

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

**Regular Meeting – July 18, 2018  
Aquatic Shop, Alton, NY, 14443**

**Directors:**

Mark Humbert  
Pat VanLare  
Steve Olson  
Lynn Chatfield  
Brian Manktelow

**Staff:**

Lindsey Gerstenslager  
Cathy Comfort  
Ron Thorn

**Absent:**

**NRCS:**

Absent

**Guest:**

Vic DiGiacomo, AEA

**FSA:**

Denise Buisch

**Call to order by Board Chair M. Humbert @ 11:10 am**

**Approval of the Agenda**

No new topics at this time

**A MOTION** was made to approve the agenda by P. VanLare seconded S. Olson; carried.

**Acknowledgement of Guests**

None

**Operational Business**

**A MOTION** was made to accept the minutes from June 2018 Board Meeting by B. Manktelow seconded P. VanLare; carried.

C. Comfort reviewed the Treasurer Report and informed the Board that three new accounts have been added; the 2009 Chevy Silverado had been sold and money transferred to Vehicle Savings; and General Fund and Special Projects Fund have been reimbursed by the dedicated grants used for funding. L. Gerstenslager stated that State and Federal funding takes about ninety days to arrive after invoicing and with the District being mainly soft-funded; money will be tight this summer until payments arrive late September.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the Treasurer's report for June 2018 by S. Olson seconded by P. VanLare; carried.

C. Comfort informed the Board that a payment to Wengerd's Sawmill for \$10,850 was for Informational Kiosks and is part of the ANS 14 Grant, and the payment to Upstate Freshwater is for sampling and is paid for thru FLOWPA 16/17 and Part C funding.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the bill's to be paid for July 2018 by P. VanLare seconded by L. Chatfield; carried.

**Old Business: Lindsey Gerstenslager**

- a. 2019 County Budget-L. Gerstenslager reviewed the 2019 proposal stating that it includes an additional \$25,000 request on the Annual Appropriation bringing the total Appropriation to \$245,000 County Harvesting Contract and Drainage Contract stay level funding. L. Gerstenslager stated that the additional monies will be used to maintain staff and match grant dollars. L.

Gerstenslager further explained that the District revenue for 2019 will be in excess of \$1,000,000 and the County will benefit from the economic stimulus increase.

**A MOTION** was made to approve the Resolution presented with the 2019 proposed Wayne County SWCD County Budget by P. VanLare seconded by S. Olson; carried.

### **New Business**

- a. CFA Application Proposals-L. Gerstenslager that the District has one CFA proposal for the Stormwater Coalition MS4 web based tracking that will include equipment and licensing; the coalition will pay the District for administration. L. Gerstenslager stated that she is writing two more; Town of Sodus for salt storage facility and Village of Newark/Town of Arcadia for Perkins Park stormwater.

**A MOTION** was made to approve participation of the CFA as proposed by L. Chatfield seconded by P. VanLare; carried.

- b. Ag NPS Round 24 Update-R. Thorn stated the grants are due in August and he is working on four applications with I. Priestley assisting. R. Thorn stated that there were originally nine and two were funded through the Climate Resiliency Funding.

### **Report from SWCC – AEA Victor DiGiacomo**

V. DiGiacomo updated the Board and stated that the state budget has been passed with an appropriation increase for Soil and Water; however in this appropriation there are “carve outs” of approximately \$350,000. V. DiGiacomo also explained that Part C monies are no longer competitive and new activities have been added. L. Gerstenslager stated that Part C will be used with known partners and an added emphasis on education .V. DiGiacomo stated that at the national level the Farm Bill is still to be determined; President Trump has lifted the hiring freeze but staffing for NRCS and USDA has seen a mass exit which has devastated staff levels locally.

### **Report from NRCS**

Absent

### **Report from FSA**

D. Buisch reiterated V. DiGiacomo on the staffing adding that the USDA has not lifted it for NYS and requests for personnel have to be made. D. Buisch further explained that there is still a plan to combine FSA and NRCS under USDA 1 and that the implementation is targeted by September 30, 2018. D. Buisch informed the Board that FSA has a new CED as of July 10<sup>th</sup>, Ally Mahar has been with the local agency and has now formally stepped into the position. D. Buisch also explained that the County Committee needs nominations for the upcoming election; the County Committee oversees and advises the operations of the FSA. D. Buisch stated that Sue Olson has been nominated and L. Gerstenslager added that Duane Crandon also may make a good candidate; the deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup> and an informational meeting at FSA is being held on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Report from Farm Bureau**

L. Gerstenslager stated the Farm Bureau is looking for more Board Members stating they have five positions to fill.

### **Report from Grange**

P. VanLare they are gearing up for the Wayne County Fair. P. VanLare also added on a personal level she has received notification from NYACD that an award for Distinguished Person has been created in honor of her spouse and former Board Member Robert “Bob” VanLare that she will be presenting in October.

Approved Minutes for July 18, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting -

L. Gerstenslager stated that she will be following up with more information on the NYACD Board meeting in Cazenovia next meeting.

**Other Business**

S. Olson reminded everyone that he will be hosting a meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> of the Region 3 NYS Beef Producers. S. Olson also stated that an overview of Silvopasture will be shown on his farm.

**Adjournment**

**A MOTION** to adjourn at 12:03 pm was made by S. Olson seconded by P. VanLare; carried.

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday August 13, 2018 at the Wayne County Fair with a presentation of the Conservation Farm of the Year and the Agricultural Environment Steward of the Year. Meeting to take place after the conclusion of the Wayne County Supervisors Meeting.