program Carryover Report for BMPs To Be Completed, Canceled or Carried Over into FY27:** SWCD technical staff need to start running the carryover report in Logi, which can be accessed at the following location: *LOGI>Shared Report>District Year End Reports>Fiscal Year Closeout Reports>Cost-Share Program Carryover Report for BMPs To Be Completed, Canceled or Carried Over into FY27.* Reference the top of the report to find the necessary action.
- **Carryovers:** Encourage VACS participants to complete their projects in time for payment prior to the end of the fiscal year to reduce carryovers into FY27. Keep in mind that only certain practices are eligible for carryover status. Districts should reference Pages II-42 through II-46 of the FY26 VACS Program Manual for a list of practices eligible for carryover and an explanation of the carryover procedures. Practices approved in FY26 that are listed as "two-year completion date eligible" do not need formal board approval prior to the end of this FY. Other practices substantially under construction and eligible for carryover will need approval by SWCD boards prior to COB 06/30/26.
- **Carryover Practice Reminders:** Please heed the following reminders as you prepare for approval of carryover reports.
 - Ensure that practices are eligible for carryover status prior to bringing them to the board for approval in June (see pages II-42 thru II-46 of the VACS manual).
 - Update each carryover instance in the Ag BMP Tracking Module of CAS and ensure that all Carryover Measures are filled in.
 - Two-program year completion date practices do not require input of Carryover Measures to move from the first program year into the second program year. The status can simply be changed to Carryover status.
 - Completion Dates in CAS:

- The Carryover Completion Date should be filled into the "Carryover Date" field in CAS.
- Do not make any changes to Required Completion Date field. The Required Completion Date field should reflect the original Required Completion Date of the practice.
- After making updates to carryover instances, allow Logi to update overnight before running a carryover report. Please check the carryover report for missing data prior to board approval.
- Utilize the Logi report when approving carryovers since the Logi report can assist with ensuring that a practice is truly eligible for carryover. An example of this is the SL-1 practice. It is a one-program year completion date practice and is eligible to receive carryover status one time. The Logi report highlights these practices if they have already been carried over and cannot be carried over again.
- **FY26 Carryover Correspondence to Participants:** Remember to mail carryover participants an official notification that includes the date the carryover was approved by the Board of Directors and the new completion deadline. Ensure that the carryover section of Contract Part II has been completed.
- **PY 2027 Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Manual:** The PY 2027 VACS manual will be going to print and will soon be posted online. Each SWCD office will receive one printed copy.
- **PY 2027 VACS Program Updates Sessions:** There will be two identical virtual sessions this year and they are scheduled for Wednesday, June 17th from 1:00pm until 4:00pm and Tuesday, June 23rd from 9:00am until 12:00 noon. Remember that all technical staff must attend one of the two VACS Updates Sessions for the SWCD to receive full credit on the assessment for attending. Preregistration is required for the webinar.
 - PY27 VACS Updates - PM Session - June 17, 1 pm
Register: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/9894d8bd-5194-404f-a30d-2bad0fafa6ec@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>
 - PY27 VACS Updates - AM Session - June 23, 9 am
Register: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0db23af3-3ba0-495b-99de-dab9465b252f@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>
- **Delegated Authority:** If there is any chance that action is needed for cost share items after the May and/or June board meeting but before your next board meeting it is recommended the board delegate authority to the Technical/Ag Committee or a board designee to approve cost share actions until the next board meeting is held. The board MUST ratify any delegated authority decisions at their next meeting.
- **PY27 Secondary Considerations:** Require DCR approval. Must be submitted for review and approval prior to any cost-share approvals taking place in the new PY to Sara Bottenfield, DCR-DSWC Ag Incentives Program Manager. Please cc the assigned CDC. Remember that if your SWCD chooses to lower the PY27 participant cap, you must document in the Secondary Considerations.
- **PY27 Average Cost List:** Does not require DCR approval but does require local SWCD board approval before being submitted to DCR. Submit to Sara Bottenfield and the assigned CDC. Approval must be made before any cost-share approvals take place in the new PY.
- **CY26 Random Verifications:** Most CY 2026 Random Verifications have either been completed and/or scheduled.
 - If your board has not already done so, please ensure that verification findings are discussed. The SWCD board should decide on the length of the grace period (up to six months) to be provided to participants to address problems found prior to recheck. This grace period should be noted in the minutes with a specific deadline. Keep in mind that as per the cost-share grant agreement, non-compliance issues including routine maintenance must be addressed within 180 days of the verification date. If issues have not been resolved at the close of the grace period, then proper steps must be taken promptly by the SWCD requiring the return of prorated funds to the SWCD. Please continue to work with participants who have BMPs with

maintenance needs and notify me as practices are brought back into compliance and entered into the Ag BMP Tracking Module of CAS.

