



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

1:00 PM THURSDAY, MAY 18TH, 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.

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| ○ <i>Department of Environmental Conservation</i> | <i>Paul Romanenko</i> |
| ○ <i>Cornell Cooperative Extension</i> | <i>Craig Brown</i> |
| ○ <i>Natural Resources Conservation Service</i> | <i>Alana Covington</i> |
| ○ <i>Farm Service Agency</i> | <i>Brian Sheridan</i> |
| ○ <i>Soil and Water Conservation District</i> | <i>Jennifer Kelly</i> |
| ○ <i>Upper Susquehanna Coalition</i> | <i>Jennifer Kelly</i> |
| ○ <i>Fish & Wildlife Management Board</i> | <i>Jacob Welsh</i> |
| ○ <i>Water Quality Coordinating Committee</i> | |

Old Business.

New Business.

- Part C Grant Application Ranking/Review

Adjourn.

Push 5000# at the door to enter the building.



Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Director's Meeting
April 20th, 2023
1:00 PM

District Board Members Present:

John Lawrence	Chairman
Joe Henninge	Member
James Jenne	Member
Sue McIntyre	Member
Josh Lathrop	Member

Agency Staff Present:

Katy Kemmeren	CCSWCD
Jennifer Kelly	CCSWCD
Riley Krupitza	CCSWCD
Jacob Welsh	CCSWCD
Craig Brown	CCE-CHENANGO
Alana Covington	USDA-NRCS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: March minutes were approved as presented.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: The February-April 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 was present and announced that he is the new Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension – Chenango County. He is excited to work with partners, producers and the community moving forward.

CCE is currently hiring for a Snap-Ed position and Whitney Kmetz was promoted to Team Lead within the Snap-Ed Organization.

Agriculture in the Classroom currently has 4 schools in the county and are visited monthly for programing. Some schools have Ag in the Class for Kindergarten through fifth grade while others are focused on third to forth grade. Craig is hoping the program will expand next school year.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

Alana reported that a new Resource Conservationist, Kareem Adeleke, will be working in the Norwich field office starting Monday (4-24-23). Anthony Capraro is the new South-east Area Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations.

EQIP preapproval list was released on April 3rd and staff are now completing contracts for an area office review prior to acquiring landowner signatures. For the Broome-Chemung- Chenango-Tioga Team, eight were funded and of the eight, four of them were from Chenango County.

Alana left the meeting after her report at 1:20pm.

Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA)

No report provided, no one present.

Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)

Jennifer read the written report. Attachment A.

Craig left the meeting at 2:20pm.

Staff and Directors discussed possible CRF Rd 7 and Ag-NPS application possibilities as both RFP's are out and due this summer.

Resolution 1-23- Authorizing approval of a time extension request for Contact #C011948 for the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program created pursuant to section 11-b of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts Law.

Josh moves to accept the resolution, Sue seconds the motion.

Motion approved (5-aye, 0 nay, 0 absent)

Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)

Jennifer reported that the Farmland Trust is assisting with cover crop trails, such as planting into green corn. The long-eared bat is the on the endangered list as well as the Indiana Bat.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

Nothing to report.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Correspondence: Scott Fickbohm provided a NYS SWCC report. See Attachment B.

Adjourn: 2:55pm

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer

ATTACHMENT A

Chenango County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Director's Report
April 20, 2023



CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

- Anderson CREP and stream stabilization project – The District received the final bill for the stream stabilization portion. We are working on payment and closeout paperwork for CRF Rnd 5.
- Perrin CREP project – We are still awaiting a project update from the landowner. The heated room has yet to be installed in the barn. The district has a fence design completed for the project and a tree planting plan developed. *Funded by CREP and NYS AEM Round 17 Implementation.*
- The District received the final design for Hanehan Family Dairy, LLC 2nd waste storage facility. We sent bid packages out to contractors and will be conducting a site showing on April 26 with a bid opening on May
- The District has been working on a AEM Tier 3a Conservation Plans for several farms and also working on new CREP plans for the upcoming year.
- The Chenango Greenway River stabilization project design is complete, and a bid awarded. Construction of the stabilization project and the ditch plugs will occur this summer.
- Trees for Tributaries Program – The District received 525 trees and shrubs to give out to residents in Chenango County.
- The District has been working on compiling funding for 2024 farmstead agricultural projects. Met with an agricultural engineer for waste storage systems at 2 farms to determine price estimates and get a draft plan.
- The District is working on 3 farms to gear up for the fall and next spring for riparian forest buffer plantings. These projects will be funded through *CREP and the USC Water Quality Program.*
- The District is working on sending fence packets for two farms out to bid to assist landowners with their grazing system. Funded through the USC Water Quality Program.
- Part C Project Application Updates – We received 1 completed application and several inquiries about the funding to date. Applications are May 15, 2023.

