

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - JULY 17, 2012  
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Philip May, Farm Bureau  
Douglas Burdick, Legislator  
Curtis Rung, Grange  
Ted Hopkins, Legislator

Staff

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

Cooperating Agencies

Nicole Ayers, FSA  
Liz Wesche, NRCS

**I. Call to Order: 6:02pm**

**II. Minutes of June 19, 2012 Approved (Rung-Hopkins)**

**III. Financial Reports**

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

**IV. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**

- A. FSA: Nicole Ayers, County Executive Director
  1. Interest rates are still extremely low for loans. July rates are: Commodity Loans (9Mths) - 1.250%; Farm Storage Facility Loans (7,10 & 12yrs) - 1.125%, 1.625% and 1.875%.
  2. MILC payments being projected by NMPF.org for March until August rates are as follows: March-0.8262; April-1.2110; May-1.2164; June-1.3043; July-1.4116 and August-0.9238. The County office has sent out a total of \$355,641 since February's MILC payment.
  3. DCP sign-up began January 23<sup>rd</sup> and runs until August 1<sup>st</sup>. There are currently 394 contracts enrolled with 50 waiting for landowner signatures.
  4. There was a General CRP sign-up that ended April 13<sup>th</sup>; a total of 8 bids were submitted with a combined acreage of 91.3 acres. Only 3 of the 8 were accepted.
  5. Crop reporting has finished. A few are still expected to late file. Crop reporting deadlines have changed for the 2013 crop year.
  6. Seeking candidates from the LLA#1 to run for County Committee. Eligible producers from the Belfast, Caneadea, Centerville, Cuba, Friendship, Granger, Hume, New Hudson and Rushford townships are encouraged to submit a nomination form.

7. Stacy Alsworth has been hired as Program Technician starting on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

B. NRCS: Liz Wesche, Soil Conservationist

1. Four more applications have been funded through the GLRI, 2 cropland (diversions), 1 grazing and 1 ALW for a total of \$135,542. Six Town Creek Farm will have both NRCS and SWCD funding for ALW issues.
2. A total now of 15 funded applications this fiscal year, mostly forestry and High Tunnel funded with the additional GLRI \$223,532. Fifty-Eight active contracts totaling \$1,979,140.94.
3. Soil's staff has completed 3 more quads of soil mapping for Allegany County, 2 of which have been digitized and are available on the Web Soil Survey. One is being digitized and one quad sheet around Allentown is left to complete this season.
4. Field work is getting busy, the dry conditions are favorable for rebuilding diversions, spring developments and other construction projects. Twenty WHIP contracts which will need mowing verification, CRP plans, 35+ HEL determinations and many conservation crop rotations to plan and write.
5. Copy of 2012 USDA Budget was handed out.
6. July 29<sup>th</sup> is the first Alfred Farmers Market from 11:00 to 3:00pm. Several vendors that were funded for a High Tunnel will be selling there.

C. Executive Director: Scott Torrey

1. Program Updates
  - a. Round 18 - Award Announcement being held up by Governor's office
  - b. Round 19 - Looks like this will be announced in September.
  - c. AEM Year 8 - Beginning to gather projects for Round 19. Received contract for Year 8.
  - d. FL-LOWPA - Cockle's design is complete, working on getting bids. Randy Miller has started fixing laneway and getting quotes on the fencing. Clark's received EQIP funding to put a roof over the pad that we are installing. Gordon Arber stream site survey should be complete this week. Bruce Vosburg plans on starting in August. Meeting with Kim Shaklee Thursday to mark out fence. Waiting on designs for Saunders and Reinbold.
  - e. Performance Measures - Babcock completing late summer/early fall. MacCrae making decisions on water system.

2. Technical Assistance
  - a. Army Corp of Engineers inspected the Belfast and Amity river projects. They were concerned with the progress of operation and maintenance practices at the sites. They will provide us with a report.
  - b. Stream stabilization project at David Gilbert's has been approved.
3. County Forest
  - a. Snyder Lot - Bid opening is July 30<sup>th</sup>.
4. County Budget
  - a. Submitting request for extended 3yr contract tomorrow at Planning and Economic Development Meeting.

**V. New Business**

- A. Jim Latham 09FL-LOWPA contract - **Approved (Hopkins-Rung)**

**VI. Old Business**

- A. AEM Year 8 Contract - **Approved (May-Rung)**
- B. County 3Yr Contract - Contract request for \$130,000, \$133,000 and \$136,000 will be present tomorrow to the County Planning & Economic Development Committee.
- C. Watershed Technician - Civil Service will approve a position for a Watershed Technician if approved by the Board. It was suggested that we request both part-time and full-time and then hire according to the funding available. **Approved (Rung-May)**
- D. Carlin Unemployment Issue - A protest of the Appeal Board's decision is being filed.

**VII. Communications**

No communications were received that required action.

**VIII. Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session for personnel matters at 6:46pm. **Approved (Hopkins-Rung)**

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:15pm. **Approved (Bennett-May)**

**IX. Announcements**

Next meeting August 21, 2012, 6:00pm at the District Facility.

**X. Adjournment: 7:15pm**