

# FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room or via Zoom  
FCSWCD Office, Malone, NY

## Directors:

Bill Wood  
Steve Gokey  
Dennis Egan  
Thomas Derouchie  
Paul Lauzon  
Ed Lockwood (via Zoom)

## Staff

Chastity Miller  
Donna Wright  
Kristin Ballou  
Devin Normandeau  
Ryan Cunningham – NYSSWCD Ag & Markets

1. Meeting began at 1:00 p.m. - Quorum present. Meeting called to order by Bill Wood.

2. May 31, 2022 Board Meeting minutes - Discussed and approved with changes,  
1<sup>st</sup> S.P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan: all in favor, **carried**.

### 3. Financial Reports (Donna):

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

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

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

#### NRCS

No report this month/No changes

Administrative: Tric is serving as Dist. Conservationist for Clinton/Essex/Franklin over the next 90 days. Work cell  
# 518-605-2508

#### FSA

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

Emergency Relief Program: Apply for Phase 1 at your local Farm Service Agency office.

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

2022 Acreage Reporting: Deadline 7/15.

Price Support Interest Rates for June 2022 were given.

Farm Loan Program Interest Rates for June 2022 were given.

FSA is open and staff are here to assist producers by phone, electronically and in person by appointment. Office #  
518-483-2850

#### NYS Ag and Markets (Ryan)

General Updates: Governor extended suspension of in-person meeting requirements of OML until 7/14.

#### NYS SWCC News

- SWCC meeting – next meeting June 21st;
- Director Training – Regional AEA available to present training modules to Bd of Directors.

#### Other Events:

- Training Opportunity-Seeking Competition in Procurement: 6/22 Webinar OSC Legal Division will offer legal requirements for competitive bidding
- 2022 NY Soil Health & Climate Resiliency Field Days:  
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7510609320095018509>

#### Other Funding Assistance

- NYS Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Rd 18-Conservation Easement Projects:  
<https://agriculture.ny.gov/land-and-water/rfa-0238-farmland-protection-implementation-grants-round-18-conservation-easement>
- NYS Great Lakes Small Grants Program:

<https://small-grants-program-ccegeomaps.hub.arcgis.com/>

- NYS Water Quality Improvement Program: Apply through 7/29.

### **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

- School Funding Program – notices were sent to all school districts
  - Brushton – Grow towers to provide greens to cafeteria
  - Chateaugay – raised beds for growing vegetables to benefit a variety of classes
  - Freedom School – Fruits & berries from tree sale
  - Malone – Pollinator friendly edible gardens at sugarhouse & conifer trees for student handout

Workshops – Forestry BMP & Skidder Bridge Workshop 6/2 Tupper Lake

### **Devin (District Technician)**

#### **AEM**

- AEM Rd 17 – checking tiling project & Petroleum storage project;
- Completed 1 forest inventory;
- Working on 2 Forest Mgmt plans.

#### **No-Till**

- 5 people have used the No-Till Drill
- Need to schedule a few others

#### **Invasive Species Monitoring**

- Traps set for Emerald Ash bores mainly in northeastern part of county;
- Will monitor every 2 weeks.

#### **Hydroseeding**

- Cleaned out the hydroseeder and assisted with a project.

#### **Training:**

- Attended: Argoforestry workshop, BMP workshops, AEM training in Clinton Cty and Champlain Basin Focus Group meeting. Assisted with Safety Day presentation at Brushton Moira Ctrl School.

### **Donna (Secretary to the Board)**

- Weekly: Submit Payroll, Deferred Compensation, IRS “Semi-Weekly” tax deposit;
- Submitted May NYS Tax monthly report/pymt, NYSLRS monthly report/pymt, reconciled May bank statements, then scanned them to FC Offices;
- Board Meeting prep: print reports, 2 mailings, typed minutes, posted minutes to website;
- Updating mailing list;
- Assisted customers/staff as needed & convey messages to all when out of office;
- Lots of water questions and mailed out some Soil Samples;
- Made regular bank deposits and ordered staff debit card;
- Fielding several calls from individuals to use the Hydroseeder and the No Till Drill, then call Ins. Companies for Cert of Liability for them to use our equipment.

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

Chas mentioned that Mason Stine, our new District Technician is now on board. He has already assisted with a hydroseeding project and will be meeting municipal supervisors next week as he will be working with them. He has been completing a lot of training and will be an asset to our team.

#### **Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants**

- Round 24, 16-1– Extension approved, good until 2024. Working on estimates. Concrete issues
- Round 25, 16-3 – Working on bids, received an updated engineering drawing;
- Round 25, 16-1 – Year 2 complete; this is year 3

- Round 26 – Year 1 complete; this is year 2
- Round 27 – signed contract waiting to receive back

CAFO Manure Storage Grants Round 3 –beginning to get bids together.

CRF Rd 6 Applications – submitted 1 application for soil health

AgNPS – submitted 3 applications

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

Malone Rec Park- soil sample, would like to do another, need to some fertilizer recommendations.

WQIP Grants awarded 2 grants for the Non-agricultural money from NYSDEC. (1 Hydroseeding in County; 1 planning more culvert assessments). Still waiting on contracts.

Hydroseeding-Hydroseeding has begun for the season with a couple of jobs completed.

NYSCDEA-Chas/Treasurer, but 4-hr Soil & Erosion Sediment Course now with Monroe County SWCD.

Mining Plans – working on 3 renewals. New coordinator now.

6. **Correspondences:** Grassroots-June 2022, NYACD Dues \$1500 Assessment Inv, Farm Bureau postcard: Summer Picnic, 7/19 6PM @ Chateaugay Rec Park, 5/30/22 NY Farm Bureau letter, 5/31/22 NYACD letter, 6/2/22 NYS Envirothon letter, 6/6/22 Fr Cty Coop Ext Fair Donor form

7. **New Business:**

- Chas requested of the Board approval for **support of upcoming Pollinator Workshop, not to exceed \$300.** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval for **First Aid Workshops – \$5,000:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan ; 2<sup>nd</sup> S. Gokey, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval for **Mason to obtain his Pesticide license - \$700:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval **for at least 4 staff to attend Con Skills Workshop - \$120:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval to **pay \$1500 to support NCF 2024 Envirothon held in NYS, balance due \$1500 will be discussed next year at a Board Meeting:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval to **make donation to Malone Fire Station for use of their facilities for workshops - \$200:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> D. Egan; 2<sup>nd</sup> T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried.**
- Chas requested of the Board approval for **support of RRAMP Training on 7/19, not to exceed \$500:** Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> S. Gokey; 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried.**
- **Other items considered:**
- NYACD Dues – will not be paid at this time.
- 4h Fair Donation –Discussed and determined that no donation will be made at this time.

8. **Old Business:** NYACD Assessment invoice will not be discussed again this year.

9. **Next meeting will be on Monday, July 18, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**

10. **Meeting Adjourned** at 1:59 p.m. Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> P. Lauzon, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, all in favor, **carried.**

11. S. Gokey and P. Lauzon motioned to **re-open meeting at 2:00 p.m.** per Board Chairman's request to **conduct District Law Training.** All in attendance completed training: Bd Members: B. Wood, D. Egan, T. Derouchie, S. Gokey, P. Lauzon and Staff members: C. Miller, K. Ballou, D. Wright and D. Normandeau.

12. **Meeting was adjourned** at 2:30 p.m. Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> T. Derouchie, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Egan, **carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Wright / Chastity Miller  
Secretary / District Manager