

**Minutes of The Wayne County Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting June 20, 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:

Absent

FSA:

Absent

Guest:

Pat VanLare

Call to order @ 9:00am

Operational Business Report:

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

A MOTION was made to approve the treasurer's report by B. Hammond seconded by B. VanLare; carried.

A MOTION was made to approve the bill's to be paid by B. Hammond seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

NRCS Report

Absent.

FSA Report

Absent.

Staff Report

R. Thorn advised the board that AEM year 7 ended in May with a closeout of August and the district is now in year 8. R. Thorn gave a brief overview of the AEM tiers and with a brief explanation of each level. R. Thorn further explained that he completed 17 tier 3A's and 9 tier 5's for the AEM year 7.

R. Thorn updated the board on the Ag Advisory Committee explaining that there are a lot of new members and a meeting will be scheduled soon. He further explained that with District Manager L. Gerstenslager membership with the Farm Bureau, this association will help to tie in with our programs. L. Gerstenslager advised the board she has done a couple of night meetings tying farm and water quality

as most farms are around the Round 18 Ag NPS area. J. Ten Eyck from NYSSWCC came in to review Round 18 application and offer advice. Ganargua Creek is the tributary being tested and the farms around this creek are being approached.

R. Thorn advised the board that this year there were a total of 161 Soil Group Worksheets completed and then handed out a historical total worksheet (see addendum). He also talked of an idea to wave the fee for farms agreeing to sign up for AEM and will be getting more information for this idea. R. Thorn acknowledged the help from S. DeRue and C. Hotto in completing the Soil Group Worksheets this year.

R. Thorn commented on this year's Envirothon explaining to the board that this year the district switched to the central NY region which is held at Finger Lakes Community College. There were 4 teams from 2 schools in our area, Red Creek and Clyde-Savannah of which Red Creek won the local Envirothon and placed 13th out of 48 at the State Envirothon held at Hobart College. B. VanLare expressed his thanks to R. Thorn and the district for their participation. Education Summer Assistant E. Strobl is working on getting more schools involved in this annual event. L. Gerstenslager stated that Envirothon can be part of the required NYS curriculum.

District Manager Report

L. Gerstenslager reported her concern with the quote received from Alpha Boats for replacement of the engine on boat 2 specifically the labor attached to this project. The board looked over the quote and agreed that it seems excessive and would like further clarification. L. Gerstenslager requested a board member join her on the meeting with Alpha Boats, S. LeRoy stated that he will aide her.

L. Gerstenslager along with S. LeRoy, M. Walker and S. DeRue met to assess the access point at Briscoe Cove for the AVC program. L. Gerstenslager then addressed the Sodus Town Board and the Town is in agreement to allow the district access to this area (see attached letter). L. Gerstenslager stated she will hold an informational meeting for homeowners in this area. L. Gerstenslager further explained that the estimated affordable cost of this project would be about \$15,000. The cost estimate will be brought to the board as soon as a design is created. It was also brought up that Emerald Point is another alternative that should be looked at.

L. Gerstenslager stated to the board that the Wayne County Fair is approaching and that to save money instead of placing a full page ad in the fair guide suggest a half page ad sharing the page with the Farm Bureau. The board asked if the district will have a booth at the fair and L. Gerstenslager advised that it was too late this year to obtain one but she plans on contacting them in September for next year to reserve space.

A Motion was made to purchase a half page ad in the Wayne County Fair Guide and to share this page with the Farm Bureau by B. Hammond seconded by B. VanLare; carried.

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that the proposed BV7 plan from the IJC has drawn a lot of attention and proposed a motion for the district's involvement and support which the board agreed to adopt.

A Motion was made that the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District supports the County Leadership in their efforts to have the International Joint Commission revisit the direct economic and

environmental impacts of the southern shore of Lake Ontario due to the direct affect to water quality from infrastructure degradation by B. VanLare seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

L. Gerstenslager addressed the concern that is growing over the proposed landfill in Arcadia and how it could affect water quality issues of farms and homeowners in the area. B. Hammond advised that this project is very political and the District should not become involved, water quality issues from this project should be referred to the DEC.

L. Gerstenslager advised the board that there are 3 proposed municipal contracts for municipal/ag drainage and water quality projects with Williamson, Arcadia and Marion. These municipalities will be funding the projects and we will be providing cost share yet to be determined.

The DEC has a Community Tree Program grant available that the district is looking at and needs a resolution to accompany the application.

A Motion was made to adopt the resolution authorizing Wayne County Soil & Water Conservation District to participate in the Department of Environmental Conservation Community Forest Grant by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

L. Gerstenslager presented a five year Capital Improvement Plan to the board for the Alton Shop to improve the shop so it may be utilized year round. Much discussion ensued and the idea of obtaining a bond with the payments spread out so improvements could take place quicker was suggested. The board further recommended T. Caprilla look at the shop and offer his insights. It was decided that T. Caprilla would look at the shop and offer his input on how the project should be undertaken and L. Gerstenslager would look into funding options.

The Glisten program has 1 opening for a summer intern and then we will also be hiring a summer employee to combat invasive species in Maxwell Bay. This project will be overseen by S. DeRue and utilize the johnboat and canoe for hand pulling. ANS Grant will fund most of this project.

L. Gerstenslager gave a brief overview on the HOW Grant Partnership Advisory Committee relating to Maxwell Bay and explained the partnership with Town of Sodus, Center for Environment Initiatives, County Planning and CCE of Wayne County.

L. Gerstenslager presented the board with a motion for support of the Classical Breeding Program requested by Elizabeth Henderson which preserves the heirloom seed.

A Motion was made that the Wayne County Soil & Water Conservation District supports dedication of funds in the upcoming Farm Bill to continue to support Classical Breeding programs of the Northeast for the purposed of genetic integrity for environmental health and productivity of local food choices and soil/water health by B. Hammond seconded by T. Caprilla; carried.

L. Gerstenslager introduced a septic program bridge with Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District to utilize their specialists to come to Wayne County to do 3rd party inspection recommendations. This program will be paid for utilizing FLOWPA funding.

Approved Minutes for June 20, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting –

An internal audit will be required by the board this year and L. Gerstenslager suggested July so as to make the County Budget Deadline of the first week of August. . It was decided that committee meeting would take place July 25th. The board also approved the end of year justification for 2011 to be done by Pat Cummings of Bailey, Carr & Co. CPA's. A question arose asking if the Secretary/Treasurer is bonded, L. Gerstenslager will look into this.

Other Business:

S. Brownell addressed the board concerning the Sodus Ditch extension project and putting it back into a 5 year rotation schedule for maintenance. This ditch had recently been cleaned by S. Brownell and the school.

A Motion was made to add Sodus Ditch Extension to the 5 year drainage plan by B. Hammond seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 18, 2012 at 9:00am at the SWCD Office Conference Room.

A MOTION was made to adjourn at 11:6am by T. Caprilla seconded by S. LeRoy; carried.