



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Director's Meeting

September 19th, 2024

1:00 PM

District Board Members Present:

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

Agency Staff Present:

Jennifer Kelly	CCSWCD
Riley Krupitza	CCSWCD
Katy Kemmeren	CCSWCD
Jacob Welsh	CCSWCD

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Joe moved to approve the minutes. One correction from “buds” to “bids” in the Cook Park MOU section. Jim seconds. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. Motion Passed

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: Joe moves to pay bills, Sue seconds. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. Motion Passed

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.

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 provided a written report, Attachment A.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)

Nothing was reported.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

Jacob had a written report, Attachment B.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)

OLD BUSINESS:

Paid Family Leave: The board and district staff worked on the wording for the PFL policy. Sue moves to adopt the new policy as written. Joe seconds. 4 aye-0 nay-1 absent (Lathrop)

Cook Park MOU: The board discussed the history of Cook Park and the future of the park.

NEW BUSINESS:

Correspondence:

Dental Insurance Renewal 2025- Sue moves to renew policy as presented. Joe seconds. 4-aye, 0-nay, 1-absent. (Lathrop) Motion Passed

The meeting ended at 3:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Submitted by Jennifer Kelly

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ❖ Met with a landowner and the Otsego County SWCD to look at a stream issue in the Town of Unadilla.
- ❖ The district completed a project with the USC to build an access road at the Greenway Conservancy's 3 Amigo Project site. This road will enable the district to conduct more mowing and maintenance at the site.
- ❖ The Town of Smyrna awarded the contract for their culvert replacement and headwall project. The contractor is working on culvert replacement. An extension was needed for headwall projects because the original permit date was 9/15 extension request was until 9/30.

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

- ❖ The District continues to work with NRCS to implement 4 EQIP contracts. These contracts also have state funding associated with them, all manure storages.
 - Town of Afton farmer – the District conducted a bid opening and awarded the project to Payne Construction, from Eaton NY. The project will begin next spring as we are still waiting for NRCS to complete their cultural resource review for the project.
 - Town of Oxford farmer- Awaiting design functional review from NRCS
 - Town of Coventry farmer – We met with the farmer and NRCS to discuss project feasibility. The farm is now in the process of updating their CNMP the plan with a new CNMP planner.
 - Town of Oxford farmer – Awaiting design functional review from NRCS.
- ❖ District participated in a tree planting event at the Friends of Rogers with students from Norwich CSD and Sherburne CSD. We planted about 30 trees and shrubs in the lawn adjacent to the stone house on Route 80.
- ❖ The District completed an ag bag pad for a farmer in the Town of Bainbridge.
- ❖ The District completed a design for Animal Trails and Walkways for a farm in the Town of New Berlin. The farmer received a bid and will be installing it this November. *Funding through The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.*
- ❖ District staff have been busy certifying cover crops this month. We have about 2,800 acres contracted for this fall.
- ❖ District staff is assisting a farmer in the Town of Unadilla with installing some tile drainage and grading and shaping existing ditches. We are currently waiting for NRCS to completed a Wetland and HEL determination.
- ❖ District staff is currently working on sending out our Buffer Maintenance reports to our CREP participants using the data collected from our summer buffer steward.

DISTRICT FUNDING AND OPERATIONS

- ❖ District staff attended the Conservation Skill Workshop held in Auburn, NY. Classes were held mostly in the field with a wide range of topics including; silvopasture, forestry practices, stream assessments, tree identification, farm equipment, and estimating soil loss.
- ❖ The Climate Smart Resilient proposal that was submitted last June to the Soil and Water Conservation Committee was successful and we were awarded funding. We are now working on gathering the necessary materials for the plan of work.
- ❖ The Part B Special Project funding request is due to the SWCC on November 1.
- ❖ The District is currently working to update our profile and information over to NYS new state funding system. This system is a replacement from the “old” Grants Gateway. Our information must be updated for us to develop a contract with DEC for the WQIP funding. This funding was awarded to the District to support our hydroseeding activities.

N.Y.S. Region 7 Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Chenango SWCD Board Report for September 19, 2024

Natural Resources:

- OSP: Regional report has been sent to Albany; hard copies sent to Nations for comment.
- Hired 2 new Forester 1s in Cortland. Back to full capacity for private land in Cortland District.
- Currently in the process of hiring a Real Estate Specialist 1 in Syracuse office.

Fisheries:

- Conducted lake trout gillnetting survey / forage assessment Owasco Lake.
 - Lower number of lake trout and walleye = increases in Rainbow/Brown trout
 - Also, ample population of alewife and smelt.
- Whitney Point Netting: Walleye catch was normal, bass and young fish seem to be down.
- Chittenango Creek: Due to high flows only 6 trout were collected, although 5 were wild.
- R7 staff assisted Fort Drum Fishing Event. Base officials estimate 975 people participated.
 - Also led a smaller event at Casterline Pond for “at-risk” high school students.
- Getting ready to pave 2 DEC parking lots in Altmar on Salmon River

Wildlife:

- 2021 legislation that est. program for 12–13-year-olds to hunt with a firearm expired 12/31/2023
 - Extension through 2025, though counties need to update their local law.
 - 2 counties in the state (Tompkins and Oswego) have yet to update local law.
- Pharsalia WMA:
 - ~160 acres of seed-tree cut
 - ~112 acres of clearcut/thinning
 - Hydroseeded several areas that had been disturbed during timber sale

ENCON:

- Paper License process has been reviewed with all officers
 - how to use Hunt/Fish app was gone over a bit.
 - The feeling is that the violators will still violate, and others will still obey regulations.
- As of the meeting - The academy was in week 12, and down under 30 new recruits.
- Several officers transferring to other areas, R7 rumored to get some transfers.
 - The goal is to have no counties with only 1 officer.