

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District  
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
For July 15, 2010, 7:30 PM

**Board Members Present:** Robert Andrews, Jr. (Chairperson), Ed Hadlock (Vice-Chair), Fred Morrill (Treasurer), Clark Decker, Tom Grow, Ben Stauffer, and Tom Nichols arriving at 7:45.

**Board Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Dawn Howard (Manager), and Raeanne Dulanski (Secretary).

**Guests Present:** Jim Pullano, NRCS DC and Chanda Lindsay, RC&D Coordinator.

**I. Call to Order**

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

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

**IV. Reports**

**A. RC&D – Lindsay (Attachment A)**

1. Lindsay reported on current RC&D projects on Attachment A.
2. Lindsay stated that there was a Council meeting on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting they were presented with additional projects for consideration. The Council agreed to support a logging training session for farmers and to manage grant money for FWMB to do some stream restoration.
3. Howard reported that she presented the Council with the AFPB wildlife letter and RC&D decided that they would also write a letter about wildlife.
4. Howard also reported that Blake Putman stepped up and volunteered to represent St. Lawrence County on the RC&D Ag Committee that is being reestablished.

**B. NRCS – Pullano**

1. Pullano reported that contracting is still occurring. Approximately 5 WHIP grassland contracts were recently approved for funding. Another EQIP-Forestry application was pre-approved for funding, totaling 6 forestry contracts in St. Lawrence County and one AgEMP was also funded.
2. The District completed a Contribution Agreement for WHIP. Pullano, Howard and the intern, Jevonnah Foster, hosted a public forum on the WHIP program for interested landowners.
3. Foster's internship concludes August 14, 2010.
4. Pullano completed a Quality Assurance Review yesterday. There were a number of people in Canton from the State Office and Albany Office looking at difference aspects of the field office operations. The review team visited several sites with Farm Bill contracts and Bob Andrews. There was considerable amount of constructive and positive a two-way conversations held. Pullano thought that the review went well.

5. Pullano announced that he has accepted a new position as the Resource Conservationist for the new WRP team that has been discussed at recent board meetings. He will be stationed in Canton. A new DC will be hired for the Canton field office and in the interim an Acting DC will be chosen and housed in Canton. The NRCS would like to back fill the DC position in a timely manner. The Board congratulated Pullano on this new position, wished him the best of luck, and thanked him for all his work as the Canton DC.
6. Andrews reported on his meeting with Aster Boozer and Dennis DeWeese. He stated that he had a very pleasant meeting with them. They talked about a number of topics in St. Lawrence County. They also spoke about the recent WHIP contribution agreement, how well Chanda Lindsay was doing with RC&D, and man power in St. Lawrence County.

**C. NYACD – Decker**

1. Decker reported that a Division 3 telecon was held. Howard and Judy Littrell hosted the meeting for Decker. There were no resolutions presented at this time.
2. Work on the annual meeting has started.
3. Howard reported that resolutions are due by August 15.

**D. AFPB –Andrews**

1. This year's ag tour will be taking place August 20.
2. Things are coming together for the St. Lawrence County Fair.
3. The formalized Focus Group results will be available at the next AFPB meeting.
4. Howard added that the FWMB has created a resolution to support opening more area in Region 6 for bear hunting.
5. Howard also reported that AFPB is zeroed out in the proposed 2011 County Budget.

**V. SWCD Reports**

**A. Manager's Report – Howard (Appendix B)**

1. Howard reported that she attended the NYS Annual Area of Concern meeting in Massena. There were a number of people representing a variety of agencies present.
2. Steve Lanthier expects to hear if his early retirement goes through soon.
3. The District received notification that the Round 16 NPS grant proposal that was submitted was selected to receive funding. This grant was for over \$200,000.
4. The District was notified that the Round 15 NPS grant contracts have been executed and we should receive those soon.
5. The budget that was submitted to the Board for review was approved by the four Board members that responded. That budget was forwarded to the County. It looks like the District will be facing a 10% cut in County funding next year, but the outside agencies are going to be reviewed individually. It is still early in the budget process. Nichols commented that he thought that the District has done a good job with the budget and getting ready for the financially difficult times ahead. Howard stated the timeline for the budget looks to be October 4 to the Board of Legislators and November 22 to adopt the budget.
6. Howard reported that she will be on vacation from August 16 – September 13.
7. *Motion to cancel the August meeting* **Approved.**

8. *Motion for authorization to pay for two staff people and two board members to attend the NYACD annual meeting, October 17 to the 19<sup>th</sup> **Approved.***
9. *Motion to approve sending staff to Conservation Skills Workshop after classes have been reviewed by Howard and the staff for relevance **Approved.***
10. Tribune Press has run an article on ag plastic recycling.

**VI. Old and New Business:** None.

**VII. Correspondence:** Mail was available for the Board's review. (List of items in Appendix C)

**VIII. Announcements:** None.

**IX. Time and Date of Next Meeting:** September 16, 2010, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

**X. Meeting Adjourned:** 9:00 PM

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Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

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Date

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Raeanne Dulanski, Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

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Date

Attachments: Appendices A-C