

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District  
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
For March 24, 2011, 7:30 PM

**Board Members Present:** Robert Andrews, Jr. (Chairperson), Ben Stauffer (Vice-Chair), Fred Morrill (Treasurer), Clark Decker, Ed Hadlock and Tom Nichols arriving at 7:50 PM.

**Board Members Absent:** Daniel Parker.

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

**Guests Present:** Kent Frary, NRCS

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** February minutes were *Approved*.

**III. Treasurer's Reports:** February Treasurer's reports were *Approved*.

**IV. Reports**

**A. NRCS – Frary (Appendix A, B, C, & D)**

1. Frary reviewed Civil Rights Training with the Board.

*Nichols joins the meeting at 7:50 PM.*

2. NRCS Contribution Agreement has been purposed and is much bigger than anticipated. The new agreement has many appealing measures for SWCD over the next two years. The value of this agreement can be up to \$53,000 for 2068 hours of service, with a reimbursement of 75% of \$34 an hour for work performed for NRCS. Frary and Howard will work together to submit hours on work performed. The plan for the NRCS Contribution Agreement is supported by the Board.

3. Frary has been busy working on program applications. In the St. Lawrence and Champlain watersheds there were 35 high priorities for EQIP, with 19 in SLC, which is 55%. Whip had 28 rank high, with 8 in SLC at 30%, and AMA had 24, with 5 in SLC at 21%.

**B. NYACD – Nichols & Decker**

1. Nichols attended a portion of the Water Quality Symposium in Auburn.
2. A lot of progress is being made on proposals sent to the NYS Legislators.

**C. AFPB – Andrews**

1. The meeting with Jefferson County Ag Development created a good impression with SLC IDA. The steer beef incentive program was very encouraging with a lot of enthusiastic talk of cooperation.

2. A wood chipping biomass meeting with the Double A Willow organization and the IDA is set for April 1<sup>st</sup>. Putman, Howard, and Frary will work together. Howard will do the inviting for this meeting and would like to have some local farmers attend.
3. Ag Plastic program collected 90 tons and has hopefully found a market.
4. Land use in SLC is in for a big change. More corn is being purchased for future bioenergy use, beef prices are high and cattle numbers are as low as in 1957. Many farmers are talking about selling in SLC.

## **V. SWCD Reports**

### **A. Forester's Report – Howard**

1. The 2011-1 Sale had 3 bids with the winning bid of \$51,000 by 3B. This purchase amount exceeds our goal for the year. Low bid of three was only \$15,000.
2. A Temporary Revocable Permit was issued for using our road in a county forest. The job is done and the road looks good. Howard will inspect the site as weather permits.
3. As of 3/24, we have received 17 resumes for the Forester position. The date for the interviews is tentatively set for April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Stauffer, Hadlock, Parker and Andrews will conduct the interviews with Howard.

### **B. Technician's Report – Dulanski**

1. Dulanski attended the Small Digester Meeting at Clarkson University.
2. Attended a grazing meeting with ANCA and GLCI.
3. At the WQS, Dulanski attended CNMP classes.
4. RC&D meeting on grass pelleting was attended.
5. An Ag Value Assessment meeting was held with the County and Town Assessors in attendance.
6. Dulanski continues to attend the Soil Investigation class at SUNY Canton.

### **C. Secretary's Report - Sharpe**

1. Sharpe is continuing to learn her job and responsibilities.
2. Presently has been very busy processing tree orders and Erosion and Sediment Control training applications.
3. Attended the WQS and took some computer classes. Sharpe also will help develop a training for SWCD Clerks so that all offices are implementing the same accounting practices.

### **D. Manager's Report – Howard (Appendix E)**

1. SLC SWCD is doing an Erosion and Sediment Control training with Essex County SWCD's Dave Reckahn instructing the class. So far, 30 applications have been received.
2. Envirothon registrations are due by March 25<sup>th</sup>. Four schools are unable to attend this year.
3. Attended an Ag Value training with Dulanski at the County for the town assessors.
4. On March 11<sup>th</sup> helped with a RC&D Safe Chainsaw Workshop at CCE Learning Farm. 58 people participated.
5. Day at The Farm will be on October 1<sup>st</sup> this year at the Stauffer's Farm. Farm Bureau from St. Lawrence and Franklin County will be partnering on this.
6. Attended the WQS in Auburn. Howard attended classes on new fuel tank standards, TMDL, groundwater, and watershed planning. Also attended a Manager's forum.

7. Howard along with PH, has visited the site of a well contamination complaint in Lisbon. Also four complaints have come in on drainage, manure on the road, etc.
8. Two letters and checks were received from Ted Chang of Fremont Jackson LLC. re: payment for a wetland determination done by the SWCD. A long list of stipulations for cashing each check was attached. These have been turned over to the County Attorney. *A **Motion** was made acknowledging that we have received the letters with the checks and that they were forwarded to the County Attorney. We will no longer have any dealings with this person or firm in the future. The County Attorney will handle any and all further business in this matter. **Approved.***
9. Round 16 Contract has been received from NYS. Included in this grant is a person with an outstanding invoice for \$302.30 that has yet to be paid and that has been turned over to the County Attorney. *A **Motion** was made that no work will begin on this contract without the landowner putting their contribution to the project into a SWCD escrow account. **Approved.***
10. Howard attended the State SWCC meeting. A resolution was passed re Enhanced AEM. If you lose a staff planner, they will work with you to get a new planner on board and you will still qualify for some of the money.
11. *A **Motion** was made to pay the NYACD dues of \$1500. **Approved.***
12. A federal budget continuing resolution is in effect till 4/8. RC&D is in jeopardy.
13. Laing farm job out to bid.

## **VI. Old and New Business**

- A. The State Forest Management Plan including a wildlife corridor plan has been adopted. Walt Paul sent an email stating there are concerns surfacing. Looking at the bigger picture, we need to partner with other groups to show our views on these issues. The board recommended that we work with Paul to prepare a presentation to go to both local and State government representatives.

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

**VIII. Time and Date of Next Meeting:** April 21, 2011, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned:** 9:20 PM

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Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

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Date

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Tamme Sharpe, Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attachments: Appendices A-F