

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – February 20, 2024
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair
Vacant, Farm Bureau
Kevin (Fred) Demick, Legislator
Adam Cyr, Legislator - Absent
Josh Ormsby, Grange

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

Nicole Ayers – FSA
Ben Renner - NRCS

1. **Call to Order: 5:01 pm**
2. **Minutes of January 23, 2024 Approved (Demick - Ormsby)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Demick - Ormsby)**
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - a. NRCS – Ben let the board know that they have hired a new area engineer and he is located in Belmont. He is responsible for all of western NY counties. He updated the board on the some of the ongoing programs they have.
 - b. FSA – See attached
 - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – See attached
 - d. Executive Director –
 1. Program Updates:
 - a. Round 24
 - i. Waiting for final closeout approval from State.
 - b. Round 25
 - i. Black Creek Manure Storages
 1. Working on the closeout documents.
 - ii. Cryder Creek Grazing System
 1. No changes in the last month.
 - iii. Rushford Lake Protection Phase 2
 1. No changes in the last month.
 - iv. Wellsville Water Supply Protection
 1. No changes in the last month.
 - c. Round 26
 - i. No changes in the last month.
 - d. Round 27
 - i. No changes in the last month.
 - e. Round 28
 - i. Submitted claim for payment for the advanced payment.

- f. Round 29
 - i. No changes in the last month.
- g. FL-LOWPA
 - i. Sponsoring a DEC Pesticide applicator training with Cornell Cooperative Extension.
 - ii. Keiser Beef Farm has decided not to do their feedlot project this summer. We will look for another project to complete in its place.
- h. AEM
 - i. Kyle is working on closeout documents, due February 29, 2024
 - ii. Working on updating plans for the next round of grant funding.
 - iii. Emily is working on forest plans for farms.
- i. Climate Resilient Farming
 - i. Round 6
 - 1. No changes in the last month.
 - ii. Round 7
 - 1. Plan of work documents have been submitted.
- j. FEMA
 - i. Van Campen Creek – waiting on extension request so we can proceed. Emily has submitted permit documents to the Army Corp of Engineers.
 - ii. Genesee River Stabilization at Belfast Phase 2 – We met with the DSHES representative for this project. Must be completed by April 6, 2026. Emily has submitted permit documents for an extension on the previous permits for this site. Birchwood Archaeological Services, Inc. has been hired to do the archaeological survey that FEMA is requiring.
 - iii. County Road 48 Stabilization – We met with the DSHES representative for this project. Must be completed by April 6, 2026. We will survey the site this spring.
- k. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - i. No changes in the last month.
- l. WQIP Grants
 - i. Working on plans for the Town of Angelica’s salt storage building.
- m. Part B
 - i. No changes in the last month.
- n. Part C
 - i. No changes in the last month.
- 2. Technical Assistance
 - a. Agricultural District No. 1, 8-year review – waiting for the County to complete the approval of this review.
 - b. Emily and Leonard are working on stream permits.
 - c. State annual reports have been completed. County reports are due March 1, 2024.

d. Emily has started marking trees for the next County Forest timber sale

5. Old Business

6. New Business

- a. **NY Class – Requesting permission to move our interest bearing accounts to NYCLASS to earn additional interest. Our current interest rate is .02%, while the rate at NYCLASS is 5.24%. Approved (Demick – Ormsby)**
- b. **No Till Drill Purchase – Requesting permission to buy a new 2023 ESC 5612 No Till Drill in the amount of \$45,900.00. We will be using Part C Funds and proceeds from the sale of the current no till drill. Approved (Ormsby – Demick)**
- c. **Resolution 2024-02 – Genesee River Coalition – Designating the District as the Chairman of the Genesee River Watershed Coalition, and the voting representative for the Coalition. Approved (Demick – Ormsby)**
- d. **FEMA Grants – Looking for feedback from the board regarding the turnaround timeframe from the county attorney regarding contracts. Scott mentioned that we possibly use a different attorney in order to not delay the projects that need to be completed in a timely fashion. Fred is going to ask the county attorney if they have any recommendations of someone else to use if they are too busy.**

7. Announcements

- i. **Next Board Meeting: March 19, 2024 at 5:30pm**

8. Correspondence

9. Adjournment - 5:45pm Approved (Demick – Ormsby)

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman