



CHENANGO COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting
1/15/2026 1:00 PM

Board Members Present:

John Lawrence Legislative Rep
Joseph Henninge Member at Large
Jim Jenne Grange Rep
Terry Ives Chenango Farm Bureau

Board Member Absent:

Vacant Legislative Rep

Agency Staff & Partners Present:

Katy Kemmeren CCSWCD
Jennifer Kelly CCSWCD
William Kelsey CCSWCD
Riley Krupitza CCSWCD
Craig Brown CCE-Chenango
Brian Sheridan USDA-FSA
Sue McIntyre Guest

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from December were approved as presented. — Joe moved to approve, and Terry seconded the motion. There were four votes in favor and one absent. The motion carried.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: The bills were presented. Joe made a motion to accept the bills as presented. Terry seconded it. Four members were in favor, and one was absent. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE-Chenango)

Craig Brown reported that the USDA lease has been extended for the next five years. He is optimistic that the roof replacement project will commence this spring, despite some delays with the contractor who initially secured the bid. Additionally, Craig disclosed that the signage installed at the building entrance and along Route 12 will be replaced due to concerns regarding the quality of craftsmanship. CCE Chenango has appointed one of the two Social Care Navigators. Lastly, Craig informed us that the Chenango County Legislative Agriculture Tour and Open Farm Day will be held on July 18th. He anticipates that the collaborative efforts will enhance the attendance at these events.

Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC)

Scott Fickbohm shared the SWCC monthly report digitally. Attachment A.

Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA)

Brian Sheridan reported there have been no changes in staffing. Amber from the Broome County office has been coming a few days a week to assist with office tasks. The office staff in Delaware County will be taking leave starting March 1st and will force the office to be closed a few days a week. The Farm Bill has been extended until the end of the Federal Fiscal Year. There are several programs that are open for enrollments including Supplemental Relief Program, Emergency Livestock Relief Program, the Farmers Bridge Program, Dairy Margin Program and Conservation Reserve Program.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

Eric Fisher was absent, and no report was submitted.

Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)

Jennifer submitted a written report, Attachment B.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)

Jennifer submitted a written report, Attachment C.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

Jennifer shared a brief verbal summary on the December 2025 meeting.

Environmental Management Committee (EMC)

The EMC will be working with Colgate students for the Climate Smart Communities Greenways Grant.

This grant is \$1.2 million.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Landowner Rep for Fish & Wildlife Management Board – Joe nominated William Kelsey to be the Landowner Rep for Chenango County on the Fish & Wildlife Management Board. Jim seconded the motion. Four votes in favor, one absent. Motion passes.

2026 Part C Budget – Terry moved to adopt the proposed 2026 Part C Budget. Joe seconded the motion. Four votes in favor, one absent. Motion passes. Attachment D

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Joe moved to executive session that is convened to discuss the employment history of a specific individual or matters that may lead to promotion, demotion, dismissal, or hiring. Terry seconded the motion. Joe invited Sue McIntyre to stay for the Executive Session. Executive Session began at 3:35pm and ended at 3:40pm.

Joe moved to promote Riley Krupitza current District Technician to Natural Resources Specialist. Four votes in favor, one absent.

Joe left the meeting at 3:43pm.

There was discussion on the upcoming Legislative Days in Albany slated to happen in February 2026. John Lawrence, Jennifer Kelly and Riley Krupitza are planning to attend the event.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer