

MINUTES  
ALLEGANY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – July 15, 2025  
District Facility, 5390 County Route 48  
Belmont, N.Y.

Directors

Rod Bennett, Chair  
Christain Lewis, Farm Bureau - Absent  
Kevin (Fred) Demick, Legislator  
Gretchen Hanchett, Legislator  
Josh Ormsby, Grange

Staff

Scott Torrey, Exec Dir  
Tiffany McCumiskey, Secretary

Cooperating Agencies

Ben Renner, NRCS  
Nicole Ayers, FSA

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 pm
2. **Minutes of June 17, 2025 Approved (Ormsby - Demick)**
3. **Financial Reports – Approved (Demick - Hanchett)**
  - a. Treasurer’s Report
  - b. Abstracts
4. **Cooperating Agency & Staff Reports**
  - a. NRCS – [See attached](#)
  - b. FSA – [See attached](#)
  - c. Victor DiGiacomo - Division of Land and Water Resources – [See attached](#)
  - d. Executive Director –
    1. Program Updates:
      - a. Round 25
        - i. Cryder Creek Grazing System
          1. Working on closeout.
        - ii. Rushford Lake Protection Phase 2
          1. Working on closeout.
        - iii. Wellsville Water Supply Protection
          1. Working on closeout.
      - b. Round 26
        - i. Hamilton Beef finished their access control fencing. We are now working on the closeout.
      - c. Round 28
        - i. Barney Farm – No changes in the last month.
      - d. Round 29
        - i. No changes in the last month
      - e. Round 30
        - i. We were awarded the following grants:

Project	State/Federal Funds	SWCD Amount From Grant	Landowner Amount	SWCD Match	Total
Mitchell Farm Manure Storage	\$62,700.00	\$8,835.00	\$20,750.00	\$550.00	\$92,835.00

Caneadea Creek Beef Farms	\$129,822.00	\$15,140.00	\$55,638.00	\$950.00	\$201,550.00
Bainbridge Farm, LLC Manure Management	\$277,200.00	\$15,875.00	\$118,800.00	\$1,125.00	\$413,000.00

- f. FL-LOWPA
  - i. Jeff Heitman's project is being worked on.
  - ii. We received payments for the closeout of 22-23 and the advance for 24-25.
  - iii. The 2025-26 workplan will be submitted July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- g. AEM
  - i. Continuing to work on CNMPs and farm planning.
  - ii. Continuing to work on designs for Dan Nickerson's pack barn.
  - iii. Year 19 – we were awarded \$720,000 for 2026-2028. \$420,000 for District planning and sampling and \$300,000 for farm projects.
- h. Climate Resilient Farming
  - i. Round 6
    - 1. No changes in the last month
  - ii. Round 7
    - 1. No changes in the last month
  - iii. Round 8
    - 1. No changes in the last month
- i. FEMA
  - i. Genesee River Stabilization at Belfast Phase 2 – currently waiting on SHPO review.
  - ii. County Road 48 Stabilization – Waiting for the DEC to determine if there are freshwater wetlands in the project area.
  - iii. Van Campen Creek – The Army Corp of Engineers inspected this completed project on July 11<sup>th</sup>. They were checking to make sure the project was installed correctly. They found no issues and said it was one of the better projects they have inspected this year.
- j. CAFO Waste Storage Grant
  - i. Bainbridge Farm – Project is complete.
- k. WQIP Grants
  - i. We received closeout payment for the Town of Belfast's salt storage project. The Town has received their payment.
  - ii. We are submitting salt storage grants for the Towns of Birdsall, Granger and New Hudson.
  - iii. We are submitting applications for 2 engineering planning grants for streambank stabilization projects on Rush Creek and Caneadea Creek.
  - iv. Applications are due July 31, 2025.
- l. Part B

- i. No changes in the last month.
  - m. Part C
    - i. No changes in the last month.
- 2. Stream Program
  - a. May 5<sup>th</sup> storm update –
    - i. Town of Wellsville – emergency stream permit is almost complete. We are waiting for the landowner to sign off on the project.
    - ii. Old Whitney Road (Almond) – we have a proposal for tonight’s meeting.
  - b. June 6<sup>th</sup> Storm
    - i. Cuba Lake – we have been out to the Abbott Creek Inlet a few times. The Lake District is trying to find funding to make repairs to the area. We have offered technical assistance.
    - ii. Friendship School – we are still working on a plan for a permit.
  - c. Village of Cuba – working on a stream permit for work on Griffith Creek.
  - d. Terrance McCormick Stream Stabilization – No changes in the last month
  - e. Town of Andover – working on a stream stabilization permit application for the Town of Andover on Dyke Creek to repair damage from last August’s storm.
  - f. Friendship School – plan to move excavator to the site the week of July 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - g. Kailbourne Stream Stabilization – Project is finished.
  - h. Town of Independence – continuing to assist the Town with their FEMA paperwork.
- 3. Education
  - a. Emily Johnston has been assisting the County with planning trails in the County Forest.

## 5. Old Business

- a. Update to Air Conditioning System – We are going to proceed with putting the air conditioning system in the Board Room and 3 office spaces this year. We will have the back room system installed next year.
- b. Old Whitney Road Town of Almond – We have come up with a work estimate to help stabilize the creek at Old Whiney Road. The landowner is going to do all preliminary work, and we will come in and set the Rip Rap on the sloped bank. The estimate for the district’s 75% portion is \$9,393.75, while the landowner will be responsible for the other 25% with an amount of \$3,131.25. **Approved (Ormsby – Demick)**
- c. AEM Year 19 Update – The District has been awarded \$720,000.000 in funding for the contract period starting January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

## 6. New Business

- a. FL-LOWPA – Michael Beardsley Fencing Project - Request to expand his current grazing system for his beef herd. Grant request is \$6,000. **Approved (Hanchett – Ormsby)**
- b. FL-LOWPA – Allan Hanks Fencing Project – Request to expand his current grazing system for his sheep herd. Grant request is \$5,000. **Approved (Hanchett – Ormsby)**
- c. FL-LOWPA – Jeff Heitman Barnyard Project – Request to cover concrete barnyard to prevent rainwater from mixing with manure. Grant request is \$9,000. **Approved (Hanchett – Ormsby)**

**7. Announcements**

- i. **Next Board Meeting: August 19, 2025 at 6:00pm**

**8. Correspondence**

**9. Adjournment - 6:31pm Approved (Ormsby – Hanchett)**

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Tiffany A. McCumiskey  
Secretary to Board

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Rodney Bennett  
Chairman