

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – November 19, 2019
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair
Karl Graves, Legislator
James Wilcox, Grange
Joe Cygan, Farm Bureau

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

Victor DiGiacomo Division of
Land and Water Resources

1. **Call to Order:** 5:35 pm
2. **Minutes of October 15, 2019 Approved (Graves - Cygan)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Graves - Cygan)**
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - a. **NRCS – See Attached**
 - b. **FSA – No report**
 - c. **Victor DiGiacomo – Division of Land and Water Resources –**
 - i. **District Law Training Slideshow**
 - d. **Executive Director –**
 - i. Program Updates:
 1. Round 20
 - a. Canacadea Creek – we are working on the closeout documents.
 - b. The James Brothers Farm has completed their fencing. They have a little bit of laneway work to complete yet.
 2. Round 21
 - a. Aaron Brooks is working towards completing his manure transfer system.
 3. Round 24
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 4. FL_LOWPA
 - a. Lynn Bliven has completed her roofed barnyard.
 - b. Lester York has finished his laneway project.
 - c. Jones Beef Farm has completed their project.
 - d. Kim Shaklee has completed his fencing project.
 5. AEM
 - a. Round 16 is in need of approval tonight.
 - b. Year 15 is progressing with planning on multiple farms.
 6. Southern Tier Program
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 7. Belfast River Stabilization
 - a. We are working on the permitting and design documents.

8. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - a. Aaron Brooks is working towards completing his manure storage.
 - b. Ponderosa Farm – the storage is 85% complete.
 9. West Almond Salt Storage Facility
 - a. Will complete the bid process this winter with construction taking place in the spring.
 10. NRCS RCPP Funding
 - a. We have a preconstruction meeting with Jones Beef Farm, NRCS and the project engineer on Thursday for the first part of the diversion ditch work.
 11. EPA-GLRI Grant
 - a. Jones Beef Farm has completed their diversion ditches.
 - b. D&L Saunders Farm has established 63 acres of cover crops.
 12. Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program:
 - a. Contract documents have been sent back.
 13. Erosion and Sediment Control in the Genesee River and Finger Lakes Watershed Grant
 - a. No changes in the last month.
 14. DEC Aid to Localities Grant
 - a. We have received a grant extension until 12/31/2020 so that Cuba Lake can finish their dredging projects. This will also allow us to clean off the Belmont Dam in 2020.
- ii. Technical Assistance
1. Looked at several different areas of streambank erosion across the County.
 2. Travis Lot timber harvest – the logging company has worked on the roads to prepare them for logging.
 - a. FEMA accepted our Letter of Intent for Implementing Hazard Mitigation Projects for the Philips Creek Streambank Stabilization, stabilizing the bank area threatening the Village of Belmont’s sewer system. The application is due December 4, 2019.

5. Old Business

- a. **Truck Purchase** – We recently ordered a 2020 Chevrolet Truck from Cappellino Chevrolet, Inc. The purchase price was \$32,680.92. The Dodge truck was a little cheaper, but the Chevy had upgrades that would make it more profitable to sell later.
- b. **Round 25 update** – We were notified that 4 of the projects applied for have received funding. This is tentative since award letters have not yet been mailed out and received by the farms. Once they receive those letters, it will be certain.

6. New Business

- a. **Identifying Allegany County Dairy Farms in relation to Landfills** – Recently, a company called Energy Vision sent an email requesting information regarding dairy farms and their locations. It was discussed by the board, and a motion was moved to discontinue the narrative with Energy Vision, since the information they are looking for, could be acquired easily enough on their own. **(Graves - Cygan)**
- b. **D&L Saunders Farm – Cover Crops Approval – GLRI Grant for 63 acres - Approved (Cygan – Wilcox)**
- c. **2020 Budget – Approved (Cygan – Graves)**

- d. **Farmland Protection Plan** – The Farmland Protection Plan, created in 2006, is coming up on 15 years old. Scott is planning to submit a grant application to NYS to assist with the update. The planning office and Soil & Water feel the county will be best served by not involving an outside consultant for the planning. Soil & Water will apply for the grant and administrate it. We are going to request a \$20,000.00 cash match from Allegany County to be included in the 2020 budget for this purpose. The partners who will work on the plan will make up the remainder of the \$10,000.00 in-Kind match. The planning office will provide the services and receive the majority of the grant funding (\$30,000.00) that is being applied for. No arrangement of this type has been entered into previously, but believe it is allowable under the terms of the grant.

7. Announcements

- a. **Next Board Meeting, December 17, at 5:30pm.**

8. Correspondence

- a. **NYACD Newsletter**

9. Adjournment - 6:57pm Approved (Graves - Wilcox)

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman