

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room or via Zoom
FCSWCD Office, Malone, NY

Directors:

Bill Wood
Paul Lauzon
Thomas Derouchie
Ed Lockwood

Staff

Chastity Miller
Donna Wright
Kristin Ballou
Devin Normandeau

1. Meeting began at 12:01 p.m. - Quorum present. Meeting called to order by Bill Wood.
2. July 18, 2022 Board Meeting minutes – Tabled until next meeting as proper attendance to approve is needed;
August 29, 2022 Board Meeting minutes – Discussed and approved:
1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie; all in favor, **carried**.

3. **Financial Reports (Donna):**

Financial Reports : reviewed and approved: 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie; all in favor, **carried**.

Abstract & Vouchers: reviewed and approved: 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie; all in favor, **carried**.

Transfer of Funds: reviewed and approved for the following:

Requested permission to transfer the following funds:

- \$ 357.70 from Reg Checking to T/A account for August 2022 NYS Ret Emp Cont.;
- \$ 2,000.00 from Regular Checking to Retirement savings Yrly. Ret Dues (September 2022);
- \$ 2,000.00 from Regular Checking to Retirement savings Yrly. Ret Dues (October 2022);
- 1st T. Derouchie, 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.

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

NRCS - (work cell number: 518-605-2508)

FY2022 EQIP: November 4th is new EQIP deadline for application!

Ongoing Projects: Construction ongoing on several projects. Surveys scheduled for newly obligated contracts.

Wetland Reserve Program: Monitoring complete. Any violations will be looked at this winter.

Food Security Act: All on-sites have been completed and producers will be receiving results in mail.

Administrative: I'm back to my Resource Conservationist position. Feel free to reach out anytime.

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

Dairy Margin Coverage: August 2022 is \$8.08.. 2023 calendar year signup expected to begin in October.

Agricultural Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage: Payments for 2021 contracts will be out soon. 2023 Crop Year signup expected to begin in October.

Acreage Reporting: deadline for 2023 crop year: Fall planted small grains is 11/15; Honey/Maple is 12/31;

2023 Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP): Signup is underway. Call for upcoming deadlines.

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

Farm Storage Facility Loans: Signup is underway. Call for upcoming deadlines

Price Support Interest Rates: for October 2022 were given.

Farm Loan Program Interest Rates: for October 2022 were given.

NYS Ag and Markets (Ryan)

General Updates: Governor extended suspension of in-person meeting until 9/12.

NYS SWCC News:

- New SWCC Program Analyst: Tyler Knapp from Cayuga Cty SWCD will be providing program & data analysis/GIS support to SWCC & Division of Land & Water Resources. tyler.knapp@agriculture.ny.gov Cell 315-730-0880
- Last meeting 9/20-SUNY ADK/Warren County, along w/presentation & tour of agricultural business program;
- Funding Opportunity: Implementation of AEM on NYS Grown & Certified Farms-\$1.4 Million: application due 10/24

2023 Plan of Work: due by 11/1;

State Aid to Districts:

- 2023 Part B Conservation Project Financial Assistance due 11/1 with projects to be completed by 12/31/2023
- 2022 Part C Performance Measures: Districts check obligations for meetings, training, training plans to earn all the funds that will be available.

Other Events:

- 2022 CDEA Admin Conference was held Sept 20th & 21st;
- Conservation Skill Workshop was held on Sept 26th-29th;
- FEMA Summer Engagement Series Webinar was held on 10/4.

Kristin (District Forester)

AEM

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

- Tier 2: 2 Site visits with 2 more planned this month;
- Tier 3a: Starting to work on grazing plans;
- Forest Inventory completed with 2 planned for this month;

No-Till: Used once in September;

Part B: Reviewed 2 Forest Mgmt plans with landowners; Implementation next year;

CWICNY: Implementing Cover Crop program;

Conservation in the Community – Assisting landowners with apple trees/forests.

Mason (District Technician)

Towns

- Town of Chateaugay: Began working on project to reroute a stream; met with EJ Prescott Rep; received 1 quote for materials & an engineering plan.
- Scheduled a meeting with Town of Franklin and their engineer to work on plan for a collapsing roadside..

