

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

Board Members Absent: Dan Parker.

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

Guests Present: Kent Frary, NRCS DC.

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. NRCS – Kent Frary

1. Funds were obligated for nine EQIP Forestry contracts with the help of Dulanski.
2. Certification and payment were made on an earth waste storage facility.
3. The approval was given on the construction of a concrete manure tank.
4. A third construction project is nearly complete.
5. The intern, S. Melin, has been working on 1026 from FSA for land determination is completely up to date.
6. A Wetland WRP Contribution on remote monitoring was submitted to see if a contract would be available to do off site monitoring for extra monies.

B. NYACD – Nichols and Decker

1. The summer NE NACD meeting is in August. Among the important issues is the Chesapeake Bay situation.
2. Decker is setting up a teleconference meeting for NYACD Division 3 to get some resolutions. They must be submitted by the middle of August.

C. AFPB - Andrews

1. Preparation continue for the BOL Ag Tour 8/19 at 1:00 PM. Commissioner of Ag & Markets, Daryl Aubertine has accepted the invitation to attend. There will be three stops which include Tom Lee's farm for grass pelleting, with an ag plastic baler demonstration there also. At the second stop, Shawn Spellacy and Jim Sheenan will demonstrate tile draining in a field. The last stop will be Bob Zufall's organic dairy farm to see his intensive grazing practices.

2. The Listening Session for the 2012 Farm Bill with Senator Gillibrand, scheduled for July 7, 2011 at Bob Andrews' farm, was postponed due to the Senate being in session. This event will be rescheduled.

V. SWCD Reports

A. Secretary/Assistant Treasurer's Report – Sharpe

1. Most of her time and effort has been spent on the 2012 Budget.
2. We have three outstanding checks from August 31, 2010, totaling \$1044.31 that have not yet cleared the bank. As per the County auditor, enough time has passed and this dollar amount will be added back into the main checking account as a refund of prior year's expense.
3. The Board needs to adopt a resolution before any record retention and disposal can be done. *A formal resolution for Records Retention & Disposition Schedule MI-1 was put forth. A motion was made and **Approved**.*

B. Technician's Report – Dulanski

1. Dulanski has been working on two grazing plans.
2. She has been busy attending training on AEM, Aquatic plants, grazing, and also RAPP meeting.
3. Dulanski also helped with the 2012 Budget.

C. Forester's Report – Martin

1. Parcel #26 dried out and logging has begun. The logger is pretty much on schedule.
2. Martin is working with two YCC crews on County Forest trails outside of Parishville and some ATV trails.
3. Martin is working on two private management plans.
4. In the last few weeks, training for AEM and Aquatic plants was attended, along with a RAPP meeting.
5. Postwood Park had squatters. Martin asked them to leave and will check to see if they exited the property. If not, law enforcement will be notified on the situation. The board agreed that the Sherriff should be notified and the new County Forest policy needs to be put into place.

D. Manager's Report – Howard

1. Notice of Claim received.
2. Discussion on RC&D and its future without federal funding.
3. Howard made a presentation to the BOL about the SWCD. Legislators Dan Parker, Scott Sutherland, Mark Akins, and Kevin Acres were in attendance.
4. Construction on Laing's covered barnyard and manure pad is now underway. The concrete manure structure at Wilson's will be starting soon.
5. Equipment
 - a) The No-Till Grain Drill has been moving. We have more farms interested for the months of August and September.
 - b) Two farms are waiting for the Ag Plastic Baler.
 - c) The County Highway Department is currently using the Hydroseeder.
6. RAPP Cornell staff will be demonstrating and training farmers on the use of the plastic baler at the County Fair.

VI. Old and New Business:

1. Bob Andrews received a call on the price charged for the No-Till Grain Drill rental. Andrews replied that the Board had discussed this issue and the amount that the SWCD charges will remain as is, for it is more than fair and reasonable.
2. Proposed 2012 budget was presented. Any reductions in County appropriations would necessitate a reduction in staff. Manager suggested clerical staff. Sharpe stated that she would not be open to working less than four days a week. Discussion followed. *Motion to submit the 2012 budget with level county funding Approved.*

VII. Correspondence: Mail was available for the Board’s review. (List of items in Appendix A).

VIII. Executive Session: Entered at 9:10 PM. The session ended at 9:37 PM. *In light of the current budget situation and discussion in executive session, a motion was made to terminate the Secretary/Assistant Treasurer position effective August 1, 2011. Approved.*

IX. Time and Date of Next Meeting: August 18, 2011, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

X. Meeting Adjourned: 9:42 PM.

Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

Date

Tamme Sharpe, Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

Date

Attachments: Appendix A