



**CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

**1:00 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2023**  
**USDA Conference Room, 99 North Broad St, Norwich NY**  
**AGENDA**

Call to Order.

Approval of Minutes.

Payment and Approval of Bills.

Report of Cooperating Agencies.

- |                                            |                |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Cornell Cooperative Extension            | Craig Brown    |
| • Farm Service Agency                      | Brian Sheridan |
| • Natural Resources Conservation Service   | Kareem Adeleke |
| • Soil and Water Conservation Committee    | Scott Fickbohm |
| • Soil and Water Conservation District     | Jennifer Kelly |
| • Upper Susquehanna Coalition              | Jennifer Kelly |
| • Fish & Wildlife Management Board         | Jacob Welsh    |
| • Department of Environmental Conservation | Paul Romanenko |
| • Water Quality Coordinating Committee     |                |

Old Business.

- NYCLASS (New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System)

New Business.

Correspondence.

- Friends of Rogers

Adjourn.



**Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District**  
**Board of Director's Meeting**  
**November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**1:00 PM**

**District Board Members Present:**

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| John Lawrence  | Chairman |
| Susan McIntyre | Member   |
| James Jenne    | Member   |
| Josh Lathrop   | Member   |

**Agency Staff Present:**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Jennifer Kelly | CCSWCD       |
| Riley Krupitza | CCSWCD       |
| Katy Kemmeren  | CCSWCD       |
| Craig Brown    | CCE-Chenango |

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** October minutes were approved as presented.

Josh joined the meeting at

**PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:** The October-November bills were approved as presented.

**REPORTS:**

***NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)***

No report provided, no one present.

***Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE-Chenango)***

Craig reported that Cornell University is currently doing trials with seed coating treatments instead of traditional neonic sprays, one area in Sherburne is part of this trial. Andy Turner who is the new Cornell Cooperative Extension Director will be at the annual meeting December 7<sup>th</sup>.

***Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)***

No report provided, no one present.

***Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA)***

No report provided, no one present.

***Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)***

Jennifer read the provide report from the District. [Attachment A]. She also pulled up on the display the survivability for the existing buffers for Chenango County. Many of them are doing well while others have some areas that need to be replanted.

***Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)***

The is more funds available for tree plantings in the coming year and the USC had a successful retreat in October. The USC is hoping to plan another two-day retreat for some time in January.

***Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)***

No report provided.

***Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)***

Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NYCLASS (New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System)**

Jennifer and Katy attended the New York State Conservation District Employees Association Administrative Conference where the representative from NYCLASS was presenting about the program. Information that was gathered from this workshop was then presented to the Board and it was decided to draft the Municipal Cooperation Resolution for next meeting and then go-ahead and possibly utilize the program soon. Further discussion tabled until next meeting.

**2024 Chenango SWCD Board**

There was some discussion, since current member-at-large, Sue McIntyre, will be the Town of Guilford Supervisor, who could and would be willing to be the next member-at-large, since she cannot fulfill both the member-at-large and a Town Supervisor position at the same time.

Sue left the meeting at 3pm.

Riley joined the meeting at 3:17pm.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Adjourn:** 3:22pm

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer



## CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

Submitted by Jennifer Kelly

### PROJECT STATUS REPORT

**Hanehan Family Dairy, LLC** – Construction of the pit is complete. The district is awaiting as-builts, certification and a bill to finalize the project. Afterwards, we will be able to close out this CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Contract.

**Hidden Falls Lands and Forestry, LLC CREP Project**- Implementation of this project is complete. The tree planting contractor was able to plant all the trees in 2 days, nearly 2,325 stems. The district has not issued payment to the tree planting contractor, Conservation Services, and will be requesting board approval to pay the bill. *Town of Sherburne, AEM Implementation Funds & Conservation Reserve Program Funds.*



Observations and Improvements by Hidden Falls Lands and Forestry, LLC. When looking from the east towards the west side of the property, one can see the fence, tree planting, barn, and cows. We planted 17 acres of Riparian Forest Buffers this autumn on the farm.



The farm installed eight watering troughs, each equipped with 50 feet of heavy-duty garden hose, and a Jobe Float valve.

**Three Pines Farm Riparian Forest Buffer Project-** Conservation Services, Inc planted 3,545 trees and shrubs at both riparian and upland locations. *Town of Lincklaen, USC Water Quality Grant*



Before - displays north-facing view of the hillside with tree shelters visible in the background.



After- includes fencing and upland and riparian tree plantings.

**David and Robert Adsit** - Conservation Services completed both a riparian and upland project site. The riparian site was planted with 3,875 trees and shrubs encompassing about 15.5 acres along the Chenango River. Pictures to follow in next month's report.

### Cover Crops-

The district has been actively conducting field visits to certify cover crop plantings in the area. So far, we have successfully certified roughly 2,011 acres of cover crops. With time and favorable weather conditions, the cover crops have grown lush and green.



Town of Smithville - winter rye was planted in early October through drilling into the crop field.



Town of Coventry – Winter Rye germinated in crop field.

## **Part C Community Grant Project Updates**

### **Plymouth Reservoir Lot Owners Association:**

After all the paperwork was submitted the district issued payment to the Plymouth Reservoir Lot Owners Association.

## **SWCD Landowner & Municipality Technical Assistance Program Report**

Below is a before and after photo of the culvert replacement on Bisby Road in the Town of Smyrna. The District assisted the Town with obtaining the permit, provided an H and H study and helped the town get a stamped design for the replacement to satisfy FEMA's requirements. The previous culvert was a 6' perched steel pipe in poor condition. The existing pipe could not handle storm flows and the stream caused a sink hole in the middle of the road. The new pipe is a 112"W x 75" pipe arch embedded into the stream to allow for fish passage. This culvert has the capacity to accommodate flows higher than a 100-year frequency storm.



Original steel culvert outlet



You can see the fully finished outlet of the pipe arch, headwall, and additional stabilization measures to handle high storm velocities.

District staff met with the owner of the Canasawacta Country Club in Norwich to provide technical assistance on replanting areas where the landowner had to remove spruce trees that died from a fungal infestation. The district also provided advice on pond maintenance.

## **District Funding and Operations**

- District staff attended a NYCDEA Division 4 Meeting in Binghamton and received First Aid / CPR Training. We are all now certified.
- The District, NRCS, FSA and USC have resumed their agency staff meetings and will continue to meet bimonthly to discuss project and programs,
- We've been working on submitting our reimbursement invoices for time spent on our CRP Contribution Agreement and for projects funded through the USC Water Quality Grant.
- Jacob is attending CPESC Training today in Auburn. The DEC Stormwater Permit was updated, and it will now require a permit if more than 1 acre of disturbance occurs on an agricultural conservation project.
- Katy and Jennifer attended a 2-day Administrative Conference last week in Syracuse. Training included topics such as state audits, civil service, NYCLASS, and Open Meetings Law, and records retention.

## **District Sales**

Katy was able to contact the Chenango Fairgrounds and go on a site visit to see what was already in the Weidman Barn. There are only 2 cars and 2 small pop-up campers in the barn, but we can work around them as they are in the far back. Mary-Ellen at the fairgrounds was going to put the remaining vehicles scheduled to go in the barn somewhere else. Tree Customer pick-ups will be April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and the trees have been ordered from Meadowview Nursery.

## **Agriculture Assessments**

Robert Surubbi – Town of Oxford