

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING –May 19, 2015
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair
Philip May, Farm Bureau
Karl Graves, Legislator
James Wilcox, Grange
Ted Hopkins, Legislator

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec. Dir

Cooperating Agencies

Nicole Ayers, FSA

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 pm
2. **Minutes of April 21, 2015: Approved (Graves-May)**
3. **Financial Reports**
 - A. Treasurer's Report: **Approved (Graves - Hopkins)**
 - B. Abstracts: **Approved (Graves - Hopkins)**
 - i. Discussion was held about whether we needed to carry unemployment insurance, Scott will look into it.
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - A. NRCS – Report attached
 - B. FSA – Report attached
 - C. Division of Land and Water Resources – Report attached.
 - D. Executive Director
 - i. Program Updates:
 1. Round 18
 - a. Saunders have completed the laneway portion of their grant
 2. Round 19
 - a. No changes in the last month
 3. Round 20
 - a. Bainbridge – survey work complete, working on project layout and design
 4. Genesee River Erosion and Sediment Grant
 - a. Submitted 8 grant applications.
 - b. Total state requested funds was \$76,610 and total projected costs of the projects were \$118,501.50
 - c. The state is funding 25 grants or \$250,000 worth of projects and there was just over 30 submitted.
 5. Soil Health grant due June 15, 2015
 - a. Working on reviewing any potential projects for this. Up to \$25,000 available for selected counties.

6. Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program- I will be attending a meeting for this opportunity on Thursday to see how Soil and Water can benefit and what role we can play.
 7. FL_LOWPA
 - a. Diane Cox fencing project is complete
 - b. Received advance payment for the 2014-15 grant this week
 - c. Meeting with Bruce Vosburg this week to go over his manure handling project
 8. AEM
 - a. Year 10
 - i. Year 10 closeout will be complete this week and voucher submitted. We worked enough hours for the full \$85,000.
 - b. Year 11
 - i. Requested the full \$85,000.
 - ii. Started May 7
 - c. AEM Award nomination due June 10, 2015 – will be reviewing farms for this award
 - ii. Technical Assistance:
 1. Cuba won the Envirothon competition
 2. Working on project designs
 3. Assisting with FEMA project implementation
 4. Met this morning with The Genesee River Watch group this morning about some funding they have for a project in Houghton area. Waiting them to provide me with more details.
5. **Old Business**
- A. Black Top Issues – Copy of letter that was sent in response to Mr. Allison’s letter was included in the packet for the meeting.
 - B. Hazard Mitigation Planning – Update was given on plan. Hazard mitigation team will be requesting \$30,000 from the County for the District to do the updated plan and maintain it.
 - C. County Contract – Talked to Mitch about our request and he was comfortable with it.
 - D. Part B – McMahan Farm requested changing their Part B project from fencing to working a bedded pack barn for winter feeding.
6. **New Business**
- A. Barney Farm FL-LOWPA Contract was presented for the installation of high tensile fencing for the farm’s expanding beef operation. **Approved (Hopkins - May)**
7. **Announcements**
- A. Next meeting will be July 21, 2015 at the District Facility at 6:00pm.
8. **Correspondence**
9. **Adjournment: 6:30 pm – Approved (Graves - May)**

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Scott H Torrey
Secretary/Treasurer to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman