

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - November 16, 2010  
District Facility, 5390 County Road 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Curtis Rung, Grange  
Doug Burdick, Legislator  
Philip May, Farm Bureau

Staff

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

Cooperating Agencies

Nicole Ayers, FSA  
Les Travis, NYSWCC

Prior to the opening of the Board meeting Les Travis conducted District Law training.

**I. Call to Order: 5:54PM**

**II. Minutes of October 26, 2010: Approved (Rung-Burdick)**

**III. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**

A. NRCS Report: No Report

B. FSA Report: (Report Attached)

1. Still accepting applications for the Crop Assistance Program for 2009 soybeans.
2. The final rule for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) was published on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Groups that would like to be Project Sponsors can contact State Offices to submit proposals to Washington, DC. These could be a Biomass Conversion Facility (BCF) or group of producers. All previously approved BCFs will need to reapply and the lost months will be added onto the 2 contract limit. Directives for administration of the program have not yet been received. Availability will be advertised as soon as the directives have been received.
3. Interest rates for loans administered by FSA Farm Programs are extremely low. All loans are subject to eligibility rules, interested producers can contact the office to determine their eligibility.
4. County Committee Elections for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3 are in process. There are 3 candidates this year: Jeff Baker (Wirt), Brian Brandes (Wellsville), and Duane Brubaker (Independence). Ballots are due by December 6<sup>th</sup> and will be counted on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

- C. NYSS&WCCommittee Regional Staff Report: (Report Attached)
  - 1. SWCC Staffing - There have been 3 retirements in the agency. Les's region has expanded to 19 districts. The field staff will be working to create consistency regarding support to districts.
  - 2. Environmental Protection status:
    - a. Payments are expected to be more regular.
    - b. Round 17 has been released. Proposals due December 6<sup>th</sup>. Largest appropriation to date at \$13.2M (11M -EPF & 2.2M AEM). Mulching and cover crops increased from a 1yr to a 3yr bmp. Must do all 3 years to receive payment. Pasture Management/Rotational Grazing bmps will be based on components listed in Agricultural Best Management Practices Catalog. Compared to Fencing Practice.
    - c. Expired agricultural grant contracts need to be closed out as soon as possible. There are 73 active contracts in this region, 154 across the state.
    - d. Ag NPS Interim reports were due November 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - 3. 2011 Performance Measures - Part C funding for 2011 will stay the same as 2010.
  - 4. AEM Base - The year 6 contract and 25% vouchers are being processed. Year 6 Interim Report due November 30<sup>th</sup>. Updates to the AEM Worksheets are being done.
  - 5. Next Manager's meeting is expected to take place in early January. Directors are welcome to attend these meetings.
  
- D. Executive Director Report: (Report Attached)
  - 1. Program updates:
    - a. Round X - Les reviewed the final report for Round X today. Only a few modifications are necessary before submitting. Should be mailed by the end of this week.
    - b. Round XIII - Items will be sent to Dana this week for sign-off on projects. We are missing information on the Brandes bunk. The roofed barnyard at Brandes should be starting this week.
    - c. Year 6 AEM - We have completed 376.5 hours out of the required 1176. We have completed soil samples, slope work and manure setback evaluations on 470 acres (2 farms).

- d. Part B Money - The 2010 Part B funds will be used to pay for the drainage project across from the school in the Town of Belfast.
  - e. Part C Money - The Bainbridge project is near completion. The 4-wheeler has been purchased.
  - f. FL-LOWPA - We should be receiving approximately \$60,000 of the FL-LOPWA08-09 funds by March and the final 10% in State FY 2011-12. Of course, this is all subject to change. Will be working to line up next years projects over the upcoming months. Changes to projects for the grant were reviewed.
2. River Project - The District is responsible for the annual inspection and maintenance on the FEMA River projects. RMS Technologies will complete the inspections for \$750 - \$1,000.00 per year. This will be written into the FL-LOWPA grants each year.
  3. Southern Tier West - Grant funding has been received by STW for a watershed analysis in Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties. The districts will help provide information for the project.
  4. Landowners - RMS will be investigating a streambank problem on the Owen Matott property in Standards.

#### IV. New Business

- A. 2011 Budget/Wage Scale - The 2011 Budget and wage scale were reviewed by the Board. It was the consensus of the Board that wages be increased by only 3%. Budget to be modified to show this change. **Approved (Burdick - Rung)**
- B. Wyoming Cty Round XVII Project - Resolution 2010-05 supporting Wyoming County's Rnd XVII application, this application contains a project for Terry Hodnett (Allegany County). - **Approved (Rung - Burdick)**

#### V. Old Business

- A. Round XVII RFP - Discussion was held regarding the application(s) for Round XVII. Participants scheduled for Round XVII will be: Mark Bainbridge, Hillcrest Homestead & Doug McCaa.  
Resolution 2010-06 authorizing participation in Round XVII (Village of Angelica Water Supply Protection) **Approved (Rung - May)**  
Resolution 2010-07 authorizing participation in Round XVII (Caneadea Creek BMP Implementation Grant) **Approved (Rung - May)**

**VI. Financial Reports**

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

**VII. Announcements**

- A. Next regular meeting will be December 21, 2010 at the District Facility at 5:00pm.

**VIII. Executive Session - Not required**

**IX. Correspondence:**

Correspondence were reviewed and no action taken.

**X. Adjournment: 7:08PM**

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Gloria D. Miess  
Secretary

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Rodney Bennett  
Chairman