

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – February 15, 2022  
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Samuel Mietkowski, Farm Bureau - Virtual  
Kevin (Fred) Demick, Legislator  
Adam Cyr, Legislator  
Josh Ormsby, Grange

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir  
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

Ben Renner - NRCS

1. **Call to Order:** 5:30 pm
2. **Election of Officers**  
Scott Torrey acted as Chairman for Elections  
Chairman – Rodney Bennett (**Demick - Cyr**)  
Close Nominations (**Demick - Cyr**)  
Vice Chairman – Kevin (Fred) Demicks (**Cyr - Ormsby**)  
Close Nominations (**Cyr - Ormsby**)
3. **Minutes of December 21, 2021 Approved (Demick - Ormsby)**
4. **Financial Reports – Approved (Mietkowski - Demick)**
  - a. Treasurer’s Report
  - b. Abstracts
5. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
  - a. NRCS –  
COVID-19 office update: Mask mandate for employees. Up to **75%** capacity for employees with visitors by appointment.  
Personnel update – Liz Wesche’s last day with NRCS was January 20, 2022.  
**EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) – Including GLRI**
    1. Currently assessing and ranking new 2022 applications  
**CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)**
    2. New 2022 sign-up period announced, first round cut-off date for applications is March 11, 2022
  - b. FSA – No Report
  - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – See attached
  - d. Executive Director –
    1. Program Updates:
      - a. Round 24
        - i. No changes in the last month.
      - b. Round 25
        - i. Black Creek Manure Storages

- 1. Leonard is working on the design for Jeff Heitman's bedded pack barn so that Jeff can get bids.
  - ii. Cryder Creek Grazing System
    - 1. No changes in the last month.
  - iii. Rushford Lake Protection Phase 2
    - 1. Jones Beef Farm has completed their bedded pack barn.
  - iv. Wellsville Water Supply Protection
    - 1. Fanton Farm is working on putting the roof on their pack barn.
- c. Round 26
  - i. Waiting on the State to approve our contract. It was lost in Albany.
- d. Round 27
  - i. Plan of work documents were completed and submitted to the State.
- e. Round 28
  - i. There is \$13 million available to support agricultural water quality conservation projects across the State. The Agricultural Nonpoint program awards projects that focus on either environmental planning or the implementation of best management practice systems to protect New York's watersheds. Projects include conservation measures, such as nutrient management through manure storage, vegetative buffers along streams, and conservation cover crops. Deadline is May 2, 2022.
- f. Climate Resilient Farming Grant Program –
  - i. This grant helps farms reduce their operational impact on the environment and address the impacts of extreme weather events resulting from climate change. There is \$8 million in funding for this sixth round. Funding is available to support agricultural projects and related equipment purchases that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help agricultural producers prepare for and better manage impacts of climate change, including increased heavy storm events, overall rainfall, and periods of drought. Deadline is March 28, 2022.
- g. FL-LOWPA
  - i. Working on plans for 2022 project.
- h. AEM
  - i. We are working on the closeout documents for Round 16. This closeout is due February 28, 2020
- i. Southern Tier Program
  - i. Half of the project closeouts have been submitted for approval. The remainder will be completed once our annual reports are submitted.
- j. FEMA

- i. Van Campen Creek –
  - 1. Our extension has been approved.
- ii. Belfast River Stabilization
  - 1. We have not heard anything on the extension.
- k. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
  - i. Barney Farm’s manure storage designs have been completed. They are now getting bids for the concrete work.
  - ii. We are in the process of completing the design for Lismore Dairy’s manure storage.
- l. WQIP Grants
  - i. We were awarded 2 salt storage grants:

Project	State Amount	Landowner Amount	SWCD Amount from Grant	Match	Total
Town of Amity	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$7,567.33	\$7,567.33	\$115,134.66
Town of Centerville	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$ 5,125.20	\$ 5,125.20	\$280,250.40
	\$185,000.00	\$185,000.00	\$12,962.53	\$12,962.53	\$395,925.06

- m. EPA-GLRI Grant
  - i. We have received our final payment. The grant is complete.
- n. Great Lakes Commission
  - i. We are working on designs.
- o. Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program:
  - i. No changes in the last month.
- p. Erosion and Sediment Control in the Genesee River and Finger Lakes Watershed Grant
  - i. No changes in the last month.
- q. Part B
  - i. The 2021 project has been completed.
- r. Part C
  - i. Clark Farm has completed their manure storage.
- 2. Technical Assistance
  - a. Ag District #2 review has been completed and approved by the Farmland Protection committee.
  - b. Colin is working on grant for funding to update the Farmland Protection Plan.
  - c. Leonard and Kyle have worked with numerous landowners with stream permits and projects.

**6. Old Business**

**7. New Business**

- a. **Designation of Depositories** – Community Bank – **Approved (Cyr – Ormsby)**

- b. **Resolution 2022-02 - Designation of Signatory Authority for Banking Purposes – Nomination for Kevin (Fred) Demick to sign checks – Approved (Ormsby – Mietkowski)**
  - c. **Appointment of Audit Committee – Bennett and Cyr will be new Audit Committee – Approved (Demick - Ormsby)**
  - d. **Designation of Official Newspaper – The Spectator of Hornell and Cuba Patriot – Approved (Demick - Mietkowski)**
  - e. **Board Meeting Schedule for 2022 – Will be keeping the meetings the same, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm with a change to March meeting. March meeting will be March 17, 2022 @ 5:30 pm– Approved (Mietkowski- Ormsby)**
  - f. **Round 24 Wiscoy Creek Contract Extension – Requesting approval for Scott to request 1 year extension for contract - Approved (Cyr - Ormsby)**
  - g. **Agricultural District #2 Report and Recommendations – No motion needed, just added to meeting for informational purposes**
  - h. **Hillcrest Homestead CAFO Waste Storage Extension – Requesting approval to request a 1 year extension for contract - Approved (Ormsby - Cyr)**
  - i. **Resolution 2022-01 – Hiring New Employee - Resolution appointing Colin Bainbridge as the AEM Planner. Approved (Demick – Cyr)**
8. **Executive Session – At 6:16 pm Demick made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person, seconded by Ormsby. A motion was made to move out of executive session by Ormsby, seconded by Demick. No decision was reached during the executive session, which lasted 13 minutes.**
9. **Announcements**
  - i. **Next Board Meeting, Changed from March 15, to March 17, at 5:30pm.**
10. **Correspondence**
11. **Adjournment - 6:31pm Approved (Ormsby - Bennett)**

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Tiffany A. McCumiskey  
Secretary to Board

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Rodney Bennett  
Chairman