

MINUTES
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – March 19, 2024
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

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

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

Kylie Hint - NRCS

1. **Call to Order: 5:36 pm**
2. **Minutes of February 20, 2024 Approved (Lewis - Ormsby)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Lewis - Ormsby)**
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
 - a. NRCS – Kylie updated the board that on March 8th NRCS submitted and ranked 20 EQIP projects for funding. Within the next couple weeks they are hoping to have 7 CSP projects signed by the contract holders and committed.
 - 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. Closeout was approved by the 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. Received the advanced payment.

- f. Round 29
 - i. No changes in the last month.
- g. FL-LOWPA
 - i. There is one project for approval tonight and a change to one project.
- h. AEM
 - i. Round 17 closeout documents have been submitted to the State.
 - ii. Working on updating plans for the next round of grant funding.
- i. Climate Resilient Farming
 - i. Round 6
 - 1. No changes in the last month.
 - ii. Round 7
 - 1. No changes in the last month.
- j. FEMA
 - i. Van Campen Creek – waiting for the extension request to be approved so we can proceed.
 - ii. Genesee River Stabilization at Belfast Phase 2 – Emily been working on getting a permit extension for this project.
 - iii. County Road 48 Stabilization – No changes in the last month.
- k. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
 - i. Working on designs for manure storage at Bainbridge Farm.
- l. WQIP Grants
 - i. Working on plans for the Town of Angelica’s salt storage building.
 - ii. Town of West Almond salt storage - roof has been delivered construction is set to be completed by the March 31 deadline.
 - iii. Due to cost increases the Town of Granger has decided to cancel their grant funding. They would like to pursue a new grant in the future.
 - iv. We were award the following Water Quality Improvement Project grants:
 - 1. Town of Willing Salt Storage – \$375,000 in grant funding with \$75,000 in matching funding for a total project cost of \$375,000
 - 2. Town of Belfast Salt Storage – \$400,000 in grant funding with \$100,000 in matching funding for a total project cost of \$500,000
 - v. We were awarded the following Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning Grants:
 - 1. Rockville Lake Stabilization Plan - \$40,000 in grant funding with \$4,605 in matching funding for a total project cost of \$44,605. This will cover the cost of

completing a streambank stabilization plan for Black Creek in the Town of Belfast. The plan will complete a survey and an engineering design plan to help stabilize a section of highly eroding streambank on Black Creek, which acts as a berm for Rockville Lake.

2. Village of Angelica Stormwater Study - \$32,000 in grant funding with \$3,607 in matching funding for a total project cost of \$35,607. This funding will cover the cost of completing a study and design a stormwater retrofit for an inadequately designed drainage system in the Village of Angelica. The study will be used to install a system that will reduce flooding and the amount of water negatively impacting the drainage system.
3. West Van Campen Creek Stream Corridor Assessment - \$75,000 in grant funding with \$10,842 in matching funding for a total project cost of \$85,842. This funding will cover the cost to complete a comprehensive stream corridor assessment in the West Branch Van Campen Creek watershed. The report will identify opportunities for streambank stabilization and riparian buffer restoration and help prioritize projects for implementation in the Genesee River Basin.

vi. In the last 7 months we have had \$4,436,569 in projects approved for grant funding.

m. Part B

i. No changes in the last month.

n. Part C

i. We were awarded \$207,832.85 for meeting 100% of the Performance Measures requirements.

ii. The no till drill has been delivered.

2. Technical Assistance

- a. Working on a stream permit for Friendship School to correct stream erosion by their soccer field.
- b. We have 4 other stream erosion sites to evaluate and possibly obtain permits for.
- c. We are working with the DEC and Genesee River Watch to secure funding to stabilize an eroding section of the Genesee River along Council House Road in the Town of Caneadea.
- d. The County annual reports have been submitted.

5. Old Business

- a. **FL-LOWPA 21-22 Update – Rob Chamberlain – Project was to originally install fencing to expand the farms grazing acres for their beef cows. Due to changes on the farm, the farm is not going to do the fencing, but do some erosion control work on the same property. The farm is requesting an increase in funding from \$15,000 to \$20,500. The vote will be tabled until next meeting as Christian recused himself from the vote due to conflict of interest.**

6. New Business

- a. **FL-LOWPA 22-23 Request – Lester York – Farm is requesting funding to stabilize the area that they store their silage on. Planning on installing a gravel pad with this funding. We will pursue larger funding in the future to black top the area. We are looking at utilizing \$20,000 of funding. – Approved (Lewis – Ormsby)**
- b. **Part C Funding Usage – Requesting permission to use Part C funds to purchase some tools and a gas tank, to help when we have projects that use the excavator. Approved (Ormsby – Lewis)**

7. Announcements

- i. **Next Board Meeting: April 16, 2024 at 5:30pm**

8. Correspondence

9. Adjournment - 5:48pm

Tiffany A. McCumiskey
Secretary to Board

Rodney Bennett
Chairman