

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
FCSWCD Office, Malone, NY

Directors:

Bill Wood
Ralph Child
Paul Lauzon
Thomas Derouchie

Staff

Chastity Miller
Kristin Ballou
Donna Wright
Devin Normandeau

1. Meeting began at 12:04 p.m. - Quorum present. Meeting called to order by Bill Wood, Chair
2. Bill Wood, Chair began meeting with accolades to Chastity and Devin for receiving the 2023 Wm. F. Crony Award & the 2023 Heroic Award. Congratulations to both!!
3. February 21, 2023 Board meeting minutes – Tabled until next meeting for proper attendance to approve
4. **Financial Reports (Donna):**
Financial Reports were reviewed, discussed, and approved:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd R. Child; all in favor, **carried**.
Abstract and Vouchers: were reviewed, discussed, and approved
Motion: 1st R. Child, 2nd T. Derouchie; all in favor, **carried**.
Transfer of Funds: were reviewed, discussed, and approved for the following:
Requested permission to transfer the following for the month of **March 2023**:
 - \$ 1,015.94 from Reg Checking to T/A account for monthly employee retirement (March 2023)
 - \$ 2,000.00 from Reg Checking to Retirement savings (April 2023)
 - \$97,500.00 from Checking to RRAMP & Forest Rds #1 (when money is r'cd. from NYS Ag/Markets)
 - \$ 216.35 from NARE to Reg CheckingMotion: 1st R. Child, 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
5. **Reports (Chastity):**
NRCS – No report provided this month
Administration: Tricia is Acting District Conservationist. Call her anytime. Work cell phone: **518-605-2508**

FSA

Tree Assistance Program (TAP) – contact FSA for details

ELAP-Honey Bees – contact FSA for details

Emergency Relief Program (ERP)Phase 2/Pandemic Asst Revenue Prg: Signup through June 2nd.

Price Support Interest Rates for April 2023 were given

Farm Loan Program Interest Rates for April 2023 were given

FSA office is open with staff present to assist by phone, email or in person

NYS Ag and Markets (Ryan)

NYS SWCC News

- New Executive Director-State SWCD Committee – Bethany Bzduch. Congratulations!
- Climate Resilient Farming Prg Rd 7 - \$15M available, questions: Jennifer.clifford@agriculture.ny.gov by 6/5/23. Applications due by 4:30pm - 8/7/23 on SharePoint <https://nysemail.sharepoint.com>
- AgNPS Rd 29 - \$13.5M available, Questions: bethany.bzduch@agricultural.ny.gov by 5/22/23. Applications due by 4:30pm – 6/26/23 on SharePoint.
- SWCC Meeting - April 26th 10AM
- Interim Reporting – AGNPS (Rd 21-13), CAFO WSTSP (Rd & Rd2), CRF (Rd-Rd4), MUST be submitted by 5/1/23. Submit to appropriate Prg Mgr and cc your AEA and Maureen.Irish@agriculture.ny.gov)
- AEM Leopold Conservation Award 2023 – Deadline is 5/27/23.
Info: <https://www.sandcountyfoundation.org/uploads/NY-CFN-23.pdf>
- Share Your SWCD Project Success Stories – forward to your Regional AEA

Other Events

- Webinar: On-Farm Biogas System Opportunities, Increase Farm Sustainability with Biogas Production - 4/13/23
- Webinar: Using the Riparian Opportunity Assessment in Project and Resiliency Planning – 4/21/23 1-2PM
- 2023 NYS Wetlands Forum Annual Conference - Niagara Falls on 4/25 & 4/26.
Register: <http://www.wetlandsforum.org/registration.html>
- 2023 NACD Northeast Regional Conference: Save the Date – 9/17/23 in Portland, ME

Other Funding Options

- Great Lakes Sediment & Nutrient Reduction Program: Applications due 4/21 by 5PM
<https://www.glc.org/work/sediment/apply-2023>
- NRCS Funding Opportunity for Resource Conservation Partners in NY: Applications due 4/27.
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=New+york&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Kristin (District Forester)

AEM

- Working on Forest Conservation Plans - working on plans over the coming months based on 2022
- Continuing implementation of plans with EQIP funding for 3 producers
- Meeting with more producers with maple operations interested in this program;
- Assisting Clinton County SWCD with AEM Forestry – 1 more to complete based on 2022 inventory
- AEM 17 Impl Projects - working with producers to complete projects; 2 complete, 1 in progress, 3 waiting
- Assisting Hamilton County with AEM Program development.
- Assisting Washington County with Silvopasture Planning

Part B - 2023 4 Forest Management Plans

Part C - 2023 projects - School Funding Program

- ADK Education - Maple sugaring equipment
- Brushton - Add'l grow towers for farm to school program
- Chateaugay - Expanding raised beds and growing capacity
- Malone Central - seedlings for Arbor Day handout, raised beds & materials to establish gardening club at St. Joe's Elementary
- Saranac Lake - Outdoor learning, water quality monitoring, macro-invertebrate sampling/identification

