

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – , April 20,2021
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair
Joe Cygan, Farm Bureau
Karl Graves, Legislator
Josh Ormsby, Grange - Virtual
Judy Hopkins, Legislator - Virtual

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

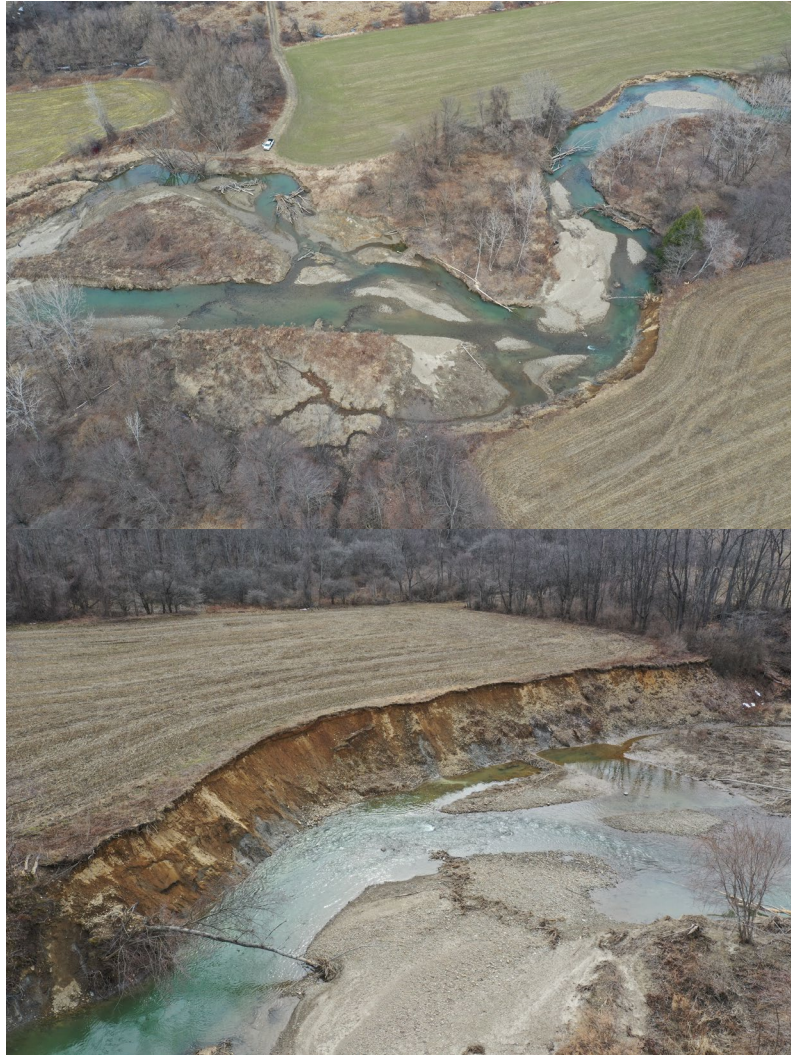
Cooperating Agencies

Ben Renner - NRCS

1. **Call to Order: 5:30 pm**
2. **Minutes of March 16, 2021 Approved (Graves - Cygan)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Graves - Ormsby)**
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - a. NRCS - COVID-19 office update: USDA Service Centers are now allowed to have customers in the office with scheduled appointments only. Office capacity for employees currently limited to 50%.
 - EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)**
 - Should know who will be pre-approved for funding by the end of the month
 - RCPP-EQIP (Genesee River)**
 - First round application cutoff date of May 4, 2021
 - CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)**
 - 2021 First Round cut-off for applications is May 7, 2021
 - b. FSA – No Report
 - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – See attached
 - d. Executive Director
 1. Program Updates:
 - Round 21
 - Rushford Lake – submitted the closeout to Vic and we are working on some changes that need to be made.
 - Round 24
 - No changes in the last month.
 - Round 25
 - Black Creek Manure Storages
 - No changes in the last month.
 - Cryder Creek Grazing System
 - No changes in the last month.
 - Rushford Lake Protection Phase 2
 - Met with D&R Farms, they would like to do their pack barn this summer. Currently completing the paperwork to get their advanced payment funding sent to us.
 - Wellsville Water Supply Protection

- Daniel Fanton is pricing out options for his bedded pack barn. Would like to do it this summer but is concerned about material costs.
- Round 26
 - Plan of work paperwork for Cryder Creek Beef BMPs is due May 21, 2021.
- FL-LOWPA
 - Working on wrapping up 2018-19 contract requirements.
- AEM
 - Working with farms to plan future needs and projects.
 - Implementation projects are moving forward and need to be implemented by the end of the year. This includes 2 barnyard systems and 3 pasture systems.
- Southern Tier Program
 - No changes in the last month.
- FEMA
 - Van Campen Creek – we are currently working on designs.
 - Belfast River Stabilization
 - I met with the County Attorney on April 15, 2021, I am working on some changes for the bid and contract documents for his further review.
- CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - Working on plans for Barney Farms liquid manure storage and bedded pack barns.
 - We worked with NRCS to submit EQIP applications for additional implementation funding for Bainbridge Farm, LLC and Val-Dale Farm manure storages.
- WQIP Grants
 - We are continuing to work on the planning grants for Van Campen Creek, Philips Creek and Black Creek.
 - The Town of Granger is delaying their salt storage project due to the high cost of building materials.
 - The Town of Independence has not decided on their salt storage project this summer. They are concerned about the high cost of building materials.
 - The Town of West Almond is still going to try and do their salt storage project this summer. They were waiting on the State budget to see how CHIPS funding fared.
- EPA-GLRI Grant
 - No changes in the last month.
- Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program:
 - We are working on the design for both projects.
 - Submitted a grant application for the Great Lakes Sediment & Nutrient Reduction Program. We applied for funding to stabilize 600' of eroding streambanks along cropland upstream of Rushford Lake.

We estimate the streambanks our losing over 4 feet of streambank per year. This results in the loss of 485 tons of soil each year. Total grant funding applied for was \$135,700 with a match of \$45,550. The match will come from FL-LOWPA and Hillcrest Homestead Farm which farms the farmland.



- Erosion and Sediment Control in the Genesee River and Finger Lakes Watershed Grant
 - Kyle is working on stream permits for this project.
- DEC Aid to Localities Grant
 - Waiting to get paid.
- Technical Assistance
 - Leonard and Kyle have been looking at various stream issues throughout the County.
 - We are waiting on the County Attorney to clarify a land dispute on Rattlesnake Hill before we put the Rattlesnake Hill timber out to bid.
 - Due to the increase prices for timber, we are evaluating two more county forest lots for a potential sale this year. I will have more on this at the May meeting.

- We have received final permits for a stream stabilization project on Walbridge Road in the Town of Granger. The Town plans on completing this project this summer. This is a grant that we received funding for a couple of years ago.

5. Old Business

6. New Business

- a. **New York State Budget Update – The SFY 2021-2022 Budget has passed. The budget provides another increase in SWCD State Aid, by an increase of \$500,000.00. This is better than we could have expected due to the circumstances over the past year.**

7. Announcements

- i. **Next Board Meeting, May 18, at 5:30pm.**

8. Correspondence

9. Adjournment - 5:53pm Approved (Graves – Hopkins)

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman