

# FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, July 18, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room or via Zoom  
FCSWCD Office, Malone, NY

## Directors:

Bill Wood  
Ralph Child  
Steve Gokey  
Dennis Egan  
Paul Lauzon  
Ed Lockwood

## Staff

Chastity Miller  
Donna Wright  
Kristin Ballou (via Zoom)  
Devin Normandeau  
Mason Stine (via Zoom)

1. Meeting began at 11:59 a.m. - Quorum present. Meeting called to order by Bill Wood.

2. June 18, 2022 Board Meeting minutes - Discussed and approved with changes,  
1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan: all in favor, **carried**.

### 3. Financial Reports (Donna):

Financial Reports : reviewed and approved: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan; all in favor, **carried**.

Abstract & Vouchers: reviewed and approved w/changes: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Child; all in favor, **carried**.

Transfer of Funds: reviewed and approved for the following:

Requested permission to transfer the following for the month May:

- \$ 336.68 from Reg Checking to T/A account for May 2022 NYS Ret Emp Cont.;
- \$ 2,000.00 from Regular Checking to Retirement savings Yrly. Ret Dues (June 2022);
- \$ 225.00 from Regular Checking to Equipment/Hydroseeder
- 1<sup>st</sup> E. Lockwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> S. Gokey, all in favor, **carried**.

### 4. Reports (given by Chastity):

NRCS - No report provided this month

FSA (open and staff present to assist producers by phone, electronically or in person by appt)

Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops (FSCSC): Sign ups have begun for 2022

2022 Cty Committee Election: Nominations due 8/1 for area Rep in Burke, Chateaugay & Brainardsville.

Organic Certification Cost Share & Organic Transitional Education Certification Program: due 10/31.

2022 Acreage Reporting: Deadline 7/15.

Price Support Interest Rates for July 2022 were given.

Farm Loan Program Interest Rates for July 2022 were given.

### NYS Ag and Markets (Ryan)

General Updates: Governor extended suspension of in-person meeting until 8/13.

NYS SWCC News: SWCC meeting – next meeting 7/26 at 10am;

SWCD – Landowner Funding Agreements: must be submitted when requesting BMP implementation Payment

Reminder of Open Funding Opportunities:

- NYS Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Rd 18
- Source Water Buffer Program:

### Other Events

- Open Meeting Law: Virtual training 7/21 10:00 am to 11:30 am
- 2022 NY Soil Health and Climate Resiliency Field Days: 7/20 Sullivan Orchards in Clinton County, 7/25 Thompson Research Farm and 7/25 Eastern NY event at B&B Crop Farm

### Other Funding

- NYS Water Quality Improvement Program: open through 7/29
- NOAA Funding, Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal: proposals must be received by 8/15.

### Kristin (District Forester)

#### AEM

- Working on Forest Conservation Plans-working on plans based on 2021 & 2022 inventory data, setting up the rest of the inventories for 2022.
- Continuing implementation of plans w/EQIP funding for 2 producers & implementation with 1 producer outside funding.
- Meeting with more producers with maple operations interested in this program.
- Assisting Clinton County SWCD with AEM Forestry.
- AEM 17 Implementation Projects-working with producers to begin projects.

Part B - 4 Forest Mgmt Plans - 2022 4 Forest Mgmt Plans- 4 inventories complete.

Part C – 2022 Projects (no changes)

**Devin (District Technician)**

AEM

- AEM Rd 17-checking implementation projects;
- Completed 2 Forest Conservation plans;
- Received Tier 1's-planning site visits.

No-Till - 5 people rented the No-Till Drill. It is currently at garage with parts to be installed this week.

Invasive Species Monitoring

- Emerald Ash bores found in 3 traps; 1-Burke, 2 Chateaugay;
- Moving traps to new location;
- 2 more positive traps found 7/15.

Conservation in the Community - planted willow stakes for erosion control

**Mason (District Technician)**

Municipalities: Met with the Town of Franklin; began grant application.

