

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – May 17,2021  
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Joe Cygan, Farm Bureau  
Karl Graves, Legislator - Absent  
Josh Ormsby, Grange - Absent  
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 April 20, 2021 Approved (Hopkins - Cygan)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Cygan - Hopkins)**
  - a. Treasurer’s Report
  - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
  - a. NRCS -
    - EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)**
      - 17 applications have been preapproved for funding. Some of those applications may be moved to the RCPP program to use some of the funding available in that program. NRCS is hoping some projects might be joint funding with Soil & Water to help cover project costs for applicants.
    - RCPP-EQIP (Genesee River)**
      - 3 applications have been preapproved for funding
    - CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)**
      - Applications will be ranked by June. The State has more money for this program than last year
  - b. FSA – No Report
  - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – See attached
  - d. Executive Director
    - Program Updates:
      - Round 21
        - Rushford Lake – Waiting for the farms to provide me with proof that they paid their bills for their project and then I will have all of the closeout documents complete.
      - 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
          - Submitted for the 65% advanced payment for D&R Farm. They will be constructing their barn later this summer.

- Jones Beef Farm has begun working on their project again.
  - George Ellis has sold the parcel of land that his project was going on. We are looking at another piece of land that he owns in the Rushford Lake watershed to do the fence on.
  - Wellsville Water Supply Protection
    - Submitted for the 65% advanced payment for Daniel Fanton Farm. They will be constructing their barn later this summer.
- Round 26
  - Plan of work paperwork for Cryder Creek Beef BMPs has been submitted.
- Round 27
  - Applications for projects are due June 28, 2021. We are utilizing the AEM program to look at potential projects.
- FL-LOWPA
  - We requested an amendment to our contract as we had to cancel educational events do to COVID. The \$1500 educational funds will be moved to cover cost overruns for the project we did at Jones Beef Farm.
  - Meehan Farm has completed part of their diversion ditch project. The first diversion ditch was under budget, so they are going to do an additional diversion ditch on another field.
- AEM
  - We have met with Kim Shaklee and Jerry Snyder, they will be starting their fencing projects shortly.
- Southern Tier Program
  - No changes in the last month.
- FEMA
  - Van Campen Creek – we are currently working on designs.
  - Belfast River Stabilization
    - I have been working on the contract and bid documents. I have them almost completed for review by the County Attorney.
- CAFO Waste Storage Grant
  - Barney Farms plans to start their bedded pack barn around June 1, 2021. We are waiting on the contractor to dig test holes for their liquid manure storage. They would like to complete this in 2021 as well.
  - Interim reports were completed and submitted by the May 1 deadline.
- WQIP Grants

- We are continuing to work on the planning grants for Van Campen Creek, Philips Creek and Black Creek. We applied for an extension of these grants.
- The Town of Independence and West Almond are still looking at their options for doing their salt storage projects this summer. We are trying to come up with ideas that won't be as costly as initially proposed.
- The State is now accepting applications for Round 11 of the WQIP grant program. Applications are due July 30, 2021.
- 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.
- Erosion and Sediment Control in the Genesee River and Finger Lakes Watershed Grant
  - Kyle has submitted the DEC permit application for the stream stabilization project at Bainbridge Farm.
- DEC Aid to Localities Grant
  - Waiting to get paid.
- Seneca Trails RC&D
  - A meeting was held 5/5/21 to discuss the future of the organization. Due to lack of member involvement and project activity, the organization will potentially be done away with.
- Technical Assistance
  - During the last month we provided assistance to 7 different municipalities and 6 different landowners. Most issues were regarding stream erosion threatening property.
  - We are finalizing the bid documents for Rattlesnake Hill timber sale. We are waiting to hear back from the DEC to see if we can use the DEC access road to haul logs off the hill. If we are able to do this, the bid prices should be higher.
  - Scott Alsworth is beginning to mark trees on the Dixon and C. Horner Lots. This consists of primarily mixed hardwoods with a small amount of white pine on the C. Horner Lot.
    1. We have received several requests for information regarding the Ag District #2 report as it pertains to the land in Belvidere that is currently being considered for eminent domain.

## 5. Old Business

- a. **County Contract – SWCD's current three-year contract with the County is set to expire December 31, 2021. We are requesting a 3-year contract extension. SWCD is going to be requesting level funding for each year of a new contract with the County. Approved (Cygan – Hopkins)**

## 6. New Business

- a. **Computer Purchase – SWCD is requesting permission to purchase 2 new computers and accessories as needed to replace one that is approximately 10**

**years old and one that is approximately 5 years old. Cost not to exceed \$3,000.**

**Approved (Cygan – Hopkins)**

- 7. Announcements**
  - i. Next Board Meeting, June 15, at 5:30pm.**
- 8. Correspondence**
- 9. Adjournment - 5:51pm Approved (Hopkins - Cygan)**

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Tiffany A. McCumiskey  
Secretary to Board

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Rodney Bennett  
Chairman