

**ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Gerald Morrow. Chairman Morrow welcomed Ben Leerkes to the Board of Directors.

Attendance: Board members – Gerald Morrow, Dave Blades, Ike Tyler, Anna Reynolds and Ben Leerkes; SWCD – Alice Halloran, Lois Sayward, Amy Calkins, Daniel Berheide; Guests – Phil Siarkowski

**MOTION** to accept the May 16<sup>th</sup>. 2019 minutes was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**Correspondence** – Alice passed around some correspondence for the directors to review.

**Chairman’s Update** – Chairman Morrow moved a Resolution in appreciation and congratulations to Karl teRiele for his many years of service on the Essex County SWCD Board at the Essex County Board of Supervisors meeting, which was unanimously seconded, and carried. Karl was unable to attend the meeting to accept the plaque. Ben offered to deliver it to him.

**Secretary Update (Lois)** – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 1)

**MOTION** to accept the June update was made by Reynolds, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**District Manager Update (Alice)** was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 2)

**MOTION** to accept the June update was made by Tyler, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

**Technician Update (Amy)** was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 3)

**MOTION** to accept the June update was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried.

**Technician Update (Olivia)** was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 4)

**MOTION** to accept the June update was made by Blades, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

**Technician Update (Daniel)** – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 5)

**MOTION** to accept the June update was made by Reynolds, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Training** – The District Law Training will be presented at the end of the meeting, time permitting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **AgNPS Round 24 Contract #C701356** – **MOTION** to approve signing of the AgNps Round 24 Ben Wever Covered Barnyard Contract #C701356 in the amount of \$76,000.00 was made by Reynolds, seconded by Blades, and carried.
- **Surplus Rogue** – Before declaring the Rogue surplus and ready to go out to bid, the board would like more information on the blue book value of the Rogue, and what we are looking to replace it with and prices on a new vehicle. This will be tabled until the next meeting.

- **Civil Service Test Results** –The Civil Service test results will be tabled, and discussed in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.
- **Part B Funding Award** – The District received notice they were successful in completing the Part B project with the \$6,000.00 financial assistance received. **MOTION** to approve the Part B project award was made by Reynolds, seconded by Tyler, and carried
- **AEM Rubric** – The District will be eligible to receive up to \$100,00.00 for approved projects for the next two years. Alice would like some input on how to prioritize how the money will be used. Watersheds, algae bloom, farmers who are not receiving grant money currently, are just a few ways the District could use this money in the county. The board directed Alice to come up with a list, and send it to them before the next meeting to review.
- **Irrigation Water Management Training** – Alice would like permission to send staff to Cobleskill August 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> for an Irrigation Watershed Management Training. The training is free, but meals and lodging would have to be paid by the District. **MOTION** approving sending staff to the Irrigation Water Management Training in Cobleskill August 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> was made by Tyler, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **Resolutions for AgNps** – Applications are due at the end of July to submit AgNps Round 25 grants. Alice would like permission to submit applications for three farms in this round. **MOTION** to apply for AgNps Round 25 grants for up to \$150,00.00 each for Essex Farm, Asgaard Farm, and Bluepepper Farm for agriculture management systems was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried.
- **Year 15 AEM Contract** – **Motion** to sign the AEM Year 15 Strategic Plan Implementation Contract #TO12036 was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried.
- **Rain Barrel Workshop** – Workshops have been held in the past, and a donations were accepted towards the price of assembling a rain barrel. It was decided that a discount should be given to attendees of a workshop towards the purchase of a rain barrel. **MOTION** to charge a \$25.00 discount towards the purchase of a rain barrel if attending a workshop, and \$50.00 if not attending a workshop was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.
- **DISTRICT TREASURER**
  - A. Financial reports were presented to the Directors (Appendix 6)  
**MOTION** by to accept the June report as presented was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.
  - B. Bills due for payment were presented to the Board for approval. (Appendix 7)  
**MOTION** by Tyler to accept the June bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

### **COOPERATING AGENCIES**

NRCS Report – (Appendix 8)

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 9)

### **OTHER**

**MOTION** to go into Executive Session at 7:50 a.m. to discuss Personnel was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried.

**MOTION** to return to the meeting from Executive Session at 8:00 a.m. was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried. No minutes were taken.

**MOTION** to appoint Alice Halloran as permanent District Field Manager was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**MOTION** to appoint Amy Calkins as permanent Conservation District Technician was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**MOTION** to appoint Daniel Berheide as permanent Conservation District Technician provisional upon a six-month probationary period starting 6/20/19 was made by Reynolds, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

District Law Training was given by Alice Halloran, District Field Manager.  
All members of the board were present for the PowerPoint.

**Next Meeting – July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 7:30 a.m.**

**MOTION** to adjourn was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

Attachments: Appendix 1 - Secretary Updates (Lois)  
Appendix 2 – District Manager Updates (Alice)  
Appendix 3 - Technician Updates (Amy)  
Appendix 4 – Technician Updates (Olivia)  
Appendix 5 – Technician Update (Daniel)  
Appendix 6 – Financial Reports  
Appendix 7 – Bills for Approval  
Appendix 8 – NRCS Report  
Appendix 9 – NYSSWCC

Submitted by:

Lois Sayward  
Secretary to the Board