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

- Bill Bubenik- Stream/Wetland technical assistance-Town of Pharsalia
- Josh Boeltz – Stream issue, Town of Greene.
- Angela Fiato – Drainage issues, Town of Greene
- Andrew Kross – Drainage and Stream Issues

- Matthew Adams – Drainage issues
- Peter Robinson- Pasture Improvement and Fertilization information
- Town of Greene- Ball Flats bank erosion and boat launch
- Town of Oxford – culvert replacement and stabilization
- Gail Goldstein – pond client
- Friends of Rogers – Assistance with planning and future property goals.

DISTRICT FUNDING & OPERATIONS

- District staff, along with Sue and John participated Legislative Days in Albany. Thank you to John and Sue for attending the event to make our voices heard with those in Albany.
- The District assisted Representative Marc Molinero and his staff with organizing a farm tour and roundtable discussion with local farmers about the upcoming Farm Bill.
- Water Quality Symposium – District staff participated in a 4-day training symposium in Syracuse, NY.

ENVIROTHON

- The CNY Regional Envirothon was held yesterday, April 19th at Friends of Rogers. Nineteen teams, about 100 students and advisors, came to the event from Madison, Onondaga, and Chenango Counties. This was the first year we had students present the solution to their oral presentation problem digitally. I think it the event was a success and District staff worked exceptionally hard to pull off the event. As in previous years, the Chenango SWCD puts a great deal of time and effort into the event, and I'd like to thank all the staff for their hard work and effort.

DISTRICT SALES

- Packaging and pickup for the District tree program is scheduled for next week, (Week of April 24). We have 138 orders this year with just a few leftovers.

AGRICULTURAL WORKSHEETS

- Since the February Meeting, the District completed 36 agricultural worksheets for landowners in Chenango County.

ATTACHMENT B

New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee
April 2023

NYS SWCC News

New Executive Director to the State Soil Water Conservation Committee: We are pleased to announce that Bethany Bzduch will serve as the new SWCC Executive Director! Bethany started her career with the SWCDs in 2008. In 2012, she joined the staff of the SWCC as a Regional Program Assistant and has excelled over the years to manage a number of our very important SWCD cost share programs. As the SWCC Executive Director, Bethany will be providing staff leadership to the SWCC, in addition to working with SWCDs across the state, and developing and implementing the SWCC's Strategic Plan, policies and programs, along with many other responsibilities. Please join us in congratulating Bethany on her new position and welcoming her as the new Executive Director!

Climate Resilient Farming Program Round 7: \$15 million is available to support agricultural projects and related equipment purchases that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help agricultural producers prepare for and better manage impacts of climate change, including increased heavy storm events, overall rainfall, and periods of drought. The RFP and associated documents are now available on SharePoint, <https://nysemail.sharepoint.com>. All questions related to the RFP and the required attachments shall be addressed to Jennifer Clifford jennifer.clifford@agriculture.ny.gov by **June 5th, 2023**. Applications for funding must be submitted through the NYS SWCC SharePoint website by **4:30 PM August 7, 2023**.

Agricultural Non-Point Source Program Round 29: \$13.5 million is available to support agricultural water quality conservation projects across the State through Round 29 of the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Program. The RFP and associated documents are now available on SharePoint, <https://nysemail.sharepoint.com>. All questions related to the RFP and the required attachments shall be addressed to Bethany Bzduch bethany.bzduch@agriculture.ny.gov by **May 22nd, 2023**. Applications for funding must be submitted through the NYS SWCC SharePoint website by **4:30 PM June 26, 2023**. A webinar to discuss the RFP for Round 29 will be held on **Tuesday April 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM**.

April SWCC Meeting: The next SWCC meeting is scheduled to convene at **10:00 AM on April 26th**. Further details and an agenda for this meeting will be sent out shortly. Reminder – participation at a SWCC meeting is eligible toward PM1, Part C of State Aid to Districts.

Interim Reporting: Interim reports for AGNPS Contracts (Round 21-Round 23), CAFO WSTSP (Round 1 and Round 2), CRF (Round 1 – Round 4) **MUST** be submitted by **May 1st**. Please submit these reports to the appropriate Program Manager and cc your AEA and Maureen Irish (Maureen.Irish@agriculture.ny.gov).

