

**ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

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

Attendance: Board members – Gerald Morrow, David Holland, Dave Blades, Karl teRiele, Ike Tyler, SWCD – Dave Reckahn, Lois Sayward, Kurt Oehlbeck; NYSSWCC – Brian Steinmuller

**MOTION** to accept the April 26<sup>th</sup>, minutes was made by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried.

**Correspondence** – Dave passed around some correspondence for the Directors to review.

**Chairman's Update** – Chairman Morrow said the permanent home for Essex County SWCD will be in Lewis. A new addition for Community Resources and Essex County SWCD will be built in Lewis at the DPW site. Ike and Dave R. will continue to look into the grain building for a temporary location.

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

**MOTION** to accept the May update was made by Holland, seconded by teRiele, and carried.

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

Dave introduced Brian Steinmuller, Assistant Director for the Soil and Water Conservation Committee for New York State, also Acting Regional Coordinator in Region V. Brian will give an update later in the meeting on state programs and funding available. Chairman Morrow thanked him for coming to the meeting.

**MOTION** to accept the May update was made by Holland, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

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

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

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

**MOTION** to accept the May update was made by teRiele, seconded by Holland, and carried.

**Conservation Technician Update (Amy)** was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 5)

**MOTION** to accept the May update was made by Holland, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **SUMMER INTERNS** – Jonathan Leff resigned after working just shy of two weeks. Kurt Oehlbeck started this week, and has been working out good. Olivia Dickinsen will be starting May 30th. The summer education intern has declined the position. Dave had other candidates for that position he will contact.
- **CRF** – The District was awarded a Round 3 Climate Resilient grant. The local farm has a great project including water management, ponds, irrigation. There is a possibility another one of our grants may be awarded through Round 3. The Round 2 Climate Resilient grant is moving right along. An invoice has been submitted. We are waiting for verification it has been paid before approving payment from the district.
- **AgNPS** – Round 20 15-2 is complete. Round 20 15-1 Keeseville Farm will need to meet with engineer and complete project. Asgaard water system was approved, but not completed in the time

frame. The project has increased in size. Round 22 payments made. \$1,000.00 balance to be used towards vegetated treatment area. This grant should be closed out by the end of the summer.

- **BUILDING** – Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- **SCHROON RIVER** – A project request has been received from the town with Schroon Lake concerns. The Army Corp of Engineers will be coming up to look at it. US Fish and Wildlife and Trout Unlimited has put time and money into the area of concern. A survey has been requested from Trout Unlimited, and John Braico for additional work. Dave would like to send employees to work for a couple of weeks to help out. It would be an excellent opportunity for the staff to learn stream restoration from John Braico.
- **RRAMP** – Moving along with the projects. Memorandum of Understandings have been signed and coming in to the office. Dave will be on the agenda for the June 6<sup>th</sup> state meeting for Cornell Local Roads.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **AIR CONDITIONERS** – Installing portable air conditioners in the windows had been discussed last year, and turned down. Three portable air conditioning units would be needed to cover all offices. The units would belong to Soil and Water, and could be moved to another building when the time comes. **MOTION** to approve purchasing three air conditioning units at a maximum cost of \$450.00 was made by Holland, seconded by Tyler, and carried. Ike questioned where the money would come from for the purchase. There is money in the budget for office equipment. Dave B. questioned why it was voted down before, and thought it was electrical. The electrical issues will have to be checked out first before a purchase is made.

### **DISTRICT TREASURER**

- A. Financial report was presented to the Directors (Appendix 6)  
**MOTION** by to accept the May report as presented by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried.
- B. Bills due for payment were presented to the Board for approval. (Appendix 7)  
**MOTION** by Tyler to accept the May bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by teRiele, and carried.

### **COOPERATING AGENCIES**

NRCS Report – (Appendix 8)

NYSSWCC – Brian Steinmuller was present to give a report. He wanted to get up to Essex County, and meet with the board. He updated the board on many topics including Climate Resilient Funding, AEM, state funding available now, and state aid becoming available, reporting Part C, roadside ditches, upcoming meetings, trainings, etc. His report was very informative.

### **OTHER**

Dave introduced Kurt Oehlbeck to everyone. Dave wanted to discuss the plastic baler the district borrowed from Clinton County SWCD. Dave has contacted the farmer regarding getting the baler back with no results. He will not return it. The board directed Dave to make one more request, and if it is not returned to call the sheriff and let them handle it.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION** to move into Executive Session at 8:14 was made by Holland, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**MOTION** to move out of Executive Session at 8:48 was made by Blades, seconded by Holland, and carried. No minutes or resolutions were taken. Personnel Policy was discussed.

**Next Meeting – June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 @ 7:30 a.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

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

Submitted by:

Lois Sayward  
Secretary to the Board