

**ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
October 15th, 2020**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Vice-chairman Monty at the Westport Town Hall.

Attendance: Board members – Dave Blades, Anna Reynolds, Ben Leerkes, Jim Monty;
SWCD - Alice Halloran, Lois Sayward, Olivia Dickenson, Daniel Berheide, Harleigh Green

Excused: Chairman Ike Tyler

MOTION to accept the September 17th, 2020 minutes was made by Blades, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

Correspondence – The NYACD annual virtual business meeting October 21st information was passed around.

Chairman’s Update – No update.

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

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

Technician Update (Olivia) - was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 3)

Technician Update (Daniel) - was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 4)

MOTION to approve the above October board reports was made by Leerkes, seconded by Blades, and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Landowner Grant/Bid Information Sheet** – Alice will send out an updated one soon with changes.
- **October 17th Tire Collection Day** – The final 2020 tire collection day will be held in Minerva October 17th. It is open to all residents of Essex County.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Part B** – The Project Title for the 2021 Part B funding request is Essex County Non-Point Source Reduction Program. Projects throughout the county will include hydroseeding, sediment basin installation, drainage improvements, culvert replacement, rolled erosion, green infrastructure and more. **MOTION** to approve the 2021 Part B Conservation Project Financial Assistance request in the amount of \$6,000.00 was made by Blades, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **Port Henry Stream Study Contract** – The Port Henry Stream Study Contract in the amount of \$150,000.00 was mailed out prior to the meeting to review. **MOTION** to approve signing the Port Henry Stream Study Contract was made by Reynolds, seconded by Blades, and carried.

- **Moriah Culvert Grant Contract** – The NYS DEC WQIP Moriah Culvert Grant in the amount of \$249,375.00 was sent out prior to the meeting to review. **Motion** to approve signing the NYS DEC WQIP Moriah Culvert Grant in the amount of \$249,375.00 was made by Blades, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **Surplus 2017 Ford Truck** – **MOTION** to declare the 2017 Ford F250 Pickup surplus upon arrival of the new truck and advertise with Auctions International was made by Monty, seconded by Blades, and carried. The bid will be awarded at the November meeting.
- **Game of Logging** - Daniel discussed partnering with Essex County Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide Game of Logging training for loggers. This training will help to provide Level 1 & 2 certification and continued education credits. A fee of \$25.00 to \$50.00 will be charged to have commitment from the logger. The District will commit \$1,100.00 towards the training to come from Part C funding. The board all felt it was worthwhile since logging was such a dangerous occupation. **MOTION** to approve spending \$1,100.00 to provide Level 1 & 2 Game of Logging training with Essex County CCE was made by Leerkes, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **NYACD Annual Virtual Business Meeting** - Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- **Farmland Protection Board** - Alice felt someone from the Soil and Water District board should be on the Farmland Protection Board to advocate for farmers. Dave offered to become a member of the Essex County Farmland Protection Board as a representative from the Essex County Soil and Water Conservation District. Jim volunteered to contact the Board of Supervisors regarding the appointment. **MOTION** to appoint Dave Blades to the Farmland Protection Board as the Essex County Soil and Water Conservation District representative was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **Mine Reclamation Hydroseeding** – Alice was contacted regarding hydroseeding a mine closing in North Hudson, since they could not find anyone else to do the job. She wanted the boards opinion, since it was on private property. The board would like to see their APA and DEC permits. Jim would like to see the mining permit and will contact Supervisor Stephanie Dezalia to see what was going on with the mine and report back to the board before making a decision.

DISTRICT TREASURER

- A. Financial reports were presented to the Directors (Appendix 5)
MOTION by to accept the October report as presented was made by Blades, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.
- B. Bills due for payment were presented to the Board for approval. (Appendix 6)
MOTION to accept the October bills for approval, and pay as such was made by Leerkes, seconded by Monty, and carried.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

NRCS Report – No report.

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 7)

OTHER

Next Meeting – November 19th, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. at the Westport Town Hall

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 a.m. was made Reynolds, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

Attachments: Appendix 1 - Secretary Update (Lois)
 Appendix 2 - District Manager Update (Alice)
 Appendix 3 - Technician Update (Olivia)
 Appendix 4 - Technician Update (Daniel)
 Appendix 5 - Financial Report
 Appendix 6 - Bills
 Appendix 7 - NYSSWCC

Submitted by:

Lois Sayward
Secretary to the Board