Hydroseeder: Received 1 quote for materials for next year's hydroseeding..

Drone: Photographed eroding river bank where we placed willow stakes & plan to install more erosion control measures.

Invasive Species: Studied for Commercial Pesticide Exam to apply pesticides to eradicate Japanese knotweed

Forest Roads & Trails Erosion Programs: Assessed all sites in County; now working on deliverables and plan to fix Follensby-Clear Pond.

Donna (Secretary to the Board)

- Performed office administrative duties as requested or required; will continue to keep operations progressing.
- Working with vendors to switch over to all ACH payments, however some will not be able to participate
- Attended Admin Conference 9/19-9/21 in Syracuse.
- Assisted Devin transporting the No-Till Drill..

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

Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants

- Round 24, 16-1– Extension approved, good until 2024. Need to get an update;
- Round 25, 16-3 – Estimates & engineering going and extension approved;
- 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
- Round 28 – Looks like we many have been awarded one, but no official award yet.

CAFO Manure Storage Grants Round 3: Extension approved;

CRF Rd 6 Applications: Nope, planning for next round; have asked for a debriefing;

AEM Yr 17: Contract received, 25% billed (technical & 90% implementation). Working on paperwork for closeout on one of the projects. Waiting on approval to pay 1st one; waiting for bills from the 2nd one;

WQIP Grants: awarded 2 grants for the Non-Ag money from NYSDEC (1 Hydroseeding in County; 1 planning culvert assessments). Working on work plan for hydroseeding and completed the plan for culverts.

Submitted an application for 3 culverts in the Town of Franklin: Did NOT receive;

FCRTA: Tourism Dept to work on completing the GEIS; FCRTA to continue work on easements for multiuse trails. Waiting on MOU and payment;

Malone Rec Park: 3 soil samples taken, Planted willows, many missing. Helping with parking lot grant;

NYSCEA: Meeting 10/5 in Oswego;.

Mining Plans: slowly coming in from renewals;

Ag District:: adding a little over 1,000 acres to Ag District. Approved just finished the electronic files;

Conservation Field Days: Participated in 2 days at the 4-H Camp

6. **Correspondences**: Grassroots/Sept 2022, NYS Leg Report - NYS Assembly Committee-Environmental Conservation-Summer 2022, Empire State Granger-Sept/Oct 2022 Edition, 9/21/22 NYSSWCD letter-approval to extend Rd 25 AgNPS contract, Farm Bureau Annual Mtg 10/19 12:30 p.m. Cherry Knoll, Burke, NY
7. **New Business**:
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to accept 2023 Conservation Project Financial Assistance Request of \$6,000-Part B**:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board to **accept FCSWCD 2023 Annual Plan of Work**:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board to **pay October bill, when due as next Board meeting will be in November (date to be determined today)**:
Motion: 1st T. Derouchie; 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay 2023 Annual Farm Bureau membership, once bill is received, not to exceed \$150**:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval to **pay Word Fence (annual premium-license for website), once bill is received, not to exceed \$150**:
Motion: 1st T. Derouchie; 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay Malone Chamber of Commerce (annual membership renewal), once bill is received, not to exceed \$200**:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon; 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to submit Rd 3 application for NYS Grown & Certified**:
Motion: 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay Meadowview 25% of 2023 Tree Sale invoice, when received, not to exceed \$2500**:
Motion 1st P. Lauzon, 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested of the Board approval **to pay Nourse Farms 2023 Tree Sale invoice, not to exceed \$2500**:
Motion: 1st E. Lockwood, 2nd T. Derouchie, all in favor, **carried**.
 - Chastity requested approval **to order seeds for our 2023 Tree Sale, not to exceed \$2500**:
Motion: 1st T. Derouchie, 2nd E. Lockwood, all in favor, **carried**.
8. **Old Business**: None
9. **Next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.**
10. **Meeting Adjourned** at 12:55 p.m. Motion: 1st E. Lockwood, 2nd P. Lauzon, all in favor, **carried**.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Wright / Chastity Miller
Secretary / District Manager