

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - APRIL 16, 2013
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, At-Large, Chair
Philip May, Farm Bureau
Curtis Rung, Grange
Doug Burdick, Legislator
Ted Hopkins, Legislator

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec. Dir
Gloria Miess, Admin Sec-Treas.

Cooperating Agencies

Liz Wesche
Nicole Ayers, FSA

I. Call to Order: 6:07pm

II. Minutes of March 19, 2013: Approved (May-Rung)

III. Financial Reports

- A. Treasurer's Report: **Approved (Hopkins-Rung)**
- B. Abstracts: **Approved (Hopkins-Rung)**

IV. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports

- A. NRCS - Liz Wesche, Soil Conservationist
 1. EQIP - Have 7 new EQIP contracts totaling \$178,540.00, and a total of 48 active contracts totaling \$1,897.345.00.
 2. GLRI - Sign-ups are being taken although no official announcement has been made at this time. Anyone needing grazing systems and diversion rebuilds should be encouraged to apply. Liz thanked Scott A. for sending prospective applicants to them.
 3. Veteran's SEPM - Websites were furnished for ways to send books to our troops here and overseas.
 4. Restructuring of Areas - Position descriptions are being written for the new Supervisory DC positions for the new areas. This is expected to be in place by September. Allegany County will be paired with Steuben County as a working unit. (Map handed out)
 5. Envirothon - Liz will be conducting the soils exam at the Envirothon for Matt Havens.
 6. Construction - Several projects are ready to start up as soon as it dries up.
- B. FSA Report: Nicole Ayers, County Executive Director
 1. Interest rates are extremely low for loans administered by FSA Farm Programs; April rates are: Commodity Loans (9mth) - 1.125%, Farm Storage Facility Loans (7,10 & 12yrs) - 1.375%, 2.000% and 2.250%.

2. MILC - A potential MILC payment for the months of March and April are: \$0.7700 and \$0.3500. These are 3rd party projections, not USDA data. Previous months payments have not been paid due to a hold on payments.
3. Sequestration - The financial effects of the Sequestration are still unknown. A hiring freeze is still in effect and travel money is gone. Therefore, no longer receiving help from Cattaraugus County.
4. MIDAS - Training on this new computer system has been received. In preparation for the changeover access to mapping and Farm Records systems was limited until the training was received. We still do not have access, but the systems should be back up by April 9th.
5. Crop Reporting - A new Crop Reporting deadline is coming up on May 15th for spring seeded forage. This is expected to be a challenge for most of the producers.

C. Executive Director: Scott Torrey

1. Program Updates

- a. Round 18 - The following projects are to be completed in 2013: 1) Doug Barney Manure Storage; 2) Chris Reinbold Concrete Feed Area; 3) Kim Shaklee Grazing System; 4) Mark Bainbridge Manure Storage, which is complete and paid.
- b. Round 19 - Plan of Work is due May 20th. The Contract runs from March 5, 2013 thru December 31, 2017.
- c. FL-LOWPA - 2008-09 Closeout is finished and the final 25% Retainage check of \$21,250.00 has been received. Lining up 2010-11 grant projects, will have contracts for approval in May. Potential 2010-11 projects are: 1) Doug & Randy McCaa Fencing; 2) Andy Peet 1 month manure storage; 3) Jay Cockle Milkhouse Waste System. The 2011-12 advance of \$28,687.50 has been received and we will begin lining up projects for these funds.
- d. AEM - Year 8 ends May 6th. Year 9 we submitted for the full \$75,000, state is paying \$39 per hour for Year 9. We are currently working with the following: 1) Mike Vosburg layout and location of new barn; 2) Mark Bainbridge design of concrete manure storage; 3) Kim Shaklee irrigation system design; 4) Doug & Randy McCaa update of nutrient management plan; 5) Lynn Bliven assistance with barnyard feed area, completed Tier 1 & 2; 6) Andy Peet, Will Hall &

Duane Brubaker finishing CNMP plans; 7) Will begin updating old CNMPs this summer.

2. Technical Assistance

- a. Town Friendship - submitted permits to DEC, Army Corp and FEMA for approval
- b. George Trummer - bank stabilization on Rushford Lake to be completed this week.
- c. Joe Lates - Plans are all completed, but garage fell into the stream on April 9th.

V. New Business

- A. Health Insurance - A chart of changes to take place was reviewed. Discussion was held on giving family coverage under high deductible. Consensus was to continue as is. Discussion was held on providing dental coverage at a rate of \$30-single and \$93-family. **Approved (Rung-May)**
- B. Gloria's Retirement - It was announced that official retirement date is being planned for July 14th. Accounting services and quotes were discussed. Quotes were received from three services: Farm Credit, Hornell, NY at \$6,000/yr; Baldwin Business Services, Nunda, NY at \$5,400/yr; and 69 Pleasant Street, Wellsville, NY at \$6,000/yr. 69 Pleasant Street was chosen since they are a local agency. **Approved (Rung-Hopkins)**
- C. Building Maintenance
 - a. Quotes were received for painting the outside of the building: 1) Patient Painting, Olean, NY at \$5,090 and 2) Affordable Painting, Wellsville, NY at \$4,250. Affordable Painting was accepted. **Approved (Hopkins-Rung)**
 - b. Telephone System - Putting a Voice Mail Answering System on the telephones has been quoted at \$725.00. **Approved (Rung-Burdick)**

VI. Announcements

- A. Next meeting will be May 21, 2013, at the District Facility at 6:00pm.

VII. Correspondence - No correspondence.

VIII. Adjournment: 7:10pm

Gloria D. Miess
Secretary

Rodney Bennett
Chairman