

# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION / CONTRACT CONTROL FORM

Tracking Number: 3.

Date of Request: April 9, 2008

Date Request Received: April 9, 2008

Board Meeting Date Requested: April 21, 2008

Board Meeting Date Assigned: April 21, 2008

**Short Title:** Pender Soil & Water Conservation District: Request For The Board To Instruct Pender Soil & Water To Put Together A Voluntary Agriculture District Work Group: Don Rawls, Chairman, Pender Soil & Water Conservation District.

**Request Status:**  
 Request is proceeding to Board of Commissioners  
 More information is needed – see attached  
 Request on hold – no further information needed  
 Other:

**Background:** At the March 17 Board meeting, Mr. Gerald Dorsett of the NC Department of Natural Resources presented the Board with information on loss of farms and forest land in Pender County and information on Voluntary Agriculture Districts. Pender Soil & Water is now requesting the Board to instruct them to put together a Voluntary Agriculture District Work Group.

(Administrative Use Only)

**Specific Action Requested:** Consider the request to instruct Pender Soil & Water to put together a Voluntary Agriculture District Work Group.

## CONTRACT TYPE

- Renewal
- For Service(s)
- Intergovernmental – County as Grantee
  - Federal Grantor
  - State Grantor
  - Grant or
- County as Grantor
  - County Funds
  - Other Funds:
- Revision
- For Equipment

Requested by: Don Rawls  
Department: Pender Soil & Water  
Title:  
Contact Phone: 259-9123  
Contact Fax:

**PURCHASING** Budgeted Item:  Yes  No  
Date Rec'd:  Reviewed and Approved  
 Comments on Reverse

Date Sent: Signed:

**ATTORNEY**  Reviewed and Approved  
Date Rec'd:  Legal Problem(s)  
 Comments on Reverse

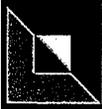
Date Sent: Signed:

**FINANCE** Sufficient Funds  Available  
Date Rec'd  Not Available  
 Budget Amendment Necessary  
 Budgeted Amendment is Attached  
 Comments on Reverse

Date Sent: Signed:

**CLERK** Signature(s) Required:  
 Board Chairman/County Manager  
 Other:

Date Rec'd Approved by Board:  Yes  No  
At meeting on



## Pender Soil and Water Conservation District

March 18, 2008

Mr. David Williams, Chairman  
Pender County Board of Commissioners  
PO Box 5  
Burgaw, NC 28425

Mr. Williams,

This letter is a formal request by the Pender Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) for the board of commissioners to instruct the SWCD to put together a VAD work group. In addition, if there are individuals that you feel need to be a part of such a work group, we are looking to you for guidance.

Thank you for allowing the Pender Soil & Water Conservation District time on the agenda of the Board of Commissioners March 17 meeting. At that time, we attended the meeting and introduced the idea of Pender County adopting a Voluntary Agriculture District Ordinance (VAD).

We brought Gerald Dorsett, Working Lands Coordinator for the NC Department of Natural Resources to the March 17 meeting. At that time each commissioner was presented with a handout and information on loss of farms and forest land in Pender County, along with information on the VAD. A few of the highlights included;

- 3 million people = North Carolina's projected population growth between 2008 and 2030
  - 2 acres of open space are converted to other uses for each new resident
  - 18% = Pender County population growth between 2000 and 2006
  - \$117 million = Pender County agricultural receipts for the year 2006
  - 296 farms = number of farms in Pender County
- 60 counties in North Carolina have adopted a VAD ordinance

If any of the commissioners, or your staff has questions, or needs additional information on the VAD, please let us know. The next step in the process of work towards a voluntary agriculture district ordinance for Pender County is to organize a work group. This work group can be charged with determining if an ordinance is appropriate for our county, to look at existing ordinance, to look at developing a proposed ordinance and recommendation given to the Pender County Commissioners.

We look forward to working with you on this request.

Sincerely,

Don Rawls, Chairman

cc: Jimmy Tate  
David Williams  
F.D. Rivenbark  
Norwood Blanchard  
George Brown Jr.  
Al Green, Pender County Manager

*Pender Soil & Water Conservation District,  
PO Box 248-801, South Walker Street, Burgaw, NC 28425*