Tree Sale – 2023 complete, will be ordering trees in July for 2024 Tree Sale

Devin (District Technician)

AEM

- Tier 3a:
 - Forest Mgmt Plan finished, met with landowner
 - 2 Farmstead Plans, meeting with farmers
 - Silvopasture Plan & Grazing Plan still being reviewed
 - Soil sampling approximately 72 acres

Part B

- 1 completed, meeting with landowner

Tree Sale

- Packed fruits and trees

Conservation in the Community

- Brushton Moira School Career Day Fair

Donna (Secretary to the Board)

- Continue to perform office administrative duties as requested/required; will keep operations progressing.

6. **District Managers Report: (Chastity)** **Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants**

- Round 24, 16-1– extension approved, working on bids
- Round 25, 16-3 – Project is a go, getting bids
- Round 25, 16-1 – done working on close out paperwork.
- Round 26 – Year 2 complete, planning for Year 3.
- Round 27 – Contract received.
- Round 28 – Contract paperwork received, signed and returned to State.

CAFO Manure Storage Grants Round 3: Extension approved, completing engineering.

AGNPS Rd 29 & CRF Rd 7 Applications approving resolutions today, working on plans, have list of potential applications

AEM Yr 17: Third project well underway; 3 for this construction season. Devin's working on applications for next round and planning his attack.

WQIP Grants: awarded 2 grants for Non-Ag money from NYSDEC (1 Hydroseeding in County; 1 planning culvert assessments). Work plans complete back at NYSDEC for approval.

Malone Rec Park: working with Rec Park for parking lot NYSDOS grant. Will work on extension next summer. Asked Blue Mountain Engineering for an estimate on the planning. No movement on grant. Approval received for buffer in a bag from NYSDEC; waiting for those to come so we can plant them. Need to work on permit for that shoreline area.

Village of Malone-Lane Street Pit: Received mining permit need to work on the reclamation update.

New Truck: still investigating the purchase of a new truck; sold the Equinox on Auctions International

Drone – sale approval; shipped to new owner

Permit: working on permit for Bannon's.

Tree Sale: Done...all did an amazing job!!

NARE: working on getting everything ready for 5/4/23 and working on the State Envirothon.

District Tech Position: Advertised position.

Intern Position: Would like to get approval to advertise for an Intern. We've had some interest.

7. **Correspondences**: Clinton Cty SWCD Spring 2023 Newsletter, NYACD letter dated 3/31/23, NACD Membership letter for 2023

8. **New Business**:

- Board approved the following Part C School Assistance Funding Projects:

- Adirondack Education \$2300
- Chateaugay Central \$1700
- Malone Central \$1500
- Saranac Lake Central \$1500

Motion: 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd R. Child, all in favor, carried.

- Board approved to **pay Renewal Fee for USPS Permit # for \$290.00**:

Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, carried.

- Board approved **Resolution No.2023-R29 dated 4/18/23 Authorizing participation by the FCSWCD in AGNPS Abatement/Control Program created pursuant to section 11-b of NYS SWCD Law (Round 29)**:

Conflict of interest was discussed, and the list of potential applicants was presented by Chastity Miller.

Motion to approve list and applying for the grants: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd R. Child, all in favor, (D. Egan/S. Gokey not in attendance at Bd Mtg, they have a Conflict as a potential applicant, not in attendance). Motion carried.

- Board approved **renew Trident Ins. policy with King Clark Insurance, not to exceed \$7,000, expecting 10-15% increase this yr.)**:

Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd R. Child, all in favor, carried.

- Board approved **pay Tucker Farms Inc for CWICNY Cover Crop Grant in the amount of \$1,799**:

Motion: 1st R. Child; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, carried.

- Board approved to **Resolution No.2023-CRF7 dated 4/18/23 Authorizing participation by the FCSWCD in the Climate Resilience Funding (CRF) Round 6**:

Conflict of interest was discussed, and the list of potential applicants was presented by Chastity Miller.

Motion to approve list and applying for the grants: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, D. Egan/S. Gokey not in attendance at Bd Mtg, they have a Conflict as a potential applicant, not in attendance). Motion carried.

- Board approved **pay Device Magic, not to exceed \$1,100 for 3 devices:**
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon: 2nd R Child, all in favor, carried.
- Board approved to **advertise for and Hire an Intern position:**
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon: 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, carried
- Board approved to **hold the contract for CWICNY Coordinator position:**
Motion: 1st T. Derouchie: 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, carried.

9. **Old Business:** none

10. **Next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**

11. **Meeting Adjourned** at 1:28 p.m.
1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Wright / Chastity Miller
Secretary / District Manager

DRAFT