

Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Dam Owner Workgroup
Meeting Summary

Buckingham Agriculture Center
54 Administration Lane
Buckingham, VA 23921
September 15, 2016

I. Gate Valve Survey

The gate valve survey was e-mailed to the districts on September 9, 2016 and due by September 30, 2016. The survey will be used to plan and prioritize future gate valve work. If you have not received the survey, please contact Charles Wilson.

II. Small Repair Program for Division Dams

The submittal deadline for FY2017 Small Dam Repair Requests is extended to September 30th.

A copy of the Draft Small Dam Repair Process was distributed to the group. The discussion of the document generated a lot of discussion, specifically on the following:

- Clarification on routine maintenance and small dam repair project
- Clarification on gate valve repair vs gate valve replacement
- Clarification on section 4.3 for projects that have an engineering design. Section will be revised to better reflect projects that are shovel ready.
- Revise document to allow districts the option to procure engineering services.
- Revise Form DCR199-239 to address district procurement of engineering services.
- Clarification on the process by which a district accepts a project and request an initial draw down of funds.
- Include in the document that \$40,000 will be held in reserve for emergency projects.
- Revise document to provide summary of non-funded projects to the districts after award letters are issued.

A copy of the revised Small Dam Repair Process document and the revised Form DCR 199-239 will be submitted to the workgroup. If you have additional comments, please e-mail them to Charles Wilson.

III. Rehabilitation Plan for Virginia SWCD Dams

The Interim Report on the Plan for Rehabilitation of District Owned Dams was discussed by Amanda Pennington. The interim report is due to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by November 1, 2016. This interim report will address the following topics:

1. Hire of an Engineer with the 2008 Bond Money. The Engineer will work exclusively on the Rehabilitation Report.
2. Evaluate High Hazard dams with the new Probable Maximum Precipitation values.
3. Perform ACER-11 analysis (Hazard Classification).
4. Perform Incremental Damage Analysis.
5. Use the NRCS ranking system to prioritize the Rehabilitation list.
6. Perform preliminary engineering design for dams on the rehabilitation list. This step will be used to define the scope of the rehabilitation project and to develop project cost estimates.

A copy of the final interim report will be submitted to the workgroup.

IV. Emergency Action Plans

A presentation titled “Maintaining the Emergency Action Plan” was given by Charles Wilson. The focus of the presentation was on the requirements for training, exercising, updating, and submittal of Emergency Action Plans. Charles Wilson will be working with the district on EAP updates and conducting table-top exercise in 2017.

V. Weather Alerts

Several Weather Alert applications were discussed with the workgroup.

- FEMA APP for Smart Phones
- Weather Underground U.S. Severe Weather Map Webpage
- NRCS Dam Watch – Districts can enroll in the NRCS Dam watch program. NRCS is working on the process and will notify the districts on how to sign-up.

VI. New Topic Discussion

Alternative meeting locations. Due to issues with booking the Charlottesville Department of Forest Space, the need to find additional places for the workgroup to meet was discussed. If anyone has suggestion on meeting locations, please send them to Charles Wilson.

Additional training on procurement has been requested. Training on professional services will also be needed for those districts that want to procure engineering services for small dam repair projects.

Procedure for large digital file transfer. Several members of the group expressed interest in establishing a procedure for send large digital files.

VII. Schedule Next Meeting - Thursday, December 15, 2016 (Tentative).

VIII. Meeting Action Items:

1. Provide workgroup with results of the Gate Valve Survey.
2. Develop plan for gate valve evaluation based on survey results
3. Revise Small Dam Repair Process Document
4. Revise Form DCR199-239
5. Provide workgroup with a copy of the final Interim Report on the Plan for Rehabilitation of District Owned Dams