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Strasburg, VA 22657
(540) 465-2424, Ext. 5
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MINUTES

The August 13, 2026, LFSWCD Board of Director's Meeting was held, in person, at the Strasburg Community Center, 726 East Queen Street, Strasburg, VA 22657.

Those attending were:

LFSWCD Directors

Joan Comanor
Mary Gessner
James Fagan
Justin Mackay-Smith
Randy Buckley
Emma Bricker
Paul Burkholder
Reid Hoak
Kermit Gaither
Jenna Wiles

LFSWCD Staff Members

Madison Coffey
Olivia Donachie
Sarah Fleming
Dana Gochenour
Becky Leland
Nick Livesay
Ben Loyd
Allyson Ponn
Brett Ramer

**Guests, Associate Directors, & Cooperating Agency Representatives
in Attendance:**

Bobby Clark
Stephanie Shillingburg
Debbie Cross, CDC/DCR
Brent Barriteau, NRCS
Matt Kowalski, CBF

Absent Directors:

Cynthia Fairbanks
Mark Huddleston

Absent Staff:

LFSWCD Board Chair Joan Comanor called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

- Introduction of new staff member Becky Leland, Program Support Specialist.



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MOTION: Board approval of the July 9, 2026, Board of Director meeting minutes as presented in the Board Packet. Motion made by Paul Burkholder, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain		Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X				Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X				Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X				Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X				Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston					Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks					Jenna Wiles	X		

Chairwoman's Report: Joan Comanor

- Reviewed written report.

MOTION: Board ratifies the Chair signature through delegated authority on the FY27 Admin & Ops and Cost Share Grant Agreements (as presented in the Board Packet). Motion made by Paul Burkholder, seconded by Mary Gessner. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain		Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X				Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X				Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X				Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X				Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston					Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks					Jenna Wiles	X		

- Board members, please check your email for an updated briefing chart.
- The Annual Report email will be sent out on 8/14/2026 by Allyson.
- Discussion of Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley "Field Trip"
 - Discussion of Solar Farm Battery Storage Facility

Treasurer & Finance Report: Stephanie Shillingburg

- James "Jim" Fagan has been appointed to the Finance Committee.
- The Finance Committee will meet at 9:30am September 10, 2026, prior to the Board for review of FY27 Suggested Dedicated Reserve Transfers.

MOTION: to Accept and file for audit the Treasurer's Report/Documents for May 2026 and June 2026 (as presented in the Board Packet). Motion made by Jim Fagan, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain		Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X				Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X				Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X				Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X				Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston					Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks					Jenna Wiles	X		



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Board Secretary/Administrative Manager: Sarah Fleming

- Reviewed written report.
- Reminder of Employee Training 8/18 – 8/20/2026 – Staff will be out of the office.
 - Allyson gave a review of the Training Agenda

Technical Staff Reports:

Supervising Conservation Specialist, Dana Gochenour:

- Reviewed written report.
- Staff will start reporting dry well information to FSA.

Senior Conservation Specialist, Nick Livesay:

- Reviewed written report.
- Highlighted that he received his EJAA review with a 3-year renewal.

Conservation Specialist, Madison Coffey:

- Reviewed written report.
- Waste Storage Facility discussion.

Conservation Specialist, Ben Loyd

- Reviewed written report.

Conservation Specialist – Brett Ramer

- Reviewed written report.
- Highlighted attendance at the SWCS International Conference, St. Louis, MS.

Conservation Specialist – Olivia Donachie

- Reviewed written report.
- CCI-EOL-VCAP bridge between Lisa's departure and Becky's onboarding.

Program Support Specialist, Becky Leland:

- Started on 8/3/2026
- Learning lots of new things.
- Mailed out Cover Crop sign-up letters.

Education and Conservation Specialist, Allyson Ponn:

- Reviewed written report.
- Gave a review of her attendance to the SE Employee Association Conference in Cherokee, NC
 - Charlie Newton was inducted to the Soil & Water Hall of Fame.

Committee Updates:

Conservation Technical - Mary Gessner

- Mary reviewed the CTC minutes for necessary motions.
 - Motions are as follows:

Motion to recommend the board approve tax credit for SL-1 contract 13-26-0095.

CP-13-226-0022	13-26-0095	72477	Shenandoah/Long Term Veg.	SL-1	\$	724.75

Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

*Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain		Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X				Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X				Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X				Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X				Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston					Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks					Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for WP-4C contract 13-27-0009.

CP-13-26-0039	13-27-0009	753042	Shenandoah	Composter Facilities	WP-4C	High	120	18.95	Y	\$	160,861.80
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jenna Wiles. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-1 contract 13-27-0002.

CP-13-27-0001	13-27-0002	744889	Shenandoah	Long Term Vegetative Cover on	SL-1	High	98	31.21	N	\$	8,750.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Kermit Gaither stepped away from the meeting, therefor was not available for voting purposes.

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for FR-1 contract 13-27-0004.

CP-13-27-0008	13-27-0004	747930	Shenandoah	Afforestation of Crop, Hay and	FR-1	High	75	37.59	N	\$	8,389.25
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jenna Wiles. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-1 contract 13-27-0013.

CP-13-27-0007	13-27-0013	755322	Shenandoah	Long Term Vegetative Cover on	SL-1	High	74	29.02	N	\$	7,000.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to recommend the board approve cost share for CCI-SL-6W contract 13-27-0007.

N/A	13-27-0007	748165	Clarke	Stream Exclusion with Wide W	CCI-SL-6W	Medium	141	24.89	N	\$	28,587.50
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-6W contract 13-27-0007.

CP-13-24-0030	13-27-0007	759180	Clarke	Stream Exclusion with Wide W	SL-6W	Medium	114	10.79	Y	\$	169,640.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for WP-4C contract 13-27-0011.

CP-13-27-0006	13-27-0011	753381	Shenandoah	Composter Facilities	WP-4C	Medium	102	26.42	N	\$	26,067.40
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jenna Wiles. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-6W contract 13-27-0005.

CP-NRCS	13-27-0005	748124	Shenandoah	Stream Exclusion with Wide W	SL-6W	Medium	101	17.26	Y	\$	55,778.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-6W contract 13-27-0008

CP-13-27-0004	13-27-0008	749726	Clarke	Stream Exclusion with Wide W	SL-6W	Medium	98	11.84	Y	\$	254,214.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for WQ-12 contract 13-27-0011

CP-13-27-0006	13-27-0011	753382	Shenandoah	Roof Runoff Management Syste	WQ-12	Medium	95	31.22	N	\$	20,016.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, Mark Huddleston, and Kermit Gaither were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				*Kermit Gaither			
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Kermit Gaither returned to the meeting.

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for WP-4 contract 13-27-0001.

CP-13-24-0022	13-27-0001	742719	Clarke	Animal waste control facilities	WP-4	Medium	92	23.96	Y	\$	84,306.75
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for FR-3 and FR-1 contract 13-27-0014.

CP-13-27-0009	13-27-0014	759144	Clarke	Riparian Forested Buffer	FR-3	Medium	88	12.86	Y	\$	26,592.50
CP-13-27-0009	13-27-0014	759137	Clarke	Afforestation of Crop, Hay and R	FR-1	Medium	82	34.92	N	\$	5,250.00

Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for SL-6N contract 13-27-0006.

CP-13-27-0002	13-27-0006	747127	Frederick	Stream Exclusion with Narrow V	SL-6N	Low	102	23.15	Y	\$	110,682.00
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve conservation plan and cost share for WP-2W contract 13-27-0010.

CP-13-27-0005	13-27-0010	753201	Warren	Stream Protection Fencing with	WP-2W	Low	106	30.90	N	\$	37,018.40
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve the addition of a Heavy Duty Gate line item to the PY 27 Average Cost List for \$700.

Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to recommend the board approve to forward request to DCR for consideration of cost share funding increase for well failure due to unknown causes.

