

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - MAY 22, 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

Liz Wesche, NRCS
Nicole Ayers, FSA

I. Call to Order: 6:14pm

II. Minutes of April 17, 2012 Approved (Rung-May)

III. Financial Reports

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

IV. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports

- A. NRCS Report: Liz Wesche, Soil Conservationist
 1. Only 8 out of 89 total contracts in the 8 county area were funded this round for Cropland, Livestock Waste, and Grazing under EQIP. No applications in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Genesee, or Niagara counties were funded. Only \$4.1 of the \$10 million was allocated for the local focus areas, balance was allocated for national initiatives. Prioritization requirements were also tighter this year.
 2. Still waiting to hear on the forestry applications, 30 area total, 11 from Allegany. Also several Forestry CAPS.
 3. Allegany is eligible for additional funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, sign up for Livestock Waste, Grazing and Cropland will be taken through June 8th.
 4. May is Asian American/Pacific Islander Month.
- B. FSA Report: Nicole Ayers, County Executive Director
 1. Interest rates still extremely low. May rates are: Commodity Loans (9mth)-1.125%; Farm Storage Loans (7, 10 and 12yrs)-1.500%, 2.125% and 2.375%.
 2. Funding and staffing issues are still a struggle across the state. Staff is being shared and work being shuffled to other offices when possible. Lisa has left and her position will be filled. Job Announcement will be going out any day and closes June 12th.

3. MILC payments are still being projected from March thru August. Allegany County sent out \$117,297 for payments for the months of February and March.
4. DCP sign-up began on January 23rd with a June 1st deadline. All payments will be made in October. Currently have 217 contracts, with 127 waiting for landowner signatures.
5. A General CRP sign-up ended April 13th; a total of 8 bids were submitted with a combined acreage of 91.3 acres. Accepted bids will be notified once all bids are in and ranked nationally.
6. Crop reporting has begun. Small grains deadline is June 15th and all other crops July 15th.

C. Executive Director: Scott Torrey

1. Program Updates

- a. Round 18 - State Committee approved the list and we are waiting for our award letter. Applications to number 41 will be awarded. Black Creek BMP Implementation was #7 for \$145,685 and Wellsville Water Supply BMP Implementation was #34 for \$139,900.
- b. AEM Year 7 - Closeout has been completed and all documentation and voucher for \$30,000 has been sent to the State.
- c. AEM Year 8 - We requested \$75,000.00 and have begun working on the needed 2027 hours to complete the grant.
- d. FL-LOWPA - Plans of work for 10/11 and 11/12 funds have been completed and submitted. We have 3 more contracts ready for approval. Will be meeting with RMS Technologies this week or next to begin design of projects.

2. Technical Assistance

- a. Stream Permits - Worked on responses to permits already submitted.

3. County Forest

- a. Planning and Economic Development Committee approved the Forest Management Plan and the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Group approved having the plan included in the updated Comprehensive Plan.
- b. Working on finishing marking the Snyder Lot.

4. Great Lakes Basin Erosion & Sediment Control Grant due June 1st.

5. Envirothon - Fillmore #1 finished 1st and Cuba-Rushford #2 finished 2nd in the regional Envirothon.

V. New Business

- A. Procurement Policy - Procurement Policy was changed to conform with new State standards. **Approved (Hopkins-May)**
- B. Cockle - 09FL-LOWPA Barnyard Runoff Management Contract **Approved (Rung-May)**
- C. Clark - 09FL-FLOWPA Barnyard Runoff Management Contract. **Approved (Rung-May)**
- D. Saunders -09FL-LOWPA Barnyard Runoff Management Contract. **Approved (Rung-May)**
- E. 2013 County Budget Appropriation - Our 2013 Appropriation is due to the County June 1st. Discussion was held regarding a 1-year request for \$130,000.00 being submitted on June 1st and a request for a 3-year contract being presented to Planning and Economic Development in July. **Approved (May-Rung)**

VI. Old Business

- A. Pat Carlin Unemployment - It was reported that the NYS Labor Department has reversed the Judge's findings that Pat is not an employee. Working with the County Attorney's office to see what our next steps are.

VII. Announcements

- A. Next meeting - June 19, 2012 at the District Facility at 6:00pm.

VIII. Correspondence

No correspondence required action.

IX. Adjournment: 7:30pm

Gloria D. Miess
Secretary

Rodney Bennett
Chairman