

**Minutes Of The Wayne County Soil & Water  
Conservation District Board Of Directors**

**Regular Meeting – March 20, 2013  
SWCD Office, Lyons, NY, 14489**

**Directors:**

Steve Brownell  
Bob VanLare  
Bill Hammond  
Tom Caprilla

**Absent:**

Steve LeRoy

**Staff:**

Lindsey Gerstenslager  
Cathy Comfort

**NRCS:**

Absent

**Guests:**

Pat VanLare

**Regular Meeting**

**Call to order at 9:07am**

**Approval of the Agenda**

L. Gerstenslager stated that due to illness there would not be a staff report at this time:

**Acknowledgement of Guests**

Welcome Pat VanLare

**Operational Business**

**A MOTION** was made to approve the minutes of the February Meeting by B. Hammond second by T. Caprilla; carried.

**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 March 2013 by B. Hammond seconded by B. VanLare; carried.

B. VanLare inquired as to the cost effectiveness of Time Warner for phone service versus current provider Verizon. L. Gerstenslager explained that this is something she has been researching as Time Warner is our internet provider; however we have to look at how it will affect our partnership with NRCS and FSA as we have a multi-line system. S. Brownell also pointed out that during electrical outages phones will not work with Time Warner. Review on-going.

S. Brownell, B. VanLare and L. Gerstenslager attended the Managers conference at WQS and the discussion was brought up on different ways we may look at paying bills; review on-going.

**Staff Report**

None due to illness.

**Report from NRCS**

Absent

**Personnel Committee Report**

L. Gerstenslager talked to the board about the handout from last month outlining the two options that had been recommended by the Personnel Committee; she further urged the board to review these this month and would like to see a motion made during the April meeting.

**SWCD Report**

- Correspondence folder: No correspondence this month.
- Water Quality Symposium Recap:
  - o L. Gerstenslager and C. Comfort attended a program called Project WET, this was a “hands on” training program by the Worldwide Water Education Program that included several activities from their instructions book and will be useful in a train the trainer session for local teachers for water quality.
  - o B. VanLare gave a brief overview of his classes including the archival of historical photos that was filled with useful information.
  - o L. Gerstenslager also spoke of the managers meeting with the useful information that was shared between her peers.
  - o L. Gerstenslager stated the bulk of the employees attended agronomy training.
- Source Molecular: L. Gerstenslager explained that this is a company from Florida that does DNA testing of water molecules for fecal contamination. L. Gerstenslager recently participated in a webinar of this company and does not see a need for their service at this time as the district can use the DOH.
- Ag Advisory Committee: Minutes were included in BOD packets. L. Gerstenslager advised the board that there was good attendance at the meeting and the committee has agreed to meet four times a year. This committee will review T. Reynolds designs for Ag Grants and make recommendations to the board for approval thus providing better documentation of grants. L. Gerstenslager also stated that this committee will be charged with choosing the Steward and Farm of the year. L. Gerstenslager reminded B. Hammond that he is on this committee.
- County Ag Development Board: Nothing
- 2012 Audit: L. Gerstenslager passed out the report from Audit Firm, Bailey, Carr CPA, and explained to the board that there were no significant findings the audit basically states that we did well and there is only one journal entry that needs to be recorded. L. Gerstenslager had the board turn to page 17 of the report and gave a background as to how it is setup.

**A MOTION** was made to accept the 2012 Audit from Bailey Carr CPA by T. Caprilla, seconded by B. VanLare; carried.

- Ag NPS Round 19 Grants: L. Gerstenslager advised the Board that we were funded on an Ag NPS Grant Rd 19 that R. Thorn wrote that included four farms in Lower Garnargua Creek. S. Brownell asked approximately how much funding did the district receive, L. Gerstenslager advised it is approximately \$147,000 and she expects to start work on the grants in mid July thru August with contracts executed in December.

B. VanLare asked about a recent producer assistance call concerning well contamination. L. Gerstenslager explained that this was a dug well that was lower than a nearby pond and all reports had gone out with careful consideration for homeowners and producers being followed.

- Tree Sale & Tree Care Class, April 18, 2013: C. Comfort advised the board that the tree sale numbers were down from last year as expected as we are having a colder spring; however they are not down by much due to the increase in phone sales by credit cards. L. Gerstenslager advised the board that there will be a Tree Care Class given by a Master Gardner from CCE on April 18 from 5:30-6:30. L. Gerstenslager further explained that the district is providing this class as part of the Tree Program and has reserved the Fire Hall in Wallington for this. T. Caprilla asked if the district is selling blueberries and raspberries this year. L. Gerstenslager explained that we are not.
- ANS Grant Surprise: L. Gerstenslager explained to the board that due to a mismatch in figuring the contribution match the district has approximately \$5,600.00 left of the ANS Grant. B. Hammond asked if this money could be used toward weed harvesting, L. Gerstenslager explained that this is for education and had thoughts on working with Kaitlin Stewart on a calendar or other educational material. T. Caprilla stated that there is a weed that plugs up the Clyde River every year. L. Gerstenslager also stated that she would like to use some of the money for this year's hand harvesting on Maxwell Bay which will be held 3 weeks earlier this year.
- FWS Invasive Species Grant: L. gerstenslager explained to the board that this is a little premature as this grant has not been released yet but foresee it happening soon and would like a motion of support to write the grant.

**A MOTION** was made to support The District's participation in partnership with FLOWPA to apply for grant funding to support invasive species for Hydrilla. L. gerstenslager will write the material supporting this decision, in conjunction with current programming efforts for aquatic invasive nuisance control, this motion was made by B. Hammond, seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

#### **Other Business**

**A MOTION** Was made to establish a savings account at Lyons National Bank for the FLOWPA 10/11 Funding by B. Hammond, seconded by T. Caprilla; Carried.

**A MOTION** Was made to establish a savings account at Lyons National Bank for the FLOWPA 11/12 Funding by B. Hammond, seconded by B. VanLare; Carried.

B. VanLare asked about the drainage contract bids and who received them. L. Gerstenslager advised the board she will get them a copy of the opening bid list.

L. Gerstenslager asked the Board to approve the Drainage and Harvesting Contracts with Wayne County.

**A MOTION** was made to approve execution of the 2013 Drainage and Harvesting Contracts between Wayne County and Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District by B. Hammond, seconded by B. VanLare; carried.

L. Gerstenslager addressed the board on the needs of an educator position as just in the past week she has been approached by two scout troops and is spending Saturday teaching Soil Erosion at Chimney

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Bluffs to one group. The need for an educator has increased as schools have been calling and public awareness is also on the rise. B. Hammond asked if she has brought this subject up at the County committee meetings as it will mean an appropriation increase. L. Gerstenslager explained that at this time there is no increase in appropriation but the need for this position at least part time is great and the board may have to look at soft funding options. L. Gerstenslager will have a plan of work for next board meeting to show different funding options for this position and at this time will consider the position as temporary. T. Caprilla asked in the ANS Grant was a yearly grant; L. Gerstenslager explained that this was a three year grant ending in 2013.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 9:00am at the SWCD Office Conference Room.

**A MOTION** was made to adjourn at 10:45 am by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla carried.