

**ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
July 21st, 2016**

Meeting was called to order at 7:27 a.m. By Chairman Morrow.

Attendance: Board members – Gerald Morrow, Dave Blades, David Holland, Ed Gardner, Karl teRiele: SWCD – David Reckahn, Lois Sayward, Tiffany Pinheiro, Laura Benedict: NRCS – Sarah Trumbull

MOTION to accept the June 16th, 2016 minutes was made by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried.

Correspondence – Dave passed around some correspondence to review.

Chairman’s Update –Chairman Morrow passed on condolences to Lois for the loss of her father.

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

MOTION to accept the July update was made by Blades, seconded by teRiele, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the July update was made by Gardner, seconded by teRiele, and carried.

Conservation Technician Update (Tiffany) was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 3)

MOTION to accept the July update was made by Holland, seconded by Blades, and carried.

Conservation Technician Update (Laura) was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 4)

MOTION to accept the July update was made by Blades, seconded by teRiele, and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **ROGUE IS HERE – BIDS FOR FORD FUSION** – The 2016 Nissan Rogue has been delivered. Three bids were received for the surplus 2009 Ford Fusion and e-mailed to the board prior to the meeting to review. The bids were as follows: (Appendix 8)
 - Michael Brenish - \$4,101.00
 - Darren Dickerson - \$3,625.00
 - Nick Halford - \$3,466.00**MOTION** to accept the high bid of \$4,101.00 submitted by Mike Brenish was made by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried.

- **NO TILL DRILL** – The No Till Drill has arrived and been set up. Essex Institute (Essex Farms) will be hosting a Pasture Walk this weekend at two local farms in Essex County. Essex SWCD is planning on taking the drill to the Pasture Walk to let the farmers know it is available. Chairman Morrow asked for more information on the event. Dave will forward the e-mail he received to the board.

- **AG NPS ROUND 20 CLOSEOUT** – The sign-off from the engineer has been received for the Mace Chasm Farm Ag NPS Round 20 closeout. The district received 25% up front and will send in a request for the balance of 65% of the project. There are two other farms included in this grant, which will need to be moved forward on.

- **WQIP ROUND 11 & 12** – Round 11 is in the process of being closed out. Dave is trying to get a project completed in Buena Vista Park in Willsboro. The county has a project in the Town of Jay they would like to utilize the money for stornwater management issues. The Ticonderoga Park project will be finished as soon as they receive their new excavator to complete the project.

- **LCBP PROJECTS** – The district is working on many Lake Champlain Basin grants. Some need to be closed out as soon as possible. Two CWICNY grants have been closed out. Essex SWCD is working with Washington County SWCD on a stream training grant that needs to be closed out by August 15, along with

a small WQCC Organizational Support Grant. All paperwork needs to be submitted by September 1st. Dave is waiting on a permit from APA for the Boquet River project. The fund for the project is \$20,000.00, and Dave doesn't want to have to lose it.

NEW BUSINESS

- **AG NPS ROUND 22** – Essex SWCD was awarded \$167,901.00 for Essex Farms. It ranked third in the state. The partnership with NRCS helped with the application. The plan of work is due August 16th. Sarah has offered to help with the plan of work. **MOTION** to move forward with the application was made by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried.
- **BUILDING AC & ELECTRICAL** – The technicians have an air conditioner in their office. Lois has been using the air conditioner in the meeting room when needed. Cooperative Extension has offered an extra air conditioner to put in Lois's office. Anita put in a dedicated line for their copier, and feels another line should be put in Lois's office for the copier. Since it is a county building, the feelings were to mention it to the county. The county has been assessing the building.
- **WQIP ROUND 13 APPLICATIONS** – The Upper Hudson Coalition has submitted two applications. One is for aquatic organism passage to install culvert replacement on River Road in the Town of Schroon. We are asking for \$38,500.00 to upgrade to an 8-10' culvert. The other grant is for the North Hudson Beach, which has an issue similar to the Town of Keene. Essex SWCD will bring the channel back to the form it needs to be in. Both grants allow for \$5,000.00 in personal services for the Soil and Water District, and \$5,000.00 - \$10,000.00 in kind services. We have commitment from both towns for the use of equipment for the in kind. **MOTION** to apply for both grants was made by teRiele, seconded by Holland, and approved. The other WQIP potential application is to put in two culverts in Keene, and other town culverts. Essex SWCD will be a partner in this application. Community Resources will do the application, and we will partner with the DPW, Nature Conservancy, and AuSable River. Dave is working with a landowner in St. Armand to do a stream stabilization grant. He has to work with her to see if she will go ahead with it. The application is due next week, and Dave would like permission to apply if the landowner is willing. **MOTION** to apply for the stream stabilization grant in St. Armand through SWCD was made by Gardner, seconded by Holland, and carried.

DISTRICT TREASURER

- A. Financial report was presented to the Directors (Appendix 5)
MOTION by to accept the July report as presented by Holland, seconded by Gardner, and carried.
- B. Bills due for payment were presented to the Board for approval. (Appendix 6)
MOTION by Blades to accept the July bills for approval, and pay as such seconded by teRiele, and carried.

Dave mentioned Laura's technician exam is scheduled for September 10th. It is on the county website.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

NRCS Report – Sarah Trumbull was present to give a report.

NYSSWCC Report – (Appendix 7)

OTHER

There was no other business to come before the board.

Next Meeting – August 18th, at 7:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Attachments: Appendix 1 – Secretary Update (Lois)
Appendix 2 – District Manager Update (Dave)
Appendix 3 – Conservation Technician Update (Tiffany)
Appendix 4 – Conservation Technician Update (Laura)
Appendix 5 – Treasurer’s Report
Appendix 6 – Bills for Approval
Appendix 7 – NYSSSWCC Report
Appendix 8 – Vehicle Bids

Submitted by:

Lois Sayward
Secretary to the Board