

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

April 16th, 2026

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Reynolds in the Westport Youth & Ag Building at 7:45 a.m.

Unless otherwise noted, votes on motions were unanimous.

Attendance: Board members Ben Leerkes, Tim Pierce, and Anna Reynolds, and Mike Davis. SWCD- Renee Clark, Alice Halloran, Technicians- Mathew, Meagan, Daniel and Noah. Ike Tyler was not in attendance and was excused. NRCS- Allie Holmes.

MOTION to accept the March 19th, 2026 Minutes was made by Leerkes, seconded by Pierce, and carried.

Correspondence – Alice provided the Board with an update regarding our Education Mini Grant Program. She also let the Board know that we were awarded funding from LCBP of \$10,000.00 to support furnishing our new office.

Farm Bureau Update- No report.

Monthly Updates

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

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

Technician Update (Daniel) was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 3)

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Davis, seconded by Pierce, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

Technician Update (Mathew) – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 6)

MOTION to accept the April update was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

PROJECTS- LARCH Planting Project- A **MOTION** to approve \$2,500.00 of our Part C funds for this planting project was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **New Office Furniture**– A **MOTION** to approve the purchase of office furniture up to \$5,000.00 was made by Leerkes, seconded by Pierce, and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Ag. Soil Group Worksheet Fees-** A **MOTION** to approve waiving the fee for customers requesting a soil group worksheet was made by Leerkes, seconded by Pierce, and carried.
- **LCBP Education Grant-** A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis and carried to close the CNB bank account for LCBP Education Grant Account.
- **AEM Round 19** - A **RESOLUTION** was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried to approve tier 4 implementation projects.
- **Hydroseeding Supplies quote-** A **MOTION** to approve the purchase of seed and mulch from Seedway at \$1.35 per pound for seed and \$23.50 per 50-pound bag for mulch, as well as fertilizer from Lawes at \$12.00 for a 30-pound bag was made by Davis, seconded by Pierce, and carried.
- **AGNPS 28 Amendment-** A **RESOLUTION** was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried to amend the budget category in AGNPS 28 to remove \$13,440.00 from Engineering to BMP category.
- **OTHER-** A **MOTION** to approve \$475.00 plus food & travel for Mathew to attend Wetland Training at Suny Cortland in July was made by Pierce, seconded by Davis, and carried.

District Treasurer

A. A financial report was presented to the Directors, (Appendix 7). A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes to accept the March report as presented, seconded by Davis, and a roll call vote was done with all in acceptance.

B. Bills due for payment in the amount of \$323,559.31 were presented to the Board for approval, (Appendix 8). A **MOTION** was made by Pierce to accept and pay the April bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by Davis, and a roll call vote was done with all in acceptance.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

NRCS – Allie was present to give report.

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 9)

NYACD- (Appendix 10)

Other Business-

With no further business and/or discussion to come before the Board a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 am was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

Next Meeting – Thursday, May 21st, 2026 at 7:45 a.m. at the Westport Youth & Ag. Building

Attachments: Appendix 1 - Secretary Update (Renee)
Appendix 2 - District Manager Update (Alice)
Appendix 3 –Technician Update (Daniel)
Appendix 4 - Technician Update (Meagan)
Appendix 5 - Technician Update (Noah)
Appendix 6 - Technician Update (Mathew)
Appendix 7 - Financial Report
Appendix 8- Bills
Appendix 9- NYSSWCC Report
Appendix 10- NYACD Report

Submitted by:

Renee Clark, Secretary to the Board