



**Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Director's Meeting**

**June 16th, 2022
1:00 PM**

District Board Members Present:

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

Agency Staff Present:

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

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

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: The May-June bills were approved as presented.

REPORTS:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

No one present, no report provided.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Ken reported that there are 4 schools interested in the Ag in the Classroom Programing in Chenango County.

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, attachment A.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Jen provided a written report, attachment B.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Jacob reported that the last meeting was cancelled, and the next meeting is scheduled for tonight.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

Correspondence: None

Adjourn: 2:40pm

Respectfully Submitted

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer

Chenango County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Director's Report
June 16, 2022



CURRENT PROJECTS & STATUS

- Riparian Forest Buffer maintenance has gotten underway for the season. This month, the stewards and staff have been conducting maintenance and monitoring activities at:
 - L'Hommedieu CREP site – Town of Oxford
 - Underground Genetics site – Town of Lincklaen
 - Jenne CREP site – Town of Sherburne
 - Davidson CREP site – Town of Sherburne

The Stewards have also been involved with workdays that the Upper Susquehanna Coalition has sponsored throughout the watershed. These workdays have provided additional training and have allowed for larger sites to be monitored and maintained. A workday has been scheduled in Chenango County for June 22 at two sites in Sherburne.

- We have sent three tree planting packages out to bid for work to be completed in the fall. Two of the three are re-bids.
 - Wolford CREP – Town of Smithville
 - Davidson CREP – Town of Sherburne
 - Anderson CREP – Town of Coventry
- One of our Round 17 AEM implementation projects has begun at Cheshire Valley Farm in the Town of Oxford. A contractor has been working to re-grade four diversion ditches on the site. The District is cost sharing for the work done on two of these ditches. A design for the ditch work was completed and sent to Brian Reaser, a PE employed at the Tioga County SWCD.
- The District partnered with the Environmental Management Council (EMC) to help with a river cleanup effort on the Chenango River. The EMC reported that all the volunteers pulled about 1,250 lbs. of trash from the river, the Greenway Trails, and the Rogers Environmental Center trails.
- The District developed plans and filled out applications for several landowners in the County to plant trees as part of the Trees 4 Tribs program. We hope to get a shipment of trees for a fall planting.
 - Kevin Liddle – Town of Pitcher
 - Al Denz – Town of Oxford
- The District has been working on QA/QC for the USC. This is done to verify practices that have been installed in the past and reported into the AEM database are working as designed and still meet the Chesapeake Bay definitions.

SWCD LANDOWNER & MUNICIPALITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORT

- The District accompanied Dave Walowsky, NRCS Engineer, on Dam Inspections for Clark's Creek in Oxford, NY, and Millbrook Sites 1 and 2, Town of New Berlin. The District opened the principal spillways at both Clark's Creek and Millbrook Site 2. At Millbrook Site 1, a beaver dam recently clogged the principal spillway causing the water level to rise with debris deposited on the inside slope of the dike. Removal of the debris and removal of some smaller trees impeding the emergency spillway was flagged by David Walowsky as an action item to be addressed. After discussing it with Shawn Fry, District staff went to Site 1 and cleaned up the debris and removed the small trees impeding the spillway.
- Onondaga County SWCD completed the ash pesticide injections on 15 trees in the City of Norwich. With the leftover money, the District is going to work with the City of Norwich Tree Commission to purchase additional trees for a planting this fall and to support the City's Paper Leaf Bag pilot program.
- The District conducted several field visits in both the agricultural and rural landowner sector.
 - David Posson, cover crop/corn field erosion issues- Town of Norwich
 - Dan Sherwood- ditches/trenches associated with grey water – Town of Bainbridge
- The District conducted field visits to assist landowners with stream permits and stream related technical assistance.
 - Brandon Woodcock – Town of Norwich
 - Dianne Kemmeren – Town of Bainbridge

DISTRICT FUNDING & OPERATIONS

- The District issued a letter to the Chenango Greenway and the Plymouth Reservoir Association to award them each \$15,000 in project assistance funding.
- The FAC Committee met with J Hubner Security to discuss building safety and camera set up.

ENVIROTHON

- District staff assisted at the state event which was held May 25th & 26th at Hobart & William Smith College in Geneva. Some highlights include Onondaga placing first in Oral Presentation and placing second overall, Madison placing 10th overall and Chenango placing 31st overall. The weather was perfect and planning for next years event has started. In 2024, New York will be hosting the NCF International Envirothon, which is a weeklong event held in July.

AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENTS

- Donald Graves- Town of New Berlin

ATTACHMENT B

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA COALITION

Report to Chenango Co. SWCD Board of Directors

June 16, 2022

Presented by Jennifer Kelly

USC General –

Guest Speaker – Melissa Toni from the Federal Highway Administration, NY Division

- Melissa reported that NYS will receive \$350 billion dollars for roads, highways, bridges and culvert work as part of the Federal Infrastructure Bill over 5 years. This is an unprecedented amount of funding.
- Money will be made available through NOFOs or Notices of Funding Opportunities and money can be distributed to non-governmental organizations.
 - One NOFO is for the creation of flood attenuation within road rights of way (ditches).
- New federal aid has rules to abide by when completing new road work
 - Everything to be made in USA
 - Follow Endangered Species Act protocols
 - Adherence to US ARMY CORP of Engineers permitting
 - Hydraulic Analysis
- There is potential for the USC to coordinate projects on a town level – increase culvert sizes, etc.

The Most Effective Basin Funding will increase from \$200,000 to \$1.2 millions dollars in 2022. Our portion of the original \$200,000 is \$25,000 to spend on reportable BMPs.

USC Ag-Team

- BMP verifications and data entries are due 6/30. The District has received the contract for the QA/QC work.
- Web-based farm record keeping app demonstration. SWCDs are supposed to assist farmers with setting up the record keeping to track ; manure spreading, fertilizer inputs, planting dates, etc.

Buffer Updates

- Riparian Forest Task Force Meeting, July 7.

Wetland Team

- Drone support for projects is available
- Field team has a heavy implementation schedule planned for the season. Chenango's Wylie Brook project is scheduled for August.