



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Director's Meeting

June 20th, 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: Joe made a motion to approve the May minutes. Jim seconds the motion. No discussion. 3-aye, 0-nay, 2-absent. Motion passes.

Sue joined the meeting at 1:08pm.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: Sue made a motion to pay the bills for May-June. Joe seconds the motion. John asked about the Mirabito Fuel change and how the checks and balances go with auditing the gasoline bill. Staff explained that the gas cards are in a secured located within the vehicles and have a passcode and mileage is recorded for each transaction. He also asked about the Oneida County SWCD Engineering Bill. Don Lynch, the engineer, who has been working with Chenango County Staff on projects. The expense is reimbursable by the municipality in which it benefits. 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)

Craig was unable to attend in person, but he provided two written reports from May and June.

Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC)

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

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

Eric reported that he is working on processing applications.

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)

Nothing to report

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

Nothing to report.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Paid Family Leave: The Board discussed a possible policy on Paid Family Leave. Sue will send Jennifer the wording that she has seen in the past for the policy that she had in her prior job.

NEW BUSINESS:

Community Grant Funds: Jennifer sent the applications to the board prior to the meeting. The Board discussed all the applications. The Board rejected the application from Plymouth Reservoir as their application focuses more on the operation and maintenance aspect of the Reservoir.

John moves to accept the Town of Bainbridge, Genegantslet Dam & Greenway Projects pending the questions that the District has for each of the projects. Sue seconds. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. Motion passes

John moves to accept the Town of Guilford project. Joe seconds. 3-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent, 1-recused (McIntyre).

Resolution 2-24 *Authorizing participation by the Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District in the Climate Resilient Farming Grant Program.* John signed Resolution 2-24.

Correspondence:

The meeting ended at 4pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren
Recording Secretary/Treasurer



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 20, 2024

Submitted by Jennifer Kelly

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ❖ Staff met with Sean Hamilton, Chenango County Facilities Manager, to discuss re-bidding Cook Park's proposed bathhouse project. We determined that sending the re-bid out in the late fall or early winter would be the most pragmatic to get a lower bid. We also went through the design to parse out bid items so we can receive separate bids.
- ❖ Staff hydroseeded a newly graded ditch on County Road 20 in the Town of Smyrna, approximately 2,400'. The seed did not germinate as well as it typically does and may need another application.
- ❖ Assisted DEC on a visit to a logging site in Coventry
- ❖ Visited a landowner to look at 3 ponds (Coventry)
- ❖ Visited a farm in Greene to look at drainage issues on pastures
- ❖ Surveyed and designed for 2 stream permits – Sherburne, and McDonough
- ❖ Visited with DEC to discuss a culvert project in the Town of Smyrna
- ❖ Met with Mike Jura of Tioga SWCD at a site to discuss stream restoration at the request of DEC
- ❖ The second round of ash tree injections in the City of Norwich was conducted by District staff from Onondaga County SWCD. Overall, the trees appear to be reacting positively to the injections.

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

- ❖ Two AEM Tier 4 projects in the Town of Sherburne are currently in the implementation phase. One is a manure transfer system, and the other is an animal trail and walkway.
- ❖ Met with a farmer and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to discuss funding opportunities through Organic Valley's Carbon In-Setting Program.
 - The in-setting program aims to pay Organic Valley farmers to sequester carbon through various practices. In this case, the practice is tree planting with each tree carrying a carbon sequestration potential (variable among tree species) that is multiplied by the price of carbon (also variable).
- ❖ District staff continue to facilitate 3 EQIP contracts with NRCS and the producers. Test pits were dug at one of these farms where we are implementing a covered barnyard and short-term manure storage. The NRCS geologist was also on site to complete the soil pit logs as part of the geological report. The district is currently working on getting the design for this project completed.

- ❖ Our buffer steward, Bailey Olds, has been performing maintenance activities on our buffer sites in the County. These tasks include; conducting survivability assessments, weeding in the tubes, re-pounding stakes/replacing stakes and mowing around the tree plantings.
 - During the heat advisory period, Bailey conducted Macrophyte surveys on different lakes across the County.

DISTRICT FUNDING AND OPERATIONS

- ❖ Five SWCD Community Grant Applications were submitted to the district office.
- ❖ A Manager's meeting was held in Cortland on June 12 with NYS Department of Ag and Markets. Managers discussed various topics including state audits, upcoming funding programs, and procurement.
- ❖ NYS Ag and Markets released another round of funding for the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer Program. The program has been re-named CAFO Enhanced Nutrient and Methane Management Program. Eligible practice systems include; composting systems, erosion control systems, feed management, manure and agricultural waste treatment systems, nutrient management, prescribed rotational grazing, silage leachate control, and waste storage/transfer (not lagoons).

ENVIROTHON

- ❖ The NCF Envirothon will be held at Hobart & Williams Smith Colleges July 28th to August 3rd in Geneva. Event coordinators are still looking for volunteers if anyone is interested.

Livestock Laneway T/O Sherburne



Manure Transfer - T/O Sherburne