AEM Leopold Conservation Award 2023: NYSAGM is partnering once again with the Sand County Foundation to present the AEM Leopold Conservation Award to recognize landowners who inspire others with their dedication to ethical land, water, and wildlife habitat management on agricultural land. The deadline for applications is **May 27th, 2023**. More information can be found at <https://www.sandcountyfoundation.org/uploads/NY-CFN-23.pdf>

Share Your SWCD Project Success Stories: The SWCC is always looking for opportunities to promote the diverse work of SWCDs. Do you have a completed project that your SWCD has found to be innovative, or a great example of partners working together, and/or had a beneficial impact to your local natural resources? Help us tell your story. If you would like to share the details about a recent project, please submit to the SWCC a short project description letter which includes a: Project Name; Grant Round/Funding Source; a short synopsis of the project which details goals and successes and; quality pictures of the project. Farmer/landowner testimonials would also be a great addition to your submission. Project description information, as well any questions, can be directed towards your Regional AEA.

Other Events

Webinar - On-Farm Biogas System Opportunities, Increase Farm Sustainability with Biogas Production: Anaerobic digesters are an opportunity to produce biogas on-farm to use for heat or power and are poised to become an increasingly important source of renewable energy. Join Penn State Extension as they explore an anaerobic digester system's role in enhancing a farm's sustainability. The webinar will be held **Thursday, April 13th 12:00-1:00pm**. Registration is available at <https://web.cvent.com/event/3f580b30-e341-4b80-8435-ea5cabb0bdc3/summary>

Webinar - Using the Riparian Opportunity Assessment in Project and Resiliency Planning: Join staff from the Tug Hill Commission, NYS DEC and others, to learn how the Statewide Riparian Opportunity Assessment Tool can be used in local and regional project and resiliency planning. No experience with the tool is necessary to attend. The webinar will be held **Friday, April 21, 2023, 1PM – 2PM**. Registration is available at <https://tinyurl.com/3knk63d3>

2023 NYS Wetlands Forum Annual Conference: The 2023 NYS Wetlands Forum Annual Conference will take place in Niagara Falls on **April 25th and 26th**. To register, please visit: <http://www.wetlandsforum.org/registration.html>

2023 NACD Northeast Regional Conference: Save the Date. This year the conference will be held in Portland, ME at the Portland Sheraton at Sable Oaks on **September 17-20, 2023**. Further details will be available shortly.

Other Funding

Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program: The Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program (GLSNRP) Request for Proposals was recently announced, for projects that reduce nutrients and sediments entering the Great Lakes. Applicants are invited to submit proposals for sediment and nutrient reduction activities associated with one of two project types: 1) agricultural non-point; and 2) shoreline or streambanks. The due date for applications is **5:00 p.m. Eastern on April 21st, 2023**. <https://www.glc.org/work/sediment/apply-2023>

NRCS Funding Opportunity for Resource Conservation Partners in New York: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing the availability of funding for conservation work in New York. Awards will go to partners to provide direct technical services to address water quality, soil health, wildlife and plant health, as well as other key conservation objectives. All applications must be submitted through Grants.gov by **April 27th 2023**. Please read the full announcement at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=New+york&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

RESOLUTION
of the
Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District

Resolution No.: 1-23

Date: 4/20/2023

Authorizing approval of a time extension request for Contract #C011948 for the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program created pursuant to section 11-b of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts Law.

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and the Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District have undergone a contractual agreement to implement a Waste Storage and Transfer System on behalf of a farm through the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) for the implementation of water quality protection projects that will establish manure storage capacity with a current contract deadline of September 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District has determined additional construction seasons are necessary to complete the contractual obligations for reasons beyond the control of the District and landowner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District Board

1) That **John Lawrence**, **District Chairperson**, or such person's successor in office, is the representative to act on behalf of the District's governing body in all matters related to State Assistance under the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program. The representative is authorized to make application, execute the contract for State Assistance, submit project documentation, and otherwise act for the District governing body in all matters related to the Project; and

2) That the District approves and supports an 18-month time extension; and

3) That one (1) certified copy of this Resolution be prepared and forwarded to the Soil and Water Conservation Committee for consideration; and

4) That this resolution take effect immediately.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District at a meeting held on 20 day of April in the year 2023.

Signature

John Lawrence, Title Chairperson