

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - MAY 21, 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

Nicole Ayers, FSA

I. Call to Order: 6:02pm

II. Minutes of April 16, 2013: Approved (Rung-Burdick)

III. Financial Reports

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

IV. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports

- A. NRCS - No One Present - Report Received (attached)
 - 1. Restructuring - Allegany County is now in the NRCS West Area. Allegany and Steuben Counties are now considered a "Field Management Unit". Meetings will be held at a later date to figure out staffing, but no personnel changes are planned before the start of the new fiscal year.
 - 2. GLRI - Still no word on when the GLRI funding will be announced, but sign-ups are being taken. Also rolling unfunded applications over into the new funding code.
 - 3. GRP - A Grassland Reserve Program sign-up is underway. Rankings must be completed prior to June 14th.
 - 4. Field season has started.
- B. FSA Report: Nicole Ayers, County Executive Director
 - 1. Interest rates are extremely low for loans administered by FSA Farm Programs; May rates are: Commodity Loans (9mth) - 1.125%, Farm Storage Facility Loans (7,10 & 12yrs) - 1.250%, 1.875% and 2.150%.
 - 2. MILC - A potential MILC payment for the months of April and May are: \$0.5600 and \$0.3400. These are 3rd party projections, not USDA data. MILC payments totaling almost \$115,000 were paid out on May 13th. Still waiting on 7 producers to update forms before they can be paid.
 - 3. MIDAS - MIDAS is here, but still limited on things that can be done and changes for operators/owners do

not "flow" immediately so it is especially important for producers to let us know if they have added land to their operation prior to coming in for crop reporting and sign-up for DCP.

4. CRP - We are currently running a General CRP sign-up, which ends June 14th. Only have one submitted offer to date.
5. DCP - Enrollment for DCP is still ongoing; have completed approximately 35% of our contracts. The deadline is August 3rd for enrollment, with late file period ending September 3rd. There is no late report penalty.

C. Executive Director: Scott Torrey

1. Program Updates

- a. Round 18 - Initial designs are complete and we are waiting on soil sample results for Doug Barney's manure storage. Plan to start this project in June. The survey work on Chris Reinbold has been completed.
- b. Round 19 - Plan of Work has been submitted. Will Hall plans to do his manure project this year.
- c. FL-LOWPA - The following projects need to be approved for FL10-11: 1) McCaa Fencing - \$7,500; 2) Cockle milkhouse waste system - \$5,000. Survey work is done for the concrete storage at Andy Peets, need to finish design to get cost estimate.
- d. AEM - Year 8 is finished and we will receive the full \$75,000. Year 9 began May 6th. Working on CNMPs, grazing plans and meeting with farmers. Working with Cooperative Extension to begin beef producers group in Allegany County.

2. Technical Assistance

- a. Town Genesee - gravel mining permit for new gravel pit.
- b. Town of Bolivar - stream bank permit on Bartlett Road.
- c. County DPW - permit to stabilize stream bank on County Rd 3.

3. County Forest - bid opening for sale of Weir Lot timber is June 3rd.

V. **Old Business**

- A. FL-LOWPA -SYF2012-13 Contract - Resolution 2013-12
Approved (Hopkins-Rung)

VI. New Business

- A. Health Department Septic System Approvals - The Health Department requires Stamped Plans for septic systems. Clark Patterson has a generic plan for most sites which they stamp. A question has been raised as to whether or what our engineer could sign under the District. We are waiting for a reply from the State Committee. Leonard would be willing to sign plans under his name. It was the consensus of the Board that we keep checking into this.
- B. FL-LOWPA Contract Approvals
 - a. McCaa - Fencing \$7,500.00 **Approved (Hopkins-May)**
 - b. Cockle - Milkhouse Waste System \$5,000.00 **Approved (Hopkins-May)**

VII. Announcements

- A. Next meeting will be June 18, 2013, at the District Facility at 6:00pm.

VIII. Correspondence

- A. Region 3 Land & Water Resources Report - May 2013
 - a. Legislation is being promoted that would allow Conservation Districts to enter Inter-Municipal Agreements. Currently Districts are legally excluded from entering into such agreements. The only legal avenue for Districts is a contract or single source justification. This legislation would correct that and allow Districts to cooperate with their County and other municipalities on many issues and services through an agreement. We have been asked to provide examples of the nature or agreements Districts enter into with municipalities. Districts are requested to forward any examples to the State Office.
 - b. Districts are reminded that the Plans of Work for Round 19 are due on May 20th.
 - c. ANSACP participants with open contracts are reminded that Interim Reports were due on May 1st. Any funds for unfinished BMPs are to be "frozen" and returned to the State at close out.
 - d. NYS CREP will be open for sign-ups with USDA-FSA on May 13th. New for this sign-up is the eligibility of the entire Susquehanna Watershed in New York State.
 - e. AEM Year 8 ended on May 6th and Year 9 began on May 7th.
 - f. I am trying to make a Board Meeting in every District in 2013, and apologize if I have not made it to any of your meetings so far. If you

need me to be there to discuss a particular issue, or to provide training let me know. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

IX. Adjournment: 6:30 pm

Gloria D. Miess
Secretary

Rodney Bennett
Chairman