

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – , March 16,2021  
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Joe Cygan, Farm Bureau - Virtual  
Karl Graves, Legislator  
Josh Ormsby, Grange  
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 February 16, 2021 Approved (Graves - Ormsby)**
  3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Cygan – Graves)**
    - a. Treasurer’s Report
    - b. Abstracts
  4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
    - a. NRCS – COVID-19 office update: Office doors are still closed to the public. Office capacity for employees currently limited to 25%.  
**EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)**
      - Currently assessing and ranking FY2021 applications (22 applications)**CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)**
      - 2021 First Round cut-off for applications not announced yet
    - b. FSA – No Report
    - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – No Report
    - d. Executive Director
1. Program Updates:
    - Round 21
      - Rushford Lake – closeout will be submitted week of March 15, 2021.
    - Round 24
      - No changes in the last month.
    - Round 25
      - Black Creek Manure Storages
        1. No changes in the last month.
      - Cryder Creek Grazing System
        1. No changes in the last month.
      - Rushford Lake Protection Phase 2
        1. No changes in the last month.
      - Wellsville Water Supply Protection
        1. D&L Saunders Farm is getting bids for their bedded pack barn.
    - Round 26
      - We were awarded the Cryder Creek Beef BMPs grant that we wrote. This involves constructing 2 bedded pack barns for overwintering beef animals. The recipients

were Valley View Farm (Scott Acomb) and Hamilton Beef Farms (Eric Hamilton) both in Whitesville. Total amount awarded was \$250,950 with total project cost of \$356,150.

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- FL-LOWPA
  - Working on wrapping up 2018-19 contract requirements.
- AEM
  - Working with farms to plan future needs and projects.
- Southern Tier Program
  - No changes in the last month.
- FEMA
  - Van Campen Creek – we are currently working on designs.
  - Belfast River Stabilization
    1. The County Attorney is still reviewing the bid and contract documents. Once that is done, we will solicit bids.
- CAFO Waste Storage Grant
  - Working on plans for Barny Farms liquid manure storage and bedded pack barns.
  - Contract extensions have been approved for Hillcrest Homestead, Val-Dale Farm and Lismore Dairy until 3/31/2022.
- WQIP Grants
  - We are continuing to work on the planning grants for Van Campen Creek, Philips Creek and Black Creek. The contracts expire 4/30/2021 so we will be applying for extensions.
- EPA-GLRI Grant
  - No changes in the last month.
- Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program:
  - We are working on the design for both projects.
  - We are working on grant applications for the Great Lakes Sediment & Nutrient Reduction Program. This program focuses on reducing phosphorous loss in the Great Lakes Watershed. We will be focusing on reducing streambank erosion along agricultural fields. Applications are due April 16, 2021.
- Erosion and Sediment Control in the Genesee River and Finger Lakes Watershed Grant
  - No changes in the last month.
- DEC Aid to Localities Grant
  - Waiting to get paid.
- 2. Technical Assistance
  - Leonard and Kyle have been looking at various stream issues throughout the County.
  - The DEC has confirmed that there is Emerald Ash borer on Rattlesnake Hill. Once the roadway is clear of snow and ice, we will be double checking our timber markings from 2020. We will then be requesting permission from the Resource Management Committee to put the sale of this timber out to bid. Also, in talking with the DEC forester, the prices of timber have been increasing so it would be a good time to sell the timber.
  - Annual reports have been completed.
  - We met the qualifications to be eligible for the full Part A payment of \$60,000 and the full Part C payment.

5. **Old Business**
  - a. **Part C – Performance Measures Award Letter – The district met all required performance measures and qualifies the district for funding in the amount of \$112,874.08.**
  
6. **New Business**
  - a. **Public Employer Health Emergency Plan – We are required to have a plan in place for future Health Emergencies. It has been approved as written pending County Attoreny approval. - Approved (Graves - Ormsby)**
  - b. **Drone Purchase – We are requesting approval to purchase a drone for the office. Approved (Graves – Ormsby)**
  
7. **Announcements**
  - i. **Next Board Meeting, April 20, at 5:30pm.**
  
8. **Correspondence**
  
9. **Adjournment - 5:52pm Approved (Cygan - Graves)**

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Tiffany A. McCumiskey  
Secretary to Board

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Rodney Bennett  
Chairman