Hydroseeder: Used by Towns of Dickinson and Fort Covington. Fixed hose nozzle valve and taillight. Cleaned and maintained both machines

Drone: Began drone courses, signed up for FAA Commercial License Exam in Burlington on 7/26

Conservation in the Community: Harvested willow stakes w/Essex Cty SWCD. Used tree climbing equipment to repel down river bank to stabilize willow stakes. Collected water samples

**Donna (Secretary to the Board)**

- Performed office administrative duties as requested or required; will continue to keep operation progressing.

5. **District Managers Report: (Chastity)**

Chas thanked all for completing District Law training.

Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants

- Round 24, 16-1– Extension approved, good until 2024. Update needed.
- Round 25, 16-3 – Update needed;
- Round 25, 16-1 – Year 2 complete; this is year 3
- Round 26 – Year 1 complete; now in year 2
- Round 27 – signed contract waiting to receive back

CAFO Manure Storage Grants Round 3 –Update needed.

CRF Rd 6 Applications – submitted 1 application for soil health; waiting on ranked list.

AgNPS – submitted 3 applications: waiting on ranked list

AEM Yr 17 – Contract received, 25% billed for technical and 90% for implementation. Requesting payments for projects under construction or completed today in New Business.

WQIP Grants awarded 2 grants for the Non-Ag money from NYSDEC (1 Hydroseeding in County; 1 planning culvert assessments). Working on contract for culverts. Next round up for application; Mason's working on culvert grant for Town of Franklin.

FCRTA- working on estimate for county to complete SEQRA and to assist with the county working with us pushing this together. Completed Phase 1 of the snowmobile. SEQRA was completed in Phase 1.

Malone Rec Park- soil sample taken, would like to do another. Planted willows. Meeting with them on 7/20.

Hydroseeding- a couple of jobs completed; the Town of Fort Covington just returned it. Mason is handling this.

NYSCDEA - Planning Admin Conference and assisting with NYACD conference/annual meeting also.

Mining Plans – working on 3 renewals. Lots of corrections and adjustments needed this year, but we are managing.

Ag District – adding about 1400 acres to Ag District. Public Hearing August 4<sup>th</sup>

Summer – Bus! Working on next year's Tree Sale ordering to be ahead and get trees we would like. Planted willow stakes in Constable and the Malone Rec Park

6. **Correspondences:** Grassroots-July 2022, NYACD 6/30/22 letter, NACD Membership renewal invoice, Thank you card from BMC FFA for staff who attended Ag Safety Day

7. **New Business:**

- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to spend no more than \$8,000 on Pre-orders for 2023 Tree Sale:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chastity requested of the Board to **pay Arnold Lobdell, no more than \$18,600, once NYS Ag/Markets approves the project and funding has been received:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey ; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried.**

- Chastity requested of the Board to **pay Pam Collins, no more than \$10,969, once NYS Ag/Markets approves the project and funding has been received:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon ; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to purchase Guides for the Fair booth, not to exceed \$250:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan; 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval to **pay Industrial Press \$583.00 for our Newsletter:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon; 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval to **extend AGNPS Rd 25 16-3 until 12/1/24:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> E. Lockwood; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to extend CAFO 3 until 12/1/24:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay Shelter Point (Disability Insurance), not to exceed \$500:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> E. Lockwood; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay FC Worker's Compensation, not to exceed \$2500:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> R. Child; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay American Society of Foresters (yearly renewal-Kristin), not to exceed \$150:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> R. Child; 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay, no more than \$600 for yearly QB's Enhanced Payroll:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> E. Lockwood; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay expenses for 4 staff to attend ConSkills in September, not to exceed \$2500:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> E. Lockwood; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay for 2 people to attend NYACD annual meeting in October, not to exceed \$1,000:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan; 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.
- Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay for 2 staff to attend Silvopasture Tour/Watkins Glenn in September, not to exceed \$1000:**  
Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.

8. **Old Business:** None

9. **Next meeting** will be on **Monday, August 29, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**

10. **Meeting Adjourned** at 1:04 p.m. Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Wright / Chastity Miller  
Secretary / District Manager