

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
For May 19, 2011, 7:28 PM

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

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

Guest Present: Kent Frary, NRCS.

I. Call to Order

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

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

IV. Reports

A. NRCS – Frary

1. Frary returned to work on May 16, 2011. EQIP functional reviews have been completed and are going according to plan. A liquid manure storage facility is already being built, and a covered barnyard is also moving forward. A functional review for a concrete waste storage system is almost complete.
2. Organic EQIP has extended sign up until May 20, 2011.
3. WHIP is waiting for final pre-approval.
4. WRP has several projects ongoing throughout the county.
5. NRCS has hired two summer interns, one for WRP to help with the monitoring of projects, and the other will be working with Kent Frary.
6. At Bob Andrews request, Frary explained the EWP assistance program to the Board.

B. NYACD – Decker and Nichols

1. Decker received an email that three bills important to SWCDs were being held up in the Assembly EnCon committee. Decker will email the members of the Board the bill numbers and encourage each to call and email the Assembly members on these bills. *A motion was made to send a letter on behalf of SLC SWCD to our Assembly representatives about the importance of these three bills. Approved.*
2. Nichols reported that the North East regional meeting is up coming in August. A suggestion was made re the present flood waters and rain, and advocating why wetlands are important. Public service announcements about the current and future flooding would be a great learning opportunity.

C. AFPB – Andrews

1. Next meeting will be held on June 2, 2011. Board will be reviewing the Ag Districts as there are a lot of parcels potentially to be added.
2. The annual Legislator Tour is looking for ideas. Some thoughts are asking Double A Willow to do a presentation, visit a small organic dairy farm, and visit some reclaimed lands.

V. SWCD Reports

A. Forester's Report – Howard and Martin

1. Howard introduced Russell Martin to the Board as the new Forester. Martin's first day was May 16, 2011. His first few days have been filled with paperwork.
2. Martin has been out to visit many of the county forest parcels.

B. Technician's Report – Dulanski

1. Dulanski finished her soils class this week.
2. AEM Year 6 has been finalized and she is now working on AEM Year 7 grazing plans.
3. Dulanski has also been putting the finishing touches on the 2011 Snowmobile Grant. Again, there has been a lot of paperwork issues. During the discussion about the grant, Andrews asked if we should make a recommendation on a new Trail Coordinator. *A motion was made to send a letter to the County Legislators in support of a Trail Coordinator. Approved.*

C. Secretary/Assistant Treasurer's Report – Sharpe

1. The Triploid Grass Carp sale continues.
2. Sharpe also gave Dulanski a hand with the Snowmobile Grant paperwork.
3. Sharpe has started to clean and organize the storage room down in the basement.

D. Manager's Report – Howard (Appendix A)

1. Howard presented the Board with a picture of the Golden Winged Warbler.
2. A second tractor trailer load of plastic was sent. Plastic was loaded by Shawn Spellacy at Cooperative Extension and brought to the loading dock at Walldroff Farm and Equipment Center. After being loaded on the tractor trailer, the plastic was headed out west to be made into Terrewalk sidewalk pavers. Lindsey Smith said she would take all the plastic we could get her. Smith will also take boat plastic wrap along with others. AFPB will put on their agenda to push the Ag Plastic Baler, getting this knowledge out to the public informing them that there is now a market for recycling this ag plastic.
3. RC&D has contracted with Linda Gibbs to act as interim coordinator for 16 hours a week until the end of June.
4. Marilyn Stephenson called to inform us of slight modifications to the Contribution Agreement. *A motion was made to accept the contract with the modifications. Approved.*
5. Howard received a bill from Flanders for a seaweed mat. The total is \$302.01 and should be paid out of the Black Lake Invasive Species Account. *This motion was approved.*
6. The North Adirondack Regional Envirothon was held May 12, 2011 with Potsdam Central and Parishville-Hopkinton Central tying for first place. Parishville-Hopkinton Central will represent St. Lawrence County at the NYS Envirothon on May 25th and 26th.
7. In 2010 a Forestry accounting glitch made SLC SWCD look like we made the county all kinds of money and in 2011 we will look just the opposite. This was due to a \$125,000 snowmobile voucher being counted as money received in the prior year and not showing that it would go right out as soon as it came in this year.

8. Army Corp of Engineers has made contact with SLC SWCD and is doing a blanket permit for emergency work. The water levels are still too high to evaluate the damage caused. If needed, St. Lawrence County can be added to the permit in the future.
9. Civil service exams for Technician and Forester will be offered in February and March of 2012 respectively.
10. The presentation given by Walt Paul was excellent. Nichols will create a resolution to be presented at the next board meeting for approval.

VI. New Business: Staff received an inquiry re windmills. Morrill questioned the placement of windmills on county property as an income generator. He suggested working with real property to get some answers on the compatibility with potential DEC restrictions on land use. This could be an alternative source of energy as well as income.

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

VIII. Time and Date of Next Meeting: June 16, 2011, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

IX. Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 PM

Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

Date

Tamme Sharpe, Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

Date

Attachments: Appendices A&B