ONTARIO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
April 27, 2022
Minutes

*****Meeting held in-person at the Cornell Cooperative Extension (District Office) and remote via Go to Meeting*****

PRESENT:
DIRECTORS: Chairman Casella (in-person), Vice Chairman Ken Livermore (in-person), Ed Jackson (in-person), Rich Russell (in-person), Amanda Amadon (remote), Mark Venuti (remote – 4:46pm)

STAFF: Megan Webster (in-person), Diana Thorn (in-person)
USDA/FSA: None
NRCS: JoBeth Bellanca (remote)

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Casella called the regular meeting to order at 4:35pm and Rich led the pledge to the flag.

MINUTES

Chairman Casella asked for any comments, changes, or corrections to the minutes. The following motion was offered:

Motion that the minutes of March 16, 2022 be accepted as submitted.
Motion made by Ken Livermore, seconded by Ed Jackson.
All in favor, motion approved. (M. Venuti not present yet)
Resolution #20220427-01

BILLS

Motion to approve the bills as submitted and Abstract #4 in the amount of $129,347.64
Motion made by Ken Livermore, seconded by Ed Jackson.
Ken Livermore reviewed and signed the bills earlier today.
All in favor, motion approved. (M. Venuti not present yet)
Resolution #20220427-02

Motion to approve payment of two additional bills; Selective Insurance $2,219.00 and Meadowview $5,819.35.
Motion made by Rich Russell, seconded by Ken Livermore.
Ken Livermore reviewed and signed these bills as well.
All in favor, motion approved. (M. Venuti not present yet)
Resolution #20220427-03

TREASURER'S REPORT

Diana reviewed her treasurer's report with the Board, which includes the financial statements for March 31, 2022. Megan has reviewed and signed off on payrolls #6, #7, and #8, the March bank statements, and the reconciliation reports from QuickBooks. All bank accounts are reconciled successfully through March 31st. A spreadsheet was provided that shows the bills that appear in the Abstract listed with more detail and in their current status. The District Savings Certificate of Deposit matured and rolled over with $101,139.39.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report and March financial statements.
Motion made by Ken Livermore, seconded by Ed Jackson.
All in favor, motion approved. (M. Venuti not present yet)
Resolution #20220427-04

PRIVILEGE OF TH E FLOOR

Ed Jackson:

1. Ed commented that the Key Events submissions are always good.
2. Ed shared that he attended 3 of the virtual Water Quality Symposium sessions and found them to be excellent. He called WQS a great educational opportunity and stated that he was very impressed.

***Mark Venuti entered the meeting at 4:46*

NRCS

JoBeth Bellanca

JoBeth started by explaining the three county team (Livingston, Yates, and Ontario) and shared that she is hopeful to re-establish local working group meetings sometime this summer. She asked if OCSWCD was interested in participating. Megan stated that she would find these meetings useful in helping her understand what is going on in the surrounding counties and with NRCS.

EQIP – They are getting ready to make a payment on a large manure storage project.
They are also paying out on some cover cropping.
They have several new contracts in Ontario County.

CSP – They have 3 applications ready to be submitted.

EWP – Extensions were obtained for several projects including the Honeoye Outlet/Mill Creek area project.

Annual Civil Rights Training – JoBeth will provide links for the Board to review.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was going around the room and it was distributed electronically.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Megan Webster, District Manager Report

Megan reported that the Farm Bureau has recommended Jim Malyi to replace Jim Peck on the Board. She has submitted a resolution to the Ontario County Planning and Environmental Quality Committee for review. If the resolution clears PEQ it will go to the full Ontario County Board of Supervisors.

Megan reported that the 2022-2023 State Budget includes a funding increase for conservation efforts. Most notably, SWCDs received an increase from $11 to $14.5 million dollars that will likely be seen in an increase in Part C funding. Additionally, grant programs like CRF, AgNPS, WQIP, and FLLOWPA are likely to see increases.

Grants & Projects Updates

CAFO Landmark

Megan reported that the Farm is collecting final paperwork for procurement and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled soon.

AgNPS Round 23

Megan reported that NRCS is finalizing payment for the Half Dutch Manure Storage Project. Bills have been received from the farm for reimbursement. A closeout visit is scheduled with PJ Emerick on May 12th. Once we have the final number from NRCS we can close out AgNPS Round 23 with NYS Ag & Markets.

Motion to approve final payment to Half Dutch Farms not to exceed the contract amount of $185,184.00 for the AgNPS Round 23 Manure Storage project.
Motion made by Amanda Amadon, seconded by Ed Jackson.
All in favor, motion approved.
Resolution #20220427-05

AgNPS Round 28

Megan reported that staff are currently working on 4 applications. The applications are due May 2nd.

CRF 6

Megan reported that staff are working on two applications. These applications are due May 16th.

Great Lakes Commission Cover Cropping Grant

This grant is held by Yates SWCD and the District is committed to installing 1,050 acres of cover crops on farms in the Seneca Lake Watershed by September 30, 2024. Tucker and Katie have been coordinating with several farms for this grant.

Watershed Cover Crop Implementation Funding

Funds from the Oceans and Great Lakes Initiative are being offered through NYSDEC to install cover crops throughout the Finger Lakes Region. All farms in the Finger Lakes Watersheds within Ontario County will be eligible. A meeting will be held at Yates County SWCD on May 4th to review the grant details.

FLX EBM - Watershed Program Erosion and Sediment Control Implementation Grant

Megan reported that we were notified recently that Hemdale Farms was awarded $25,000.00 in funding for an erosion and sediment control project. The project is tentatively scheduled for installation in fall 2022.

AEM Year 17 Implementation Projects
Megan reminded the Board that the District has 3 active Year 17 implementation projects.

Battle Estates - this project has been installed with only minor stabilization work remaining.

J Minns – Tucker and Katie plan to attend the preconstruction meeting in May.

The Livestock Exchange – this project is planned for 2023.

NYSDEC WQIP Round 17
Megan reported that the final contract has not yet been received for the roadside stabilization project in the Town of Canadice. The District has received confirmation that the contract can be back dated to May 2021 although reimbursement will not be processed until the contract is executed. The Town of Canadice has a materials cost estimate of $15,120 for needed Flexamat. The District could offer to reimburse the Town for this purchase now so that they can move forward and then be reimbursed by the state once the contract is executed. The Board expressed approval for this plan.

Seneca Lake Pure Waters – Sediment Nutrient Pollution Reduction Grant
Megan reported that two projects were submitted requesting the full $10,000 each. One project, a streambank stabilization project in the City of Geneva was awarded partial funding ($5,000). This amount is not sufficient to fund the project. The City of Geneva will be looking into legal aspects of the project and the City and the District will continue to consider additional funding options. The project, if fully funded, would be scheduled for 2023.

OTHER
Leopold Award
Alaina is working with Lawnhurst Farms to write and submit an application before the May 27th deadline.

Envirothon
Seneca, Yates, and Ontario Counties worked together to hold a regional Envirothon on April 21st. Ten teams competed and the winners will represent our region at the NYS Envirothon on May 25th and 26th at Hobart William Smith Colleges in Geneva. The District will be hosting a field trip for advisors and District staff will be volunteering at the event.

Tree & Shrub Sale
The tree sale was very successful this year.

NYS DEC 4hr Erosion & Sediment Control Course
The District hosted the 4 hr course on April 14th. 34 people attended.

Vehicle Update
Both Chevy Colorados are here. Both have been registered and insured. Auctions International will be here May 12th to photograph the 2017 Chevrolet Silverado and the 2019 Nissan Frontier, and then post both for auction.

OWTSIT Update
Bergmann is working with the County to upload their updated version of the OWTSIT program to a County server. Once the program is uploaded, staff will have the opportunity to work with it and

submit recommendations for final updates and changes. We are hopeful that staff will have access in early May.

Approvals
The District would like to purchase the following items:

Display materials for outreach events (retractable banner and table runner) not to exceed $400
AEM brochure printing not to exceed $300
Logo items not to exceed $500
Stand up desk unit
Office desk chairs
Septic inspection mirror (WI to reimburse)

Motion to approve purchase of: Display materials (retractable banner and table runner) not to exceed $400, AEM brochure printing not to exceed $300, Logo items not to exceed $500, Stand up desk unit, Office desk chairs, Septic inspection mirror (WI to reimburse).
Motion made by Ed Jackson, seconded by Rich Russell.
All in favor, motion approved.
Resolution #20220427-06

Ontario Wayne Stormwater Coalition
The Coalition would like to purchase promotional items. The District may have to make the initial purchase and the Coalition will reimburse the District at their June meeting.

Motion to approve purchase of promotional items including chip clips and coloring books. (OWSC to reimburse) not to exceed $3,200.
Motion made by Ed Jackson, seconded by Ken Livermore.
All in favor, motion approved.
Resolution #20220427-07

Upcoming Events
Ag Agency Offerings Presentation: May 3rd - Megan will present with CCE and FSA. This is an opportunity for the Ag community to learn about our organization.

Sustainable Shorelines Presentation (Lake Friendly Living Series): May 12th – Alaina will do presentation.

Rain Barrel Workshop (Lake Friendly Living Series): May 17th – Alaina will lead this event for Seneca County.

Tire Recycling Event: Town of Seneca May 14th - Diana is taking registrations now. Katie is working the event.

NYS Envirothon: May 25th & 26th - several staff members will be volunteering.

Soil Health Workshop: We will partner with Yates County SWCD to offer an outdoor workshop in mid-July.

Chairman Casella shared some insight into his work on the NACD Farm Bill Task Force.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn at 5:25pm.
Motion made by Rich Russell, seconded by Ed Jackson.
All in favor, motion approved.
Resolution #20220427-08

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Diana Thorn, Secretary/Treasurer to the Board