

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
For November 18, 2010 7:30 PM

Board Members Present: Robert Andrews, Jr. (Chairperson), Ed Hadlock (Vice-Chair), Fred Morrill (Treasurer), Clark Decker, Ben Stauffer, Tom Grow and Tom Nichols.

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present: Dawn Howard (Manager) and Raeanne Dulanski (Secretary), Aaron Earl (Forester).

Guests Present: Kent Frary, NRCS

I. Call to Order

II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: October minutes were **approved**.

III. Treasurer's Reports: October Treasurer's reports were **approved**.

IV. Reports

A. NRCS – Kent Frary

1. Frary reported that he has been settling back into the Canton Field Office.
2. Frary has been talking with a lot of landowners interested in farm bill programs. There is no official signup deadline yet. Frary and Howard have been working a Contribution Agreement for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative WHIP (Golden Winged Warbler habitat.)
*Motion authorizing Andrews or Howard to sign the finalized Contribution Agreement for WHIP **Approved**.*
3. Local Working Group meeting was held. Howard organized the meeting. The meeting was held to get local input on the needs in St. Lawrence County for the farm bill programs.
4. Frary also reported that the WRP team has been busy. He is working with Jim Pullano to be brought up to speed on the projects in St. Lawrence County.

B. NYACD – Decker

1. Decker reported that the monthly conference call had taken place and was lead by their new President, Nichols. Division updates were given, discussion was held regarding next year's Legislative Days, and a review will be done of the Annual Meeting. A committee was formed to take a closer look at the meeting.
2. Discussion on the Chesapeake Bay situation was held.
3. Nichols reported that he will be attending a meeting in Syracuse to meet with the four-way partnership. He will also be going to Kentucky for a leadership meeting and Tennessee for the annual NACD meeting.
4. Nichols stated that there are a lot of talented people on the NYACD Board. He is trying to get those people more involved in going to the meetings and activities that are in their area of expertise.

5. Nichols would also like to see NYACD become more involved with the press. He wants people to know that NYACD is out there, what the issues are, and that they are working on them.
6. Nichols also stated that Judy Littrell is doing an excellent job as the Executive Director.

C. AFPB –Andrews

1. Andrews passed out draft copies of the last AFPB meeting minutes to the Board for review. The IDA attended the meeting and it went very well.

V. SWCD Reports

A. Manager’s Report – Howard (Appendix A)

1. Howard reported that Cooperative Extension is currently using the Ag Plastic Baler to finish the SARE grant, and then it will be traveling to Franklin County. *Motion to authorize Howard to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Franklin County SWCD for the baler after review of the County Attorney **Approved.***
2. County budget vote will be next Monday night. SWCD is facing a 10% cut.
3. Decker and Howard attended the last SLRWP meeting. The group is moving forward. They have requested all counties come up with a list of the top five needs for the St. Lawrence Watershed so they have projects in mind for funding opportunities. Howard will email the Board for any input. There was also the discussion of dues being charged to help with the cost of obtaining 501c3 status.
4. *Motion to accept Round 17 Resolution **Approved.*** (Appendix B)
5. *Motion to donate \$100 to American Tree Farm System **Approved.***
6. *Motion to amend the budget to increase the Forestry Paint budget and purchase the additionally need paint **Approved.***
7. *Authorization to prepay NYS Retirement to take advantage of the discounted rate **Approved.***
8. *Authorization to upgrade to QuickBook Pro 2011 and pay the annual subscription fee in January **Approved.***
9. *Motion to have Howard forward two outstanding bills, Dietschweiler-Hartley and Chang, to County Attorney for collection with the stipulation any court cost be added to the bills **Approved.***
10. *Motion to contract with Dale Morse to update three NPMs **Approved.*** Decker abstained from voting.

B. Forester’s Report – Earl

1. Earl reported a summary of the year’s timber sales.
 - a. Sale #1 – Postwood Park, on-going. Lots of concerned landowners.
 - b. Sale #2 – Complete.
 - c. Sale #3 – Complete. This was the sale for the Highway Department.
 - d. Sale #4 – Sale in Pitcairn. Not started yet.
2. The fifth Part B Forestry Plan is almost complete.
3. Worked with a mountain bike club on a trail.
4. It looks like next year’s timber sales may just be one large red pine sale.

C. Secretary/Assistant Treasurer's Report – Dulanski

1. Dulanski reported that she has been busy with completing her first grazing plan, working on the Ag NPS Round 17 grant, Ag Values and the regular day-to-day activities.

VI. Old and New Business

- A. Andrews shared a draft letter to our elected representatives offering the Districts services. *Motion to send the letter to Ritchie, Russell, Blankenbush, Griffo and the new Board of Legislators* **Approved.**
- B. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Tom Grow for his service to and support of the District.

VII. Executive Session: Entered 9:03 PM to discuss staffing issues. Exited at 9:12 PM. Based on the recommendation of the Interviewing Committee, *Motion made to offer the position of Conservation District Technician to Raeanne Dulanski with a starting salary of \$36,210* **Approved.** Decker abstained from the vote. Dulanski accepted the position. Dulanski will start her new position on 11/22/10 with the understanding that she will continue to do payroll and other critical aspects of the Secretary/Assistant Treasurer position until it has been filled. She will also be responsible for the completion of the end of year Treasurer Reports.

The vacant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer position will be advertised this weekend and interviews will take place December 16. The Interviewing Committee will consist of Andrews, Hadlock, Morrill, Stauffer, Howard and Dulanski.

VIII. Correspondence: Appendix C

IX. Announcements: None.

X. Time and Date of Next Meeting: January 20, 2011, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

XI. Meeting Adjourned: 9:25 PM followed by refreshments.

Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

Date

Raeanne Dulanski, Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

Date

Attachments: Appendices A - C