



Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Director's Meeting
February 17, 2022
1:00 PM

District Board Members Present:

John Lawrence	Chairperson
Sue McIntyre	Member
Josh Lathrop	Member
Jim Jenne	Member
Joe Henninge	Member

Agency Staff Present:

Katy Kemmeren	CCSWCD
Jennifer Kelly	CCSWCD
Riley Krupitza	CCSWCD
Jacob Welsh	CCSWCD
Robert DeClue	Team Volunteer
Ken Smith	CCE Chenango

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

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: The January-February bills were approved as presented.

REPORTS:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

No one present, no report provided.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Ken Smith reported that the building will be getting a surveillance camera update and a buzzer system to control the number of people in the building. CCE is working to expand 4H programming into local schools with the Ag in the Classroom Programing. It is also a possibility to hire a new person to do the Ag in the Classroom.

Ken left after his report.

Sue joined after the CCE report at 1:16pm via phone.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

No one present, no report provided.

Farm Service Agency

No one present, no report provided.

Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District

Jen read the SWCD report, see Attachment A.

Rob joined during the SWCD report at 1:39pm

Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Jen reported that there had been many meetings held recently including the Buffer Team, the Ag Team and the Regular USC meeting.

The USC has an RCPP contact with NRCS and a contract with DEC for cover crops extending over 3 years. USC is working on a nutrient management app that would assist track manure spreading records.

The Wetland Team has been working with the Chenango County Greenway.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and State PIP calculations have changed, and enrollments have dropped.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Nothing to report.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Sue left before New Business.

Addition of 3 bank accounts

John moves to establish dedicated fund accounts. One for Compensated Absences and one for Retirement Funds. Both to be established with the amount of \$100,000 each. A third is also to be established will be titled "Legal Defense Account" Seconded by Joe. 3-aye 0-nay 2-absent. Motion Passed.

Part C

Board Members and Staff worked on finalizing the Grant Application.

District Reorganization

Joe moved and John seconded the below organization of the district. 3-aye 0-nay 2-absent

Chairperson	John Lawrence
Vice Chairperson	Josh Lathrop
Secretary/Treasurer	Katy Kemmeren
Fish, Wildlife and Management Board Rep	Jacob Welsh
Upper Susquehanna Coalition Rep	Jennifer Kelly
Upper Susquehanna Coalition Alt	Riley Krupitza
Official Newspaper	Evening Sun
Monthly Board Meeting	Third Thursday at 1pm

Correspondence: None

Adjourn: 3:32 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer

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CURRENT PROJECTS & STATUS

- A stream restoration project was sent out to bid this month as part of the Anderson Buffer Project. The work to be done at this farm on Wylie Brook includes nearly 900' of rip rap, stream barbs and weirs and the removal of an old bridge abutment. This stream project is funded through the NYS Climate Resilient Farming Program, the USC and partially funded by SWCD state aid. The bid package was sent out to 6 different contractors and the bids are due February 25. Town of Coventry.
- An earthen waste storage project was sent out to bid with a due date of April 1, 2022. We'll hold a site showing on March 1 with the project engineer, Jessica Skinner. The project is funded through the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer Program (NY Ag & Markets).
- The District continues to work with FSA and NRCS on new CREP projects for spring planting.
- District staff evaluated a 2022 expiring CREP contracted acreage at Immobile Farm, Town of Pitcher. The District will work with FSA and the landowner to propose a plan for reenrollment.
- The District is working with the Chenango County Environmental Management Council to conduct a river cleanup in the City of Norwich in June.
- District staff gathered an inventory of Ash within the City of Norwich. We compiled and submitted a report to the City DPW for Emerald Ash Borer treatment this spring. We are awaiting response from the City on the next steps.
- District staff developed planting plans for 4 Trees for Tributaries (T4T) sites within the County.

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORT

- District Staff met with Dan Sherwood, Town of Bainbridge, to provide technical assistance and information regarding the septic system of his neighbor upslope and damage that may resulted from improper installation of grey water.
- The Raymond Corporation has called upon the District for technical assistance with planting trees in the Village of Greene.

DISTRICT FUNDING & OPERATIONS

- The District submitted the following reports by the February 15, 2022 deadline:
 - Part A Eligible Expenditures Report
 - Hourly Rates for Grant Work
 - Part B-Conservation Project Final Report
 - Part C- Financial Assistance Project Final Report
 - 2021 District Annual Report
 - Performance Measure Evaluation for Conservation Financial Assistance
 - 2021 Annual Report of the Treasurer.

These reports are a necessary component of the District's State Aid funding.

- Year 16 Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) final reports are due on February 28. This includes the final reports for Technical Assistance funding and for projects completed under the Tier 4 implementation track. Met with Scott Fickbohm to initiate the closeout of the Tier 4 implementation projects.
- The District applied for funding through the USC for a buffer steward to conduct maintenance activities on our planted forest buffers.
- District staff underwent virtual Emergency Stream Intervention Training conducted by USC Staff and Stueben SWCD County Staff.
- Annual Audit: The auditors that audit the county virtually audited the District on February 3rd, 4th and 7th 2022. The auditors had their normal requests such as invoices, check stubs and bank statements. They also reviewed the Annual Treasurers Report prior to the report being submitted to the state.

CNY REGIONAL ENVIROTHON

- The planning for the event is underway with several test writers secured. We met with Simon Soloman, Friends of Rogers Executive Director, to discuss COVID protocols and site-specific issues. We'll visit Rogers to determine the trail and location of the oral presentations.

DISTRICT SALES

- Tree Sale: Sales are continuing to come in for the Tree Sale. Pick up is at the fairgrounds April 29 & 30.
- Fish Sale: Katy received correspondence from Hicklings Fishery in Edmeston notifying all their Soil and Water Districts that their cost for delivery will increase from \$30 to \$100. This increase is due to increased labor and transportation cost. The availability of fish is also a concern so the costs of fish may be increased to reflect the demand.

AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENTS

Town of Afton: William Huston & Sal Sciortino; Town of Bainbridge: Lori Gro Farm, Millard Castle, Nancy Rusweiller, Jay Michaletz, Christine Cumming, Irene Behnke, Roger Ives, Paul Waters, & Edith Jinks; Town of Coventry: George Westcott; Town of Greene: Mills Farm Supply, Mark Logerfo, Andrew Swift & Robert Brooks; Town of Guilford: Melody Ziobro, Jay Michaletz, Samuel Miller, Matt Pikul, Rebecca Rasmussen & James Walters; Town of Lincklaen: Mark Costello; Town of McDonough: Curt Matzinger & William Rose; Town of New Berlin: Donald Graves & Daniel Madden; Town of Norwich: Debra Brown-Moon; Town of Pharsalia: Sarah Jansen; Town of Sherburne: Guy Gillette & Robert Adsit; Town of Smithville: Mark Logerfo, William Seyler, Dennis Fitzpatrick, Heston Wrobel & Carr Estate; Town of Smyrna: Dianne Gizowski & Donald Graves.

Since January 20th the district had completed 55 ag worksheets with a total of 1,742.93 acres of ag land and requests continue to come in daily.