

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - OCTOBER 16, 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: 6:09pm

II. Minutes of September 18, 2012 Approved (Hopkins-Rung)

III. Financial Reports

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

IV. Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports

- A. NRCS: Liz Wesche, Soil Conservationist
 1. Application deadline is November 16th for EQIP, AMA & WHIP. Application deadline for CSP is January 18, 2013.
 2. Food Security Act Compliance Reviews are being completed.
 3. Local Working Group meeting was held. Questionnaires were sent out looking for the current issues. Livestock Waste was #1 in the area. These concerns were sent on and will be used to come up with a State listing.
 4. Construction projects are under way. Chuck Deichmann's VTA is almost finished. Terry Hodnett has finished his HUAP and is working on getting the collection box for leachate finished up. A concrete pour was done today for the walls of a small manure pit. Lester York plans to move forward with his diversion clean-outs this fall.
 5. A handout for a Cover Crop Workshop on November 15th was distributed, along with Working Trees in Agricultural Landscapes: an Introduction to Agroforestry 11/16/12.
 6. NRCS is developing a national campaign to educate their customers and the public about the positive impact Soil Health Management Systems can have on

both productivity and conservation. The campaign will be rolled out this fall to the public, but before it's fully released you can get a sneak peak. As part of this campaign we'll be rolling out a series of "Soil Health Lessons in a Minute" video demonstrations. Our latest video is "Meet 'Ray the Soil Guy'", and learn how to Unlock the Secrets in the Soil" can be found on Youtube.

B. FSA: Nicole Ayers, County Executive Director

1. Interest rates are extremely low for FSA loans. October rates are: Commodity Loans (9Mths) - 1.125%; Farm Storage Facility Loans (7,10 & 12yrs) - 1.125%, 1.750% and 2.000%.
2. MILC payments being projected by NMPF.org for February until August rates are as follows: February = .03895; March = 0.8262; April = 1.2110; May = 1.2164; June = 1.3677; July = 1.6382 and August = 1.4761. The County office has sent out a total of \$684,237 since February's MILC payment.
3. CRP payments were released by the County Office on October 3rd and DCP on October 10th, once they have been released to us we can begin making payments to the producers. Including the MILC payments the Allegany County office has paid over \$1.2 million out to our producers and landowners.
4. As of right now we are only able to approve program applications for Commodity Loans and Farm Storage Facility Loans. Until we have a new Farm Bill we are unsure of what programs we will have or how much money we will have for programs. We are operating under a Continuing Resolution right now.
5. Nicole will be taking on Farm Loan responsibilities and will be completing Chattel appraisals for the Bath Farm Loan team when needed.

C. Executive Director: Scott Torrey

1. Program Updates
 - a. Round 18 - Waiting on contract from State.
 - b. Round 19 - Grant application due December 10th.
 - c. AEM Year 8 - CNMPs for Will Hall and MacCrea Farm are being done to qualify them for manure storage projects in Round 19. Assisting Alfred State with implementation of their grazing system. Completed a CNMP for Bruce Vosburg.
 - d. FL-LOWPA - Bruce Vosburg project is laid out and they are working on it now; Kim Shaklee's fencing is complete; Dave Saunder's project is laid out, beginning the site work today; Chris Reinbold plans are complete, ready to start;

design work completed for Genesee River erosion in Belfast.

- e. Performance Measures - Part C money will be used to reimburse the District for County Forest and stream permit work. MacCrea in process of constructing fence under Part B.

2. Technical Assistance

- a. Finished stream stabilization project at Bainbridge's; working with Alma Rod & Gun Club on issues at their Alma Pond property.

3. County Forest

- a. Jim Ball is working on the survey of the Dixon Lot so the County can pursue the possible trespass. The County is paying for the survey.

4. Watershed Technician

- a. Accepting applications until October 23rd. Plan to have someone hired by the end of November.

V. New Business

- A. Equipment Purchase - Discussion was held on the purchase of a Gator & trailer and a Total Station unit. **Approved (Rung-May)**
- B. NRCS Working Agreement - **Approved (May-Rung)**

VI. Old Business

No old business was brought to the Board.

VII. Communications

No action was required on any of the communications.

VIII. Announcements

Next meeting November 20, 2012, at 5:00pm at the District Facility.

IX. Adjournment: 7:09pm

Gloria D. Miess
Secretary

Rodney Bennett
Chairman