

**ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES**

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Gerald Morrow.

Attendance: Board members – Gerald Morrow, Dave Blades, Anna Reynolds and Ike Tyler; SWCD – Alice Halloran, Lois Sayward, Olivia Dickenson, Daniel Berheide; NRCS - Tricia LaValley, Allison Holmes

Excused – Ben Leerkes

**MOTION** to accept the September 19th, 2019 minutes was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried.

**Correspondence** – Alice passed around some correspondence to review.

**Chairman’s Update** – Chairman Morrow reported he did not have an update. He has not heard anything regarding the Soil and Water budget request.

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

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

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

**MOTION** to accept the October update was made by Blades, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Drone** – Alice has done some research, but does not have enough information to feel comfortable making a purchase.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Forestry** – Alice contacted Gary Goff to see if he would be interested in working with the district providing forestry services. **MOTION** to hire Gary Goff as an Independent Contractor at the same compensation offered to Phil Siarkowski was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried. Alice will contact the board after meeting with Gary to let them know if he is interested in providing his services to the district.

Alice would like permission to go out to bid again for the Essex County Minerva parcel. **MOTION** to put the Essex County Minerva parcel out to bid and awarded at the November meeting was made by Tyler, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

- **2020 Approved Plan of Work** – The 2020 Approved Plan of Work had been sent out to the Directors and Ryan Cunningham to review prior to the meeting. Ryan made a suggestion which was added to the document. **MOTION** to approve the 2020 Approved Plan of Work was made by Blades, seconded by Tyler, and carried. The Plan of Work will be sent to the state and reviewed throughout the year.
- **Approved Action Plan for AEM Round 16 and AEM Cost Share** –The AEM Approved Action Plan for AEM Round 16 starts January 2020 and ends December 2021. The Plan was passed around for the directors to look at. The program is the same as in the past, but the timing has been changed to line up with the calendar year, and the \$100,000.00 cost share has been added to implement projects. \$130,000.00 Technical Assistance will be reimbursed upon completion of the work with farms. **MOTION** to approve the AEM Round 16 Action Plan and the \$100,000.00 cost share was made by Tyler, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **Regional Division Meeting** - The 2019 Division 5 and 6 meeting will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 at the DEC Region 5 office in Warrensburg. All Directors and staff are invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with partner updates and presentations from the DEC staff on invasive species. Lois will e-mail you the information with the details. Please let her know if you plan on attending.
- **Training ESM Course** – Alice requested permission to attend a roadside maintenance and erosion course in Pennsylvania November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. She was awarded a \$500.00 education scholarship to be reimbursed upon completion of the course. This course will cost \$700.00 or more. **MOTION** to allow Alice to attend the ESM training in Pennsylvania November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> was made by Tyler, seconded by Blades, and carried.

#### **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 Tyler, and carried.
- B. Bills due for payment were presented to the Board for approval. (Appendix 6)  
**MOTION** by Tyler to accept the October bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

#### **COOPERATING AGENCIES**

NRCS Report – (Appendix 7) Tricia LaValley was present to give her report.

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 8)

#### **OTHER**

Alice would like to put Chris McIlroy on hold for the payroll. He has not been able to come in as much as he had hoped, but she would like to wait a little while before removing him from the direct deposit payroll.

**Next Meeting – November 21st, 2019 @ 7:30 a.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

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

Submitted by:

Lois Sayward  
Secretary to the Board