



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Director's Meeting

May 16th, 2024

1:00 PM

District Board Members Present:

John Lawrence	Chairman
Sue McIntyre	Member
Jim Jenne	Member
Joe Henninge	Member

Agency Staff Present:

Jennifer Kelly	CCSWCD
Riley Krupitza	CCSWCD
Katy Kemmeren	CCSWCD
Jacob Welsh	CCSWCD
Eric Fisher	USDA-NRCS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Sue made a motion to approve the April minutes. Joe seconds the motion. No discussion. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. Motion passes.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS Jim made a motion to pay the bills for April-May. Joe seconds the motion. No discussion. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. Motion passes.

REPORTS:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)

No report provided, no one present.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE-Chenango)

No report provided, no one present.

Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC)

Scott was not in attendance. The May SWCC update was available for review.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

Eric reported that the District Conservationist Position in South-east Area Team 2 is still vacant and hoping to get it filled soon. There were 12 preapprovals in EQIP. Of the 12, 4 of them were high tunnels, 1 prescribed grazing, 2 energy audits. General EQIP preapprovals have not yet been approved.

Eric left the meeting at 1:22 after his report.

Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA)

No report provided, no one present.

Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)

Jennifer read her provided report. Attachment A.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)

Jennifer reported that 2025 is the first goal for the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and that goal will most likely not be met. There is a group "Beyond 25" that has formed that are working to make the goal sooner rather than later after 2025. BMP verifications are due June 30th.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

Nothing to report.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: Old business was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS: There was discussion on the upcoming Climate Resilience Farming (CRF) Round 8 applications that are due at the end of June 2024. Jennifer mentioned that there has been a lot of interest from producers that wanted to put in an application. Due to time constraints, it was decided that there would be a max of 2 farms per tract and 1 application per farm for CRF8.

Correspondence:

Meeting ended at 3:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 16, 2024

Submitted by Jennifer Kelly

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ❖ Met with a landowner in the Town of Smyrna to look at drainage issues.
- ❖ Met with a landowner in the Town of Plymouth to look at a stream crossing for a house site.
- ❖ Assessed a culvert for replacement for the Town of McDonough DPW.
- ❖ Met with a landowner in the Town of Smithville about stream work and permit requirements. The district will help the landowner submit the permit to DEC and USACE in the upcoming weeks.
- ❖ Visited with a landowner in the Town of Sherburne to look at potential pond sites.
- ❖ The district met with and completed 3 stream permit packages for the Town of Afton DPW.
- ❖ Met with a landowner in Mount Upton to look at a potential spring development.
- ❖ Met with a landowner in the Town of Sherburne to look at stream erosion issues and permit package.
- ❖ Provided a design package for a landowner in the Town of Smithville for a diversion ditch.

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

- ❖ The district is currently working on two grazing plans for farmers in the Town of New Berlin and Town of Coventry. One of these projects we hope to fund best management practice system through AEM & CREP, the other through the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and CREP.
- ❖ We are working with 3 AEM participants on projects slated for Round 18 implementation. One is in the implementation phase, the other two in the design phase. Both are in the Town of Sherburne.
- ❖ Of the two CRP projects set to be implemented this spring, 1 have been planted with 1 remaining to be planted . We expect the other project to be completed at the end of this month, as we are awaiting the fencing contractor and a different tree planting contractor. Shenandoah Habitats also planted one upland planting project (not CREP) for a landowner in the Town of Norwich. Our spring plantings total 34 acres.
- ❖ The district continues to facilitate 3 EQIP contracts with NRCS and the producers. These contracts include 3 waste storages and 1 covered barnyard. We have state funding for these projects and we hope to send them out to bid within the year.
- ❖ The district is working on developing 3 new CREP planting plans for planting next spring. We made 3 other site visits and will be working on planting plans for potential future projects.
- ❖ The district conducted 5 CRP status reviews for contracts set to expire on September 30,

2024. We are expecting 1 CREP reenrollment from those reviews.

- ❖ The district is currently assisting the DEC Division of Water with 3 water quality violations. Town of New Berlin, Town of Coventry and the Town of Oxford.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- ❖ District staff attended an Arbor Day event at the Friends of Rogers Environmental Center to showcase the different benefits and programs available relating to planting trees.
- ❖ The district participated in a multi-agency CREP training event hosted by the USC.

DISTRICT FUNDING AND OPERATIONS

- ❖ The Climate Resilient Farming Program, round 8 has been released. I have a few slides from a presentation given by Ag and Markets to share about the program and eligible best management practices.

CNY REGIONAL ENVIROTHON

- ❖ The Regional Envirothon was held on May 1 at the Friends of Rogers Environmental Education Center. The event was successful, and we'd like to thank all the volunteers, test writers and the Rogers Center for helping us hold the event. A team from Greene HS was our first-place team and will be participating at the NYS Envirothon.
- ❖ NYS Envirothon is scheduled for May 22 & 23 at SUNY Cortland.

POND STOCKING PROGRAM

- ❖ Order pick-up was on May 3, we had about 12 orders come through. The pickup went well with no issues to report.



Photo above: Riparian Buffer site and upland planting site, implemented this spring. Town of Sherburne.