

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

February 20th, 2025

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tyler in the Westport Town Hall at 7:47 a.m.

Unless otherwise noted, votes on motions were unanimous.

Attendance: Board members Ike Tyler, Anna Reynolds, Mike Davis, Jim Monty. SWCD- Renee Clark, Alice Halloran Daniel Berheide, Noah Weber. NRCS- Allie Holmes. Ben Leerkes was not in attendance and was excused.

MOTION to accept the January 16th, 2025 minutes was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

Correspondence – Alice updated the Board with information on farms and Govt. funding.

Chairman’s Update – No report

Farm Bureau Update- No report

Monthly Updates

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

MOTION to accept the February update was made by Monty, seconded by Davis, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the February update was made by Reynolds, seconded by Davis, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the February update was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the February update was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

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

MOTION to accept the February update was made by Reynolds, seconded by Monty, and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **SWCD Policies** – A discussion was had about proposed changes for longevity and vacation leave. A **MOTION** to approve longevity changes as follows, was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried. Vacation leave was tabled.

completed years of service	payment amount	completed years of service	payment amount
2	\$125	10-14	\$1000
3	\$250	15-19	\$1500
4	\$350	20-24	\$2000
5-9	\$800	25 or more	\$2500

- **SWCD Policies** –A **MOTION** was made by Monty, seconded by Reynolds, and carried to approve reimbursement for up to a \$250.00 boot allowance and in addition up to a \$250.00 clothing allowance per year for each full time employee.

NEW BUSINESS

- **CRF 6** - A **RESOLUTION** was made by Reynolds, seconded by Davis, and carried to open a new bank account for CRF 6 grant.
- **CRF 7** - A **RESOLUTION** was made by Reynolds, seconded by Davis, and carried to open a new bank account for CRF 7 grant.
- **Conservation Aide Position**- A **RESOLUTION** was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried to approve the creation of a new position for Conservation Aide with Essex County Personal Department.
- **CNMP**- A **MOTION** was made by Davis, seconded by Monty, and carried to approve the cost and travel expenses for Daniel to attend class.
- **AGNPS 26**- A **MOTION** to approve the extension of the Essex Farm project was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **CRF 6 Bid**- The Mace Chasm Farm project received 2 bids from contractors which were both the same amount of \$210,000.00. The contractors were Prays's Quality Builders Inc, and P H Gucker Inc. A **MOTION** was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried to accept the bid and let the farm choose which contractor they would like to use.
- **CRF 5**- A **MOTION** to approve the extension of the Ben Wever Water Management project was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.
- **2025 Ford Truck Bid**- A **MOTION** to approve the bid for a new truck be put out to bid was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

District Treasurer

- A. A financial report was presented to the Directors, (Appendix 6). A **MOTION** was made by Reynolds to accept the January report as presented, seconded by Davis, and carried.
- B. Bills due for payment in the amount of \$59,510.97 were presented to the Board for approval, (Appendix 7). A **MOTION** was made by Monty to accept and pay the February bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

NRCS – Allie was present to give report.

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 8)

NYACD- No report

Other Business

With no further business and/or discussion to come before the Board a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 a.m. was made by Davis, seconded by Reynolds, and carried.

Next Meeting – Thursday, March 20th, 2025 at 7:45 a.m. at the Westport Town Hall

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 - Financial Report
Appendix 7- Bills
Appendix 8- NYSSWCC Report

Submitted by:

Renee Clark, Secretary to the Board