- **Clean Water Farm Award Nominations for Local and Grand Basin Award - Due on or before October 1, 2026:** CWFA forms can be found online on the DCR website. All signatures and approvals must be obtained no later than your September Board meeting. Each district may give one local award per jurisdiction. (Blue sign and certificate signed by the Governor) Basin Nominations require a nomination cover sheet, a 1–2-page summary, 6 or more photos, one preferably with the nominee & the farm entrance sign.
- **QA/QC Reports:** As you work through the final quarter of this program year, please be sure to run the QA/QC reports in Logi and make any corrections needed. Please let me know if you need help accessing and running these Logi reports. All data entry should be completed and accurate by 07/15/2026.
 - The signature page will need to be updated w/new signatures, and new approval dates entered in CAS, in all cells requiring approval date.
 - If the BMP was in the original conservation plan approval, then the conservation plan does NOT need to be re-approved.
- **DCR Agriculture Nutrient Management Training:**
 - June 15-16, Soil Science, Soil Fertility and Crop Production School. Required for CP Certification
 - July 7-9, Nutrient Management Plan Writing School.

Upcoming Training and Important Dates:

- **June 1, 2026:** Obligation report will be pulled from CAS for the mid-fourth quarter disbursement. Please ensure that all approvals are in CAS by COB on May 31, 2026.
- **June 15, 2026:** Deadline for obligating PY 2026 VACS funds.
- **June 16, 2026:** VASWCD Quarterly Board Meeting (virtual).
- **June 17, 2026:** VSWCB meeting, VA Transportation Research Council, UVA, 530 Edgemont Rd. Charlottesville, VA.
- **June 17, 2026:** RUSLE 2 Part C, webinar, 9:00-11:00 am.
- **June 17, 2026:** VACS Updates Session from 1:00PM until 4:00PM (virtual).
- **June 18, 2026:** *A Decade of VCAP: Updates and Insights*, an in-person VCAP training Randolph- Macon College 9:30am to 3:30pm. Registration link: <https://form.jotform.com/261195435488164>
- **June 19, 2026:** Juneteenth Holiday, all state offices closed.
- **June 23, 2026:** VACS Updates Session from 9:00AM until 12:00PM (virtual).
- **June 28, 2026:** Deadline for completing SPDA Account Verification with the Virginia Department of Treasury (<https://spda.trs.virginia.gov/search>) for the third quarter.
- **June 30, 2026:** Deadline to complete the annual agricultural community outreach event as required by #10 of the Admin/Ops Grant Agreement. Please remember to invite VSU to speak at the event. Review the full deliverable language for more information.
- **July 2026:** PY27 CAS Virtual Training (required of all Ag Tech staff) two dates and times TBD.
- **July 3, 2026:** Independence Day Holiday, all state offices closed.
- **July 15, 2026:** Fourth Quarter Reports and EOY and Carryover Reports are due to the CDC.
- **July 30, 2026:** Deadline for resolution of all QA/QC issues.
- **August 18-20, 2026:** VACDE Graves Mountain Training in Syria, VA.
- **September 7, 2026:** Labor Day Holiday, all state offices closed.
- **September 4 – 18, 2026 –** L. Stevens (tentative) leave.
- **September 14-15, 2026:** VA Soil and Water Conservation Board Meeting, Robert Mill's farm, Pittsylvania County.

- **September 28, 2026:** Deadline for completing SPDA Account Verification with the Virginia Department of Treasury (<https://spda.trs.virginia.gov/search>) for the fourth quarter.
- **September 30, 2026:** Deadline for completing PY 2027 and PY 2028 EOL Verifications in exchange for the incentive payment.
- **October 1, 2026:** CWFA Nominations for Local and Grand Basin award applications due to DCR.

cc: Blair Gordon, SWCD Operations Coordinator
Sara Bottenfield, Agricultural Incentives Program Manager
Angela W. Ball, PhD, DCR Western Area Manager

Electronically sent to SWCD offices 06/02/2026.

October 1, 1978. The Department of the Interior has received a request from the Bureau of Land Management for a copy of the report of the study conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation for the purpose of determining the feasibility of the proposed project. The report is being reviewed by the Department of the Interior and a decision will be made as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,
Director, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



United States Department of Agriculture

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
247 Gilmer St, Suite C ♦ Lebanon VA, 24266
Phone: (276) 889-4650 ♦ Fax: (855) 616-1651

Attachment B

Lebanon Service Center Report
BSSWCD, CVSWCD & LPSWCD
Board Meetings June 2026

Program Updates/Deadlines:

