

**Minutes of The Wayne County Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting April 18, 2012
SWCD Office, Lyons, NY, 14489**

Directors:

Bob VanLare
Bill Hammond
Jody Bender
Tom Caprilla

Staff:

Lindsey Gerstenslager
Cathy Comfort
Scott DeRue
Mike Walker

NRCS:

Absent

FSA:

Absent

Absent:

Steve Brownell

Guest:

Pat Cummings, Bailey, Carr CPAs PC
Pat VanLare

Call to order @ 9:02am

Meeting was run by Vice Chair B. VanLare in S. Brownell's absence.

A Move was made to suspend the orders of the day by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

Pat Cummings of the Certified Public Accountant firm Bailey Carr, CPAs, have concluded there audit of Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District for the year ending December 31, 2010. A copy of her presentation is added to the addendum. This is a preliminary and tentative notice upon final receipt of required documentation from the county attorney.

Next full audit is scheduled for calendar year 2012. P. Cummings stated it will be a little more difficult and expensive doing every other year as they will have to back into the previous year's figures. B. Hammond questioned doing an end of year verification on the odd years and if that will assist them as well as provide a backup source for the Secretary/Treasurer. P. Cummings stated that would be sufficient.

T. Caprilla requested the District Manager address the 2010 findings by the audit and report on the districts position of these findings.

Orders of the day restored at 9:45

Secretary's Report:

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

NRCS Report

Absent.

B. VanLare did want to add that there will be an upcoming conference call on the office of the future for NRCS. L. Gerstenslager will follow this up with PJ Emerick, Ontario County and CDEA.

FSA Report

Nothing to report at this time. L. Gerstenslager added they are very busy doing acreage reporting.

Staff Report

S. DeRue and M. Walker were in attendance to give an update of the AVC program and discuss with the board various options and decisions that have been reached during staff meetings. S DeRue explained to the board that the engine on harvesting boat #2 is dead and presented the board with three options.

1. Replace the engine with the engine from boat 1, this is an older boat but the engine is still working. Leaving 2 boats in the water and retiring 1 boat.
2. Replace with a brand new engine on boat 2, quote received and passed around, mechanic work to be done by Alpha Boats, the original designer of the machine; Leaving 3 boats in the water.
3. Replace with a used engine; do not have a quote, mechanic work still to be done by Alpha Boats; Leaving 3 boats in the water.

B. Hammond asked what happened to the engine as the boat is only 5 years old. M. Walker explained that driver inexperience and the fact that the boat specs are changed constantly keeping them experimental. B. Hammond then asked about the condition of the rest of the boat, pontoons etc. M. Walker stated that these were fine. B Hammond then suggested the district look into retrofitting the boat with all new hydraulics and engine as the boat still has a 10 year life span left.

A Motion was made authorizing an estimate to be obtained from Alpha Boats for reconditioning and retrofitting Boat "2" by J. Bender seconded by B. Hammond; carried.

It was further reported that the AVC/Harvester program is looking into obtaining an inventory of parts for these boats as well as an oil purifier for the hydraulic oil that is used, further information on these items will be included in the May meeting.

District Manager Report

L. Gerstenslager reported that the staff has taken on additional workload and often attends night meetings and/or weekend events and she would like to continue having staff do these, however the accrual of compensatory time has become a burden as it leaves the office short staffed, and most employee's already accrue 6 hours leave time per pay period. L. Gerstenslager is proposing an alternative method of compensation be made. B. VanLare asked how other districts are handling this. L. Gerstenslager stated that upon research with the employee's association most districts do give compensatory time off, or have hourly employees. B. Hammond suggested paying the employee's at 1 and ½ times their normal rate for the excess hours and making sure this was well documented in the budget. L. Gerstenslager also stated she will provide the board with a monthly report of overtime/compensatory time activity.

A Motion was made to authorize the District Manager to allocate compensatory time off or pay at 1 and ½ times the employee's normal wage for additional work exceeding their normal scheduled working hours by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

This motion will be reviewed with the Personnel Policy Handbook meeting in November.

L. Gerstenslager stated that the Salmon Creek Action Plan is completed and two HOW grants have been received. These will add to the funding being sought thru GLRI for the Town of Williamson. There are two applications for GLRI potential these have a very short window space (approx. one month) and DEC needs two weeks with application. This is for green infrastructure thru storm water management.

L. Gerstenslager explained that she made an error that cost the district five points on the ranking for Ag NPS Round 18, however, we were still nine points short. L. Gerstenslager further explained she has reached out to Jeff Ten Eyck, of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee and has a meeting with him in June to review the grant and resubmit. L. Gerstenslager further explained she will also be including stream bank stabilization and other Ag NPS related projects. L. Gerstenslager stated that three are planned for Ag NPS Round 19.

L. Gerstenslager gave the board a brief overview of her attendance at the Minnowbrook Conference, she felt that there were a lot of ideas exchanged and would like to provide the board with the presentation she did for the conference.

There will be an IJC meeting on June 7, 2012 at the Williamson High School, L. Gerstenslager advised the board that at this time the District is not taking a stand for or against the IJC, all facts have not been presented.

L. Gerstenslager updated the board on the partnership with Congress/Assembly/Senate and stated we have a good working relationship with Senator Nozzolio, Assemblymen Oaks and Congresswoman Ann Marie Buerkle; and EPF funding is on task for Congresswoman Buerkle.

Other Business:

Approved Minutes for April 18, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting –

L. Gerstenslager presented the board with two bills one from NACD for dues and the other from NYACD, also for dues and asked the board for their advisement of payment. B. VanLare stated that any updates from NACD he receives and can forward to us therefore he does not see it necessary for our involvement; however, the NYACD dues should be paid.

A Motion was made to pay dues to NYACD for the 2012 year in the amount of \$1,500.00 by J. Bender seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May16, 2012 at 9:00am at the SWCD Office Conference Room.

A MOTION was made to adjourn at 11:16am by B. Hammond seconded by J. Bender; carried.