CP-NRCS	13-19-0012	306511	Clarke	Stream Exclusion w/ Gr	SL-6					\$54,040.80
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Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.

**Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to request that Board delegate authority to the Board Chair to approve a Cost Share funding increase due to unknown cause/well failure for CP-NRCS, Contract 13-19-0012; Instance 306511 SL-6 in the amount of \$54,040.80 once DCR approval is received. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to request board approval of a tax credit for CP-13-26-00219; Contract 13-26-0040; Instance 730146 SL-6W in the amount of \$7,078.86. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Reid Hoak. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to request board approval of conservation plan CP-13-27-0010. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jim Fagan. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Motion to request board approval of an Equipment Tax Credit issued to Vann Enterprises for a Turbo Till and precision sprayer. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jim Fagan. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		



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Motion to approve the CTC minutes as presented at the 8/13/2026 Board meeting. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Jim Fagan. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. **Cynthia Fairbanks, and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

- Stephanie Shillingburg departed from the meeting.

Dam Safety & Conservation Easements - Jim Fagan

- Creeks at Lake Laura are dry.
- Still waiting on the remote monitoring install.
- This is our year for self-inspections on both Dams. This will be performed in the Fall.

Education & Information – Joan Comanor

- A committee meeting will be held directly following today's board to discuss Annual Awards items.

Motion: The Board grants delegated authority to the Education & Information Committee Chair / Board Chair for various approval needs through September 10, 2026. Motion made by Paul Burkholder, seconded by Jim Fagan. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. **Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.*

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Joan Comanor	X			Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X			Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X			Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston				Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks				Jenna Wiles	X		

Legislative – Paul Burkholder

- Commented on the work the State Intern has been doing sending informational letters to Legislators on behalf of the Districts.

Personnel – Joan Comanor

- Happy to have Becky aboard.

Operations – Justin Mackay-Smith

- No new items.

Local Agency Updates:

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission – Mary Gessner

- Next meeting August 20, 2026.

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee – Joan Comanor

- Reviewed the written report.

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum – VACANT

- Appointed Olivia Donachie to represent LFSWCD with this group.



We work with the people who work the land.

722-B East Queen Street
Strasburg, VA 22657
(540) 465-2424, Ext. 5
www.lfswcd.org

Cooperating Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Brent Barriteau

- Gave an update of NRCS happenings.

Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation: Debbie Cross

- Reviewed FY26 Operations & Cost Share Assessments
 - LFSWCD received all A's
- Debbie reviewed her written report highlighting key items of importance.
 - The Federal mileage reimbursement rate has raised to \$0.76/mile as of July 1, 2026 (LFSWCD follows the Federal mileage reimbursement rate)
- Kevin Tate was appointed to the State Soil & Water Board

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Cynthia Fairbanks

- In Cynthia's absence Bobby Clark gave an update of VCE happenings.

Virginia Department of Forestry: Matt Wolanski

- Not in attendance.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Matt Kowalski

- Matt gave an update on CBF happenings
- Very impressed with the amount and quality of work from LFSWCD staff.
- GPS Livestock Collar discussion
 - They are working with 3 different farms to implement this technology.
 - Projects include strip grazing, stream exclusion, and rotational grazing.
- GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
 - Rotational grazing kits. These are done on a 5-year trial basis to divide currently fenced areas for participants to see if rotational grazing will be beneficial.
 - Participants are required to follow a grazing plan and host a field event.

Department of Environmental Quality: Sara Jordan

- Not in attendance.

Other: n/a

Adjournment:

MOTION: to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. Motion made by Jim Fagan, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. *Cynthia Fairbanks and Mark Huddleston were absent at the time of vote.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Joan Comanor	X				Randy Buckley	X		
Mary Gessner	X				Justin Mackay-Smith	X		
James Fagan	X				Paul Burkholder	X		
Emma Bricker	X				Reid Hoak	X		
*Mark Huddleston					Kermit Gaither	X		
*Cynthia Fairbanks					Jenna Wiles	X		

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Fleming

Board Secretary

Approved by the Board through motion on: September 10, 2026