Wess Stanley, NRCS District Conservationist

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
The Lebanon Service has taken 36 EQIP applications to include grazing systems, seasonal high tunnels, and wildlife/forestry applications with 10 applications approved. Counties approved for contracts are Buchanan (1 High Tunnel), Dickenson (5 High Tunnels and 1 Grazing), Russell (1 High Tunnel) and Wise (2 High Tunnels). NRCS continues to take second round sign-ups which NRCS will consider if funds are available. Additional pre-approvals are anticipated for the week of May 11th.
- **Conservation Reserve Program/Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CRP/CREP)**
CRP Grasslands sign-up ended on May 29th.
- **Conservation Technical Assistance**
Continuing to work with Lonesome Pine SWCD, and Clinch Valley SWCD to assist with alternative watering system surveys in Dickenson, Russell and Wise counties to piggyback. Several piggyback projects are being installed now and have been completed.
- **BMP Project/Partnership Activities**
Actively working with producers to make payments/construction checks on active partnered projects. Conducted fields visits on projects with Clinch Valley and Lonesome Pine SWCD's. Project include livestock watering systems and winter feed structures.
- **Local Working Group (LWG)**
The LWG meetings will be conducted this year. NRCS will work with SWCD's to schedule meetings which will occur later in the year. Meeting dates and times are anticipated for June. Information will be provided ASAP.
- **Outreach/Agency Activities/Events**
NRCS will assist LPSWCD with Ag. Outreach meeting at the Coalfield Ag. Center in Clintwood on June 4th from 5:00pm-8:00pm. DC will provide information on available NRCS programs.

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- **Earth Team Volunteer (ETV) Program**

No updates at this time.

- **VA NRCS Operational/Personnel Changes**

None at this time.

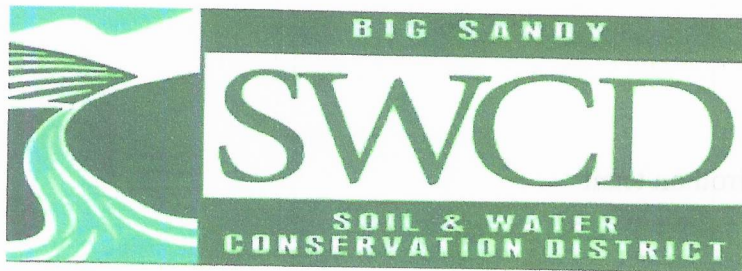
- **EWP/ECP**

- Buchanan County EWP for the February 2025 flooding event became active on 5/7/2026, and will conclude on 11/1/2027.
- Dickenson County EWP project agreement for the February 2025 flooding event became active on 4/27/2026, and will conclude on 11/1/2027. NRCS held a EWP pre-design conference via Teams with Dickenson County officials on 6/4/26 to review the EWP agreement and expectations along NRCS and sponsor roles/responsibilities regarding technical work, agreement management, and engineering service for work performed. Contact roles will be defined for communication between agencies.
- Russell County EWP project agreement for the February 2025 flooding event became active on March 13, 2026, and is scheduled to conclude on November 1, 2027. NRCS held a EWP pre-design conference via Teams with Russell County officials on 6/2/26 to review the EWP agreement and expectations along NRCS and sponsor roles/responsibilities regarding technical work, agreement management, and engineering service for work performed. Contact roles will be defined for communication between agencies.
- Wise County EWP grant agreement and award for the 2024 Hurricane Helene was approved in late September 2025.

Submitted By Wess Stanley, District Conservationist

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Jake Hess, Conservation Technician
Jonathan Fuller, Conservation Technician
Colten Stiltner, Student Intern

Jacob Hess
Conservation Technician
June 17, 2026

Office/Administrative

- Worked in garden
- Took care of the chickens
- Took care of the quail
- Cleaned out storage building
- Walmart trip for painting supplies
- Worked on wooden cow for future events
- Lowes trip for flowers
- Cleaned out and filled new fish tank
- Picked up fish from Rochelle Deel for new tank
- Moved chickens to new outdoor coop

Training

- Stream ID course in Charlottesville
- NCDEA Webinar

Reviewed

- None

Education Programs

- Pollinator Protectors at Southern Gap

Meetings

- None

The Commonwealth of Virginia Supports the Big Sandy Soil and Water Conservation District through financial and administrative assistance provided by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Big Sandy Soil and Water Conservation District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Events

- Eat it, Read it, Plant it
- Headstart Family Day
- Pizza party for Council Envirothon team
- Pizza party for Grundy YCLI students

Conservation

- Spoke with Wendell Harris regarding soil sample
- Spoke with Tina Presley regarding soil sample
- Spoke with Scott Davis regarding soil sample
- Spoke with Harold Dotson regarding soil sample and paperwork
- Helped YCLI student with flower planting at Southern Gap
- Spoke with Rocco Ranallo about farm
- Prepared check for Terry Wimmer
- McClure Concrete spot check
- Clinic spot check
- WL Construction spot check
- West River Construction spot check
- Eagle Express spot check

News articles/Media

- Made a video on our chickens for Facebook

Earth team volunteers

- None

The Commonwealth of Virginia Supports the Big Sandy Soil and Water Conservation District through financial and administrative assistance provided by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

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