

**Minutes of The Wayne County Soil & Water  
Conservation District Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting September 19, 2012  
SWCD Office, Lyons, NY, 14489**

**Directors:**

Steve Brownell  
Bob VanLare  
Bill Hammond  
Tom Caprilla  
Steve LeRoy

**Staff:**

Lindsey Gerstenslager  
Cathy Comfort  
Ron Thorn

**NRCS:**

Bill Jones  
Jim Legioia

**FSA:**

Absent

**Call to order @ 9:01am**

**Operational Business Report:**

**A MOTION** was made to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2012 regular meeting by T. Caprilla seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2012 finance meeting by T. Caprilla seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

T. Caprilla inquired about the balance in the Maintenance account and wondered if this account is to be utilized for the shop improvement. L. Gerstenslager and S. Brownell explained that the purpose of the Maintenance account was to help fund drainage projects, the Special Projects fund will be the one utilized for shop improvement.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the treasurer's report by S. LeRoy seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

On discussion of the August bills to be paid report, T. Caprilla asked about the Alpha Boats quote and where the District stands. L. Gerstenslager explained that the payment will be about the same as the quote.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the bill's to be paid for August 2012 by T. Caprilla seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

On discussion of the September bills to be paid B. VanLare inquired about the payment to the Prop Shop. L. Gerstenslager stated that the prop on the inspection boat had broken and this was the repair bill.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the bill's to be paid for September 2012 by BS. LeRoy seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

**NRCS Report**

See attached addendum.

B. Jones introduced Jim Legioia the New Soil Conservationist with NRCS that has joined our office.

**FSA Report**

Absent.

**Staff Report**

R. Thorn reported he has been working on Tier 3A's in anticipation of Ag NPS Rd 19.

AEM status is about 5 months thru, which is on schedule, and he has worked with T. Reynolds on some farms in anticipation of future grant funding.

R. Thorn handed out the listing of the Tier 3A farms; the ones highlighted in green are done. R. Thorn also handed out a map showing the area for Ag NPS Rd 19.

R. Thorn stated that the new pricing for Soil Group Worksheets is in effect as motioned at the last meeting and a few of the farms have filled out Tier 1 paperwork, he anticipates the number to increase as we get closer to tax season.

R. Thorn reported that he attended a 2 day training in Auburn sponsored by NRCS; this training helps with CNMP.

R. Thorn reported that he has passed his CCA and the application has been sent out. Congratulations to Ron on his success.

B. VanLare questioned if due to the poor economy has R. Thorn noticed any producers wanting to back out. R. Thorn reported that he had not really seen any change at this point.

R. Thorn reported that he had also spent a couple days out Hydroseeding with C. Hotto. L Gerstenslager stated that within 3 days grass was growing. L. Gerstenslager also stated that a total of 10 acres needs to be Hydroseeded to complete the grant.

**District Manager Report**

Policy Awareness Update: L. Gerstenslager reported that the EPA has put forth legislation on the Clean Water Act that would make Army Corp of Engineers would be in charge of all water, they are proposing to take the word navigable out of the current legislation. L. Gerstenslager explained the impact that this could have on the district including permitting and explained that she currently has 2 contacts at Army Corp.

B. VanLare asked if these bills are gaining support; L. Gerstenslager responded explaining that not in NY but in other watersheds and the American Farm Bureau currently has an E-Lobby available in opposition of this legislation.

S. LeRoy stated that the Town of Sodus has already passed a Resolution opposing the legislation.

L. Gerstenslager also reported that the DEC is reorganizing at all levels; this reorganization is not impacting the District at this time.

L. Gerstenslager reported that the SGEIS (Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement) final permitting for Hydraulic Fracturing is to be released soon and the impact on the District will not happen for 15-20 years. The impact on the District would be policy development and training.

L. Gerstenslager next reported on CAFO regulation change. The DEC is trying to meet needs of NY. L. Gerstenslager also reported that permitting may be changed from 200 animals to 300 animals.

L. Gerstenslager informed the board that yogurt and cheese operations are growing in NY and this could impact AEM in the future with more planning being needed.

L. Gerstenslager addressed the board that there has been a rise in permits and permit assistance and the District should look into the possibility of charging for this service; NYSDEC Stance on certain policies, Hydraulic Fracturing, and CAFO regulations will drive the necessity for this.

L. Gerstenslager informed the board nothing new has developed concerning the IJC just continuing discussions; if this legislation goes thru it will have a direct impact on the harvesting program as well as watersheds.

### **Old Business:**

L. Gerstenslager then turned to old business starting with the Briscoe Cove launch site. Currently the district is working with the Town. County Highway department is doing the design which is to be reviewed and then sent to the Town; after this is completed L. Gerstenslager plans on holding another community meeting. L. Gerstenslager further told the board that she has some reservations as there has been negativity with the residents the staff has received verbal attacks and L. Gerstenslager has received written attacks as well. The board expressed their understanding, but at this time advised to ignore all negative attacks.

L. Gerstenslager then talked about the Spiegel Drive access site and reported that she is having problems with planning for this access at the moment.

L. Gerstenslager reported that she also looked at the right of ways for AnnLee Drive as well.

L. Gerstenslager reported that the restoration of the harvester is on schedule and she should know more within the next 2 weeks.

L. Gerstenslager spoke on the shop improvement plan and that she has looked into 2 additional sites, but they have not returned her calls. The board talked and decided that they would go ahead with the restoration of the current building.

**A Motion** was made to proceed with restoration of the current building known as the “Shop” in Alton NY by S. Brownell seconded by Sl. LeRoy; carried.

L. Gerstenslager presented the board with the cooperative agreement between the WCSWCD and the Town of Williamson Watershed Management Advisory Council, see attached addendum.

**A Motion** was made by B. Hammond seconded by B. VanLare to accept the cooperative agreement as included in the packet for collaborative drainage and stream maintenance projects with the Town of Williamson’s Watershed Management Advisory Council as the terms state in the attached agreement and the enclosed scope of services: carried.

L. Gerstenslager presented the board with the cooperative agreement between WCSWCD and the OCSWCD for the Septic Program Bridge, see attached addendum.

**A Motion** was made by B. Hammond seconded by S. LeRoy to accept the cooperative agreement as included in the packet for the UPP (septic) program to work in collaboration with Ontario County SWCD for providing services by contract for the residents of Wayne County: carried.

**New Business:**

L. Gerstenslager passed around a correspondence folder for the board to review.

L. Gerstenslager also shared her 2011 Annual Financial Management Reflection & Analysis, see attached.

L. Gerstenslager then turned the discussion to the annual performance review, showing that she has simplified the procedure and time line, see attached.

Discussion turned to the possible trade in of the Chevy Silverado Truck known as “Big Blue”; it is a 2009 Chevy Silverado 2500 with 11,000 miles on it. L. Gerstenslager recommends trading this vehicle in on 2 smaller ones as the blue book value on this truck is \$20,000. B. Hammond recommends putting the truck out to bid.

**A Motion** was made to advertise for sealed bids on the sale of the 2009 Chevy Silverado with the minimum bid being \$18,000 and the district retaining the ability to reject any and all bids by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla: Carried.

The board then advised L. Gerstenslager that if sold to look at state bid pricing for replacement vehicle(s).

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that Secretary/Treasurer Cathy Comfort is taking the reservations for this year’s NYACD Conference.

Approved Minutes for September 19, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting –

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that there was no response to the recent ad for website design so she has contacted FLCC for an intern, FLCC responded and an interview with L. Gerstenslager and C. Comfort is set for Friday, September 21, 2012.

L. Gerstenslager presented the board with 2 job descriptions; first is for the District Environmental Educator PT and the second is for a District Technician FT.

**Other Business:**

L. Gerstenslager advised the board of the nominations of the 2012 Agricultural Steward of the Year; Mark Humbert: and the Conservation Farm of the Year; Scott Albrecht.

**A Motion** was made by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla to approve the 2012 Agricultural Steward of the Year; Mark Humbert: and the Conservation Farm of the Year; Scott Albrecht.

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that S. DeRue and she have been spending time on harvester planning and a lot of good ideas are being generated. The next meeting they will be making a plan to prioritize watersheds and from there they will work with technicians R. Thorn and C. Hotto to prioritize all programs.

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that S. DeRue and M. Walker visited the Ontario County Planning Department and viewed their 11 foot harvester; recommends to the board that the next harvester purchased be 11 foot. L. Gerstenslager spoke with the board and asked for their opinions going forward: overhaul boat 1 like boat 2 which would allow the district to have 4 boats going forward when new boat is purchased. The board advised that they would like to obtain specs on 11 foot boat.

**A Motion** was made by B. Hammond seconded by S. LeRoy for the authorization to obtain specs on new 11 foot harvester; carried.

L. Gerstenslager asked the board for assistance from Tom DeRue as consultant for assisting with the specs.

**A Motion** was made by S. LeRoy seconded by B. Hammond to inquire if Tom DeRue would be available to serve in the capacity of consultant for designing specs on 11 foot harvester; carried.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 18, 2012 at 1:00pm at the SWCD Office Conference Room

**A MOTION** was made to adjourn at 11:21am by B. Hammond seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.