

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – March 20, 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: 5:30 pm**
2. **Minutes of February 12, 2018 Approved (Graves - Wilcox)**
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 –
 - i. Program Updates:
 1. Round 20
 - a. Received final closeout approval from the State for the Black Creek grant
 2. Round 21
 - a. Brooks had a site showing for potential contractors this morning for their manure separation system. Bid opening will be April 5, 2018.
 3. Round 24 was to be announced in January, the release date has been pushed back to sometime in March.
 4. FL_LOWPA
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 - b. There are contracts for approval tonight.
 5. AEM
 - a. Year 13
 - i. Working on planning projects for Round 24 of the Ag Non-Point Source Grant fund which will be announced soon.
 6. Southern Tier Program
 - a. Bob Wilson finished his sheep barn.
 7. Genesee River Erosion and Sediment Grant
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 8. Belfast River Stabilization

- a. No current movement on this project.
- 9. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - a. Brooks had a site showing for potential contractors this morning for their manure storage. Bid opening will be April 5, 2018.
- 10. West Almond Salt Storage Facility
 - a. Working on submitting required documents to the DEC for the contract.
- ii. Technical Assistance
 - 1. Ryan is working on a grant to help with funding to fix the erosion problem on Van Campen Creek in Friendship.
 - 2. The Cuba Lake District has finished their dredging project.
 - 3. We are working on developing a database to keep track of stream and flooding issues. This will help with future grant opportunities.
 - 4. All annual reports were submitted.

5. Old Business

- a. **Belfast River Project** – The Hazard Mitigation plan is not done yet, and if it's not done by April 19, 2018, we will lose the funding for the project. So as of right now, project is on hold. We have not received a contract back from FEMA yet. The company that is supposed to be doing the Hazard Mitigation Plan has been contacted but cannot say that it will be done in time.
- b. **Round 20 Closeout letter** – acknowledgement of the final report and claim for payment in the amount of \$34,447.88. Grant is now considered closed.

6. New Business

- a. **2017-18 FL-LOWPA Contract Approval – Resolution 2018-02 – Approved (Graves – Covert)**
- b. **Lester York FL-LOWPA 16-17**– installing a diversion ditch/drainage system to direct surface water away from their freestall barn. Proposal is for \$10,000.00 to cover a portion of project. **Approved (Graves – Covert)**
- c. **Scott Acomb FL-LOWPA 15-16** – looking to expand their grazing system. Proposal is for \$1,000.00 to be used to cover a portion of project. **Approved (Covert – Graves)**
- d. **Jeff Baker FL-LOWPA 16-17** – looking to correct issues with the silage leachate system. Proposal is for \$2,500.00 to cover a portion of project. **Approved (Graves – Wilcox)**
- e. **Part C Performance Measure Award Letter** – Letter stating the district qualifies for funding in the amount of \$87,882.23 based on meeting all of the Performance Measures.
- f. **AEM Year 14 Changes** – Letter regarding the proposed 30% increase in AEM Base Program funding for the upcoming AEM Base Year 14 to support ongoing efforts to reduce non-point sources losses from agriculture. This will increase AEM hours by 600 hours. Working out options to see where we can cover the extra 600 hours.

7. Other Business –

- a. Marv Covert opened discussion regarding improving emergency storm response. Suggested he and the other members of the Board meet together to discuss suggestions and ideas for Soil & Water and what their duties and responsibilities should be. Also

suggested that Scott Torrey, ACSWCD, Nicole Ayers, NRCS, and Laura Hunsberger, Cooperative Extension, also meet to discuss the same topic.

- b. Rod suggested that there should be some kind of resource sheet to share with individuals or entities, or some place to get information regarding what to do after a storm, to help explain and point people in the right direction. Either have a resource information sheet to mail out to people or have the resource sheet online for people to access.
- c. Scott Torrey, Rodney Bennett and Karl Graves pointed out that restrictions due to SWCD governing rules, finances and staff restrictions may not support the idea of Soil & Water for initial emergency storm response.

8. Announcements

- i. **Next Board Meeting: April 17, 2018 at 5:30pm.**

9. Correspondence

- a. Director Training Information
 - i. NYACD Face-to-Face Day, April 18, 2018
 - ii. NYACD Training Session, June 2, 2018

10. Adjournment - 6:20pm Approved (Graves - Wilcox)

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman