

# FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 9am  
Ag Service Center, Malone, NY

## Directors:

Dave Dunn, Ralph Child  
Bill Wood, David Vincent  
Paul Lauzon

## Staff:

Chastity Miller  
Karen Armstrong  
Allycia Leach, Kristin Ballou

## Other Agencies:

Tricia LaValley

Meeting began at 9:00am-Quorum present. Called to order by Bill Wood

- 1.) Approval of last board meeting minutes January 24, 2017 and February 24. 1<sup>st</sup> D. Vincent, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, **approved**, All in favor Carried.
- 2.) Chastity conducted NY State Aid to Districts Training for all board members except Carl Sherwin and Tom Derouchie. Paul Lauzon also received District Law Training prior to the board meeting.
- 3.) Financial Reports:
  - a.) Financial Reports were reviewed and **approved** 1<sup>st</sup> D. Vincent, 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Child; all in favor-carried.
  - b.) Abstract and Vouchers were reviewed and **approved** 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Vincent, all in favor-carried.
  - c.) Permission to transfer. \$202.97 from regular checking to T/A account for monthly employee retirement, \$1500.00 from regular checking to retirement savings, \$3,000.00 from regular checking to computer account, \$45,000.00 from regular checking to computer, **Approved** 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Vincent, all in favor-Carried
- 4.) Oath of office and training plans were presented to R. Child who was absent at the last meeting and signed.
- 5.) Tricia- NRCS (present)
  - FY2016: 2 Livestock waste project completed 1 to go to construction FY 2017. EQIP high tunnels and CAPS continue and 2016 RCPP contracts are ongoing.
  - GRP: 2 projects are ongoing
  - CRP: 1 project is ongoing and 7 applications that will begin once the weather turns nicer
  - AMA: 5 high tunnel applications were taken
  - FY2017 Round 1: 2 livestock waste applications have gone to review before they will be obligated. 3 EQIP applications are waiting for obligation, 9 EQIP have been obligated and 3 RCPP applications have been obligated.Jennifer-FSA (report provided)
  - Organic Certification Cost Share Program applications will start to be taken on March 20<sup>th</sup>. This will cover up to 75% of the cost producers pay for their certification up to \$750.00
  - NAP: Deadline to purchase 2018 coverage is May 1, 2017
  - Disaster Programs are ongoing.Bob Brower- NYS SWCC, Ag and Markets- (report provided)
  - Ag NPS Rd 23 deadline is March 31, 2017
  - District Operations manual has been revised. Districts are now able to view and make comments before it is final.Kristin
  - Helped put together applications for AG NPS RD 23
  - Submitted RCPP reimbursements for 2016
  - Submitted application for NAACC Culvert inventory
  - Plan on attending CWICNY and helping with tree sale
  - Working on getting RCPP information out and quarterly reporting done

Allycia

- Updated boards for public outreach
- Updating AEM Tiers and organizing them
- Attended WQS
- Help finish Ag NPS Rd 23 applications
- Will continue to update AEM information and start to meet with landowners
- Will be helping with tree sale

Karen:

- Yearly sales tax collected was paid
- Attended WQS
- Keeping up with tree orders
- Getting everything ready for NARE
- Working on final touches with the personnel policy
- Meeting with insurance companies to transfer our liability policy to a new broker.

6.) District Managers Report:

- Submitted urban forestry grant
- Working with County on resiliency grant
- Attended WQS
- WMP Salmon River: completing the paperwork to close out the grant
- Updating Mining plans for local landowners.
- Ag NPS Rd 19-23: Working on completing final paperwork to submit to the State
- Ag NPS Rd 20: Landowner is working with planner to update plan.
- Ag NPS Rd 23: Getting ready to apply for 5 applications with 6 farms involved.

7.) Correspondents: Grassroots, North Country Ag Advisor, Cornell Local roads program, Tioga Co. Soil and Water, Forestry Suppliers, Career Track, Fred Pryor Seminars, American Farmland Trust, Part C letter from Ag and Markets, NYACD

8.) New Business:

- Pre Approval requested from Karen
  - o Expenses for three sale and pick up \$700.00 for trucking and hotel. 1<sup>st</sup> D. Vincent, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Dunn all in favor; carried
  - o Computer for District Manager discussed, approval for purchase up to \$2,000.
- Programs for Part C Funding:
  - o Possible cistern systems or other green water saving and improvement assistance for schools in the county
  - o Forestry program to help landowners who may not qualify through RCPP
  - o No-Till Drill program: Looking to do a cost share program with landowners for cover crops. Would like to put out to bid a no-till drill. D. Vincent will speak with Chastity on what the District should be looking for in a no-till drill and it will go out to bid. 1<sup>st</sup> D. Vincent, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor; carried
  - o Discussion on a Drone and the use of it in our grant projects, invasive species mapping and planning, cleared fields for farmers for ag assessments and organic applications. Approve to purchase a drone and iPad for up to \$3,500.

9.) Old Business:

- NYACD: Tabling at the current time

**Next meeting will be on Tuesday April 25 @ 7pm at the Ag Service Center.**

Meeting Adjourned at 120am 1<sup>st</sup> D. Dunn, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Vincent, all in favor-carried

Respectfully,

Karen Armstrong/ Chastity Miller  
Secretary/ District Manager