



CHENANGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

3/20/2025

1:00 PM

District Board Members Present:

John Lawrence	Legislative Rep - Chair
Sue McIntyre	Legislative Rep
Jim Jenne	Grange Rep

Agency Staff Present:

Katy Kemmeren	CCSWCD
Jennifer Kelly	CCSWCD
William Kelsey	CCSWCD
Craig Brown	CCE-Chenango

District Board Members Absent:

Josh Lathrop	Farm Bureau Rep
James Henninge	Member at Large

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Sue proposed the approval of the February meeting minutes as presented, and Jim seconded the motion. The vote indicated that three members were in favor, none opposed, and two members were absent.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: Jim proposed paying the bills. Sue supported the motion, which resulted in three votes in favor, none against, and two absences.

REPORTS:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)

No report was submitted, and no one was in attendance.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE-Chenango)

Craig reported that the 4H department is reclassifying certain employees to enhance their programming capabilities. Bainbridge—Guilford has been added as an Ag in the Classroom School. Two employees have transitioned and are no longer affiliated with CCE-Chenango. Lastly, Craig provided an update regarding the roof repair.

Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC)

Scott sent the monthly SWCC report, Attachment A.

Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA)

No report was submitted, and no one was in attendance.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

No report was submitted, and no one was in attendance.

Chenango County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD)

Jennifer submitted a written report, which is attached as Attachment B.

Jennifer mentioned that she met with the newly appointed manager of DEC Region 7. She is hopeful about the future of the partnership with DEC.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)

The annual USC retreat is scheduled for next week, March 25 and 26, at Tioga Downs. Jennifer, Riley, and Will plan to attend.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB)

There are no updates to report.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)

There are no updates to report.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Staff Update- William Kelsey, the newly appointed district technician, formally introduced himself to the board and presented a concise biography.

2025 Part C / Community Grant Program- Jennifer has comprehensively revised the grant application, the associated budget sheet, and the grant instructions pertinent to this fiscal year. She has subsequently presented these materials to the board for their deliberation. Each applicant may receive funding of up to \$35,000, with a reimbursement rate established at 75%. It is imperative to emphasize that 25% of the total amount will be considered municipal obligations.

M&T Bank- Katy reported that she received a communication from Frank Kapusta, Senior Vice President at M&T Bank. Mr. Kapusta indicated that the Norwich Branch of M&T Bank is scheduled to close on June 26th. He will send a check scanner to our office, allowing Katy to process deposits remotely. After closure, the nearest branches will be in New Hartford or Binghamton. Sue proposed a motion to establish a bank account at NBT Bank specifically for cash deposits and petty cash transactions. Jim endorsed the motion. The vote result was three in favor, zero opposed, and two absent.

CORRESPONDENCE: Katy received an email from Phoebe Schreiner, the Executive Director of the Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship (CADE), regarding a nomination for the 2025 AEM Leopold Conservation Award for a local farm. Katy will work on the application, which is due May 15th.

The meeting concluded at 3:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Kemmeren

Recording Secretary/Treasurer