

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – August 21, 2018
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair
Marvin Covert, Farm Bureau
James Wilcox, Grange
Karl Graves, Legislator

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

1. **Call to Order: 5:17 pm**
2. **Minutes of July 17, 2018 Approved (Graves - Covert)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Graves - Wilcox)**
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - a. NRCS – No report
 - b. FSA – No report
 - c. Division of Land and Water Resources – Report attached
 - d. Executive Director –
 - a. Program Updates:
 1. Round 20
 - a. Joe McMahon has completed his fencing project.
 2. Round 21
 - a. Will Hall has completed his fencing project.
 3. Round 24
 - a. We submitted applications in 7 different watersheds - see grant summary spreadsheet
 4. FL_LOWPA
 - a. Bruce Vosburg is working on his manure handling system.
 - b. Wayne Jones is working on his covered barnyard.
 - c. Grant year 2015-16 ends December 31, 2018
 5. AEM
 - a. Year 14
 - i. We completed planning for the CAFO Waste and Round 24 grants.
 6. Southern Tier Program
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 7. Genesee River Erosion and Sediment Grant
 - a. Mascho Homestead Farms has finished their project.
 - b. Roger Fanton has finished his project.

- c. Harv Lacy did not get his project complete.
- 8. Belfast River Stabilization
 - a. FEMA has requested more information for our contract extension. We have been in contact with Lee James from Congressman Reed's office to try to get this moving forward.
- 9. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - a. We submitted applications for 4 CAFO Farms – see grant summary spreadsheet
- 10. West Almond Salt Storage Facility
 - a. Still waiting on a contract.
- 11. NRCS RCPP Funding
 - a. Jones Beef Farm is looking to start part of their project in September.
- 12. EPA-GLRI Grant
 - a. One contract for approval tonight
- b. Technical Assistance
 - 1. We are meeting with NYS DOT September 5 to look at removing gravel from McCurdy Creek in Shongo. This has been the site of a lot of flooding.
 - 2. 2 Consolidated Funding Agreement grants were submitted – see grant summary spreadsheet
 - 3. We were only able to get one of the FEMA applications submitted – see grant summary spreadsheet

5. Old Business

- a. **Pat Carlin Case** – We received a notice from Worker's Compensation that we need to pay an interest amount of \$995.15. County attorney's office thinks we should fight this, they have been going back and forth with Compensation regarding whether we should pay that amount. A lien has been put on our assets because we haven't paid the \$995.15 but the County attorney's office has been notified that because the case is still in review status, they will not do anything to us. Because we are not paying attorney's fees, we are not at this time going to pay the money, and continue to fight it.
- b. **County Budget Request Update** – A copy of the letter to Mr. Decker requesting the 3 year contract extension with the county for the directors to read. Karl mentioned that the letter was presented at the last resource management meeting and it went over very well, no one seemed to have any major opposition. Karl thought it was a good proposal, and it goes to ways and means on Monday.

6. New Business

- a. **Jeramie Hurlbut Cover Crops Contract** – This contract will be through the EPA/GLRI agreement, and is for 100 acres of cover crops on his farm. The cost is \$75.00/acres, for a total of \$7500.00 **Approved (Graves – Covert)**
- b. **Industrial Hemp Initiative** – Scott has been approached by Fred Sinclair to join the advisory group for this initiative. Cornell Cooperative Extension has been approved for funding under an ARC grant to develop a program for bringing Industrial Help to the Southern Tier West Region as an economic development cluster. They are also asking for a letter of support from Soil & Water to move forward with the Advisory Board. Karl was questioning whether Scott would have the time, which Scott responded that he could probably work it out. Rod questioned whether Scott thought it would be worth his time to be involved and Scott wasn't really sure. Karl thinks it

might be lucrative to get involved in the industry. Rod seems to think hemp would grow well in the area. **Approved (Covert – Wilcox)**

- c. **2018 Conservation Skills Workshop** – Requesting approval for employees to attend the workshop in Cortland. **Approved (Graves – Covert)**
- d. **Southern Tier Soil Health Field Day** – Using FL-LOWPA education money, we are helping sponsor the Soil Health Field Day at the Birdsall Inn on Thursday August 30, from 10am-3pm.

7. Announcements

- a. **Next Board Meeting: September 18, 2018 at 5:30pm.**

8. Correspondence

- a. NYACD Newsletter

9. Adjournment - 5:47 pm Approved (Graves - Wilcox)

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman