

**Minutes of The Wayne County Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting July 13, 2011,
SWCD Office, Lyons, NY, 14489**

Directors:

Jody Bender
Bill Hammond
Tom Caprilla

Staff:

Lindsey Gerstenslager
Cathy Comfort
Terry Reynolds

Absent:

Steve Brownell
Bob VanLare

NRCS:

Emily Mombourquette

FSA:

Absent

Guest:

Laurie Verbridge

Call to order @ 9:12am

Secretary's Report:

A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the previous meeting by T. Caprilla second by B. Hammond; carried.

Treasurer's Report:

A MOTION was made to approve the treasurer's report by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

A MOTION was made to approve the bill's to be paid for July 2011 by T. Caprilla seconded by B. Hammond; carried.

NRCS Report

E. Mombourquette gave a report on the GLRI program; as of June 1 there are 10 applications that have been turned in to NRCS and the main focus for these applicants has been nutrient loading.

Irrigation money has come in from the state office of which NRCS currently has 25 applications on file for; they are hoping to get 1 or 2 funded.

E. Mombourquette stated that they have a new earth team volunteer that is starting with them today; she will be with them at least 1 day a week and is studying at FLCC.

NRCS has 2 WRP contracts that are progressing as planned and have proceeded to the next step.

FSA Report

No Report This Period; Lindsey reported that they are very busy as this is the time that they do their acreage reporting.

Staff Report

T. Reynolds gave an overview of where Round 15 contracts;

B. Manktelow; this is for an underground water control structure; this project is done and certified.

Albrecht; has 2 barnyard projects, the barnyard survey was completed last fall and the main survey was done recently. T. Reynolds expressed that he is getting a little stretched for time and B. Hammond asked what can be done to help him. T. Reynolds already explained that L. Gerstenslager has been in contact with Onondaga County to share services.

Galbraith; Survey complete and landowner has taken dairy off his project therefore T. Reynolds, L. Gerstenslager B. Jones and E. Mombourquette did a recent walk thru.

Huber; Roger Arliss submitted the low quote for this project and anticipate the start of it as early as next week.

Wolf (Maple Lawn Farms); about 2/3 complete, T. Reynolds has been checking on activity daily and keeping L. Gerstenslager apprised of the progression of this project which he believes will take approximately three more weeks to complete.

T. Reynolds went on to say that Round 16 has several farms lined up with the Mouton project design complete and certified.

J. Bender asked about the possibility of touring these farms. L. Gerstenslager explained that she has plans for this fall to do a tour with the Board and also reimplement awards to the farming community.

T. Reynolds also extended an open invitation for any day that he is working as he visits these projects daily.

L. Gerstenslager asked at this time to suspend the orders of the day to move ahead to the District Manager Report.

District Manager Report

L. Gerstenslager informed the Board that at this time we still do not have a signed contract from the County Attorney for the Harvesting Program, she has been in constant contact with the secretaries of that department and hopes to have it soon. L. Gerstenslager stated that this has not held up the reimbursement as vouchers have gone out for this program as well as drainage and both have been reimbursed however next year she will start the contracts earlier.

The new funds being made available by the county per County Resolution 413-11 are being put together into a new contract by the County Attorney's office. B. Hammond asked if they needed a new contract or is this part of the harvesting contract. L. Gerstenslager stated that she has a meeting with J. Marquette, County Administrator, on Friday to work out the details.

S. DeRue has obtained 3 quotes for replacement of the boat motor, 2 are for used and 1 is new. The board agreed that new is the best choice as it will have a warranty and the price difference is not that substantial. All 3 quotes are over the original amount approved at the June Board meeting so C. Comfort will be checking the state vendor listing for pricing options as well, and a motion has been made to amend the previous motion.

A MOTION was made to purchase a new motor not to exceed \$6,500 after checking state bid pricing and obtaining three written quotes by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

J. Bender inquired how the weed harvesting program is going, and the concentration of weeds. L. Gerstenslager answered that the harvesters are keeping up; however with the enhanced program it will allow the harvesters to remain in an area longer reducing the weeds more efficiently.

L. Gerstenslager further expanded on her plan of work with utilizing Cayuga County Commercial Weed Harvester's; extending work hours to include Friday's from 7-12 for the months of August and September and extending the season to the end of October instead of September.

B. Hammond expressed concern about the harvester's not being put away properly and that maintenance should be done prior to being put away not in the spring as has happened in the past. All were in agreement that maintenance is a necessary item for fall storage.

L. Gerstenslager advised the Board that a checklist for PM & Maintenance will be done this year as well as an inventory list.

B. Hammond asked if we need to obtain liability insurance for Cayuga County. L. Gerstenslager stated they are covered under their own insurance.

Conversation returned to the Enhanced Harvesting Contract award of \$50,000 from the County. T. Caprilla asked how this money will be received. L. Gerstenslager explained that we will voucher for this as we do for our other contracts. There was talk as to the possibility of placing the monies into our current harvesting contract, with the final decision to talk to J. Marquette County Administrator.

A MOTION was made to accept the monies from the county for the Enhanced Harvesting Contract in the amount of \$50,000 by J. Bender seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

L. Gerstenslager further reported to the Board the need for a new computer specifically one that will be the main computer dedicated to the website. L. Gerstenslager also explained that with a summer intern on board we are short one PC as well. It was asked if we would obtain the PC through the County IT department, which L. Gerstenslager stated yes.

A MOTION was made to approve the cost for a new PC not to exceed \$700.00 by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

The Board recognizes guest Laurie Verbridge.

L. Verbridge inquired if a press release will be made soon. L. Gerstenslager replied that one should be released by next week.

Approved Minutes for July 13, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting –

L. Verbridge wanted to thank the Board and express her happiness at everyone working together as stewards for the water. L. Verbridge at this time left the meeting.

A MOTION was made to proceed into executive session to discuss personnel matters by L. Gerstenslager seconded by J. Bender; carried.

A MOTION was made to return from executive session by B. Hammond

A MOTION was made to accept the recommendations of the personnel committee for midyear reviews as amended by T. Caprilla seconded by B. Hammond; carried.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at 9:00am at the SWCD Office Conference Room.

A MOTION was made to adjourn at 11:18am by B. Hammond seconded by J. Bender; carried.