

**Minutes of the Wayne County Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting— February 21,2024
District Office, 7312 Route 31, Lyons NY 14489**

Directors:

Mark Humbert
Pat VanLare
Lynn Chatfield
Peter Stoep
Jim Brady

Staff:

Ron Thorn
Kelly Reynolds

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chairman Mark Humbert.
- II. **A MOTION** was made by M. Humbert to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.
- III. **Guests:** None were present
- IV. Report: Farm Bureau: Mark Humbert reported there is a lot of lobbying going on regarding various farm bills.
- V. Report: Grange: Pat VanLare passed out the Wayne County Pomona Grange March 2024 newsletter and expressed her gratefulness for a very active youth presence.
- VI. Report: NYACD
- VII. Report: Staff: (see below item specifics)
- VIII. Operational Business:
 - a. No correspondence this month
- IX. **A MOTION** to accept the meeting minutes as presented was make by L. Chatfield, seconded by P.VanLare; motion carried.
- X. **A MOTION** to accept the treasurer’s report for February 2024 as presented by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.
- XI. **A MOTION** to approve the payment of the bills as presented in the PO list was made by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.
- XII. Old Business:
 - a. County Redi Updates: Lindsey has stayed on part time to continue work on these projects. Drew Starkey submitted the following report: Blind Sodus Bluff project is complete. A contractor has been selected for the Barrier bar project. Access for construction has been secured (east side of bay), DEC permit has been approved, waiting on Army Corps & OGS before it can be started. Port Bay joint application was submitted for 90% design, but has not been addressed since engineers did not address all of the alternatives brought up at 65% design. Engineers currently working on sediment modeling by looking at wave action, overtopping, and sediment transfer along the shoreline. Beaver Creek Culvert replacement on Port Bay Road project is critical for access to the REDI project. Notice of Incomplete Application (NOIA) comments have been addressed by engineer & town highway. Permit has been resubmitted. Currently meeting with PBIA, highway, and engineers to hash out timeline for bidding, public notice, and project implementation.
 - b. County Contracts Updates: Nothing to report for AVC or Drainage at this time. Drew Starkey submitted the following report for the State Septic program: the program is set up to address water quality. Funds from Round 4 expanded to all of Wayne County coastline & Sodus Bay and is eligible to septic systems within 250’ of coastline & outside of sewer districts, an estimated 1,350 properties (previously only 350 properties).

- c. Ron reported that the State Reports have been submitted, AEM Round 17 closeout is almost completed, and the staff has been busy with Soil Group Worksheets.
- d. E-Waste Event is scheduled for next week, February 28 & 29. Drew Starkey reported that most items are free to recycle through NYS, but it costs approximately \$4,000 to cover items that are not free such as freon. The event is limited to 250-275 households as more than that it too much for space and staff available. The events do not seem to be slowing down in volume.
- e. Tree Sale: Drew Starkey reported that orders are coming in and Gabby Taylor is doing a great job with the Facebook promotion.
- f. Water Quality Symposium: all staff and several board members are registered.
- g. Vehicle: Ron is estimating cost to be mid \$50K through state bid. Lynn mentioned others have had better prices and service through a local dealer. Ron will take into consideration.

XIII. New Business:

XIV. **A MOTION** to approve credit card adjustment to have Ron Thorn as main card holder with \$5,000 limit and add Kelly Reynolds with a \$500 credit limit was made by P. VanLare, seconded by L. Chatfield; motion carried.

XV. **A MOTION** to create a bank account dedicated to the shop improvement project and transfer funds of \$50,000 from the Part C account was made by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

- a. Drew Starkey reported on the D & L e-waste clean-up request. All items from outside the building have been removed. The next phase will only remove approximately ¼ of what is in the building at an approximate cost of \$7,000 to be covered by the County Contract.

XVI. **A MOTION** to approve the expenditure of up to \$7,000 from the County Solid Waste Contract to assist with the D & L clean-up project as presented by Drew Starkey was made by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

- b. Drew Starkey reported on two separate Septic System Applications. Katrina Weeden in Wolcott for \$10,000 and Eileen Taylor in Newark for \$3,472.96.

XVII. **A MOTION** to approve and fund Septic applications as presented was made by Jim Brady, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

Jim Brady had to leave the meeting at 9:15.

XVIII. **A MOTION** to subscribe to Cropware net, which replaces Cropware plus, for CNMP plans at a current rate of \$1,000.00 per year was made by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.

XIX. **A MOTION** to transfer funds of \$37,797.50 from Special Projects to District Checking to make final payment to Humbert Farms on CRF Round 2 grant then transfer same amount back to Special Project when funding is received from the State was made by P. VanLare, seconded by L. Chatfield; motion carried with M. Humbert abstaining.

- c. DEC Draft Guidance for the Review of Bridges and Culvert Projects was brought up by Ron Thorn as an item to keep in mind. No action is required at this time.
- d. Ron Thorn presented the annual staff review and salary adjustments. Lynn questioned the necessity of the increases after the readjustments made over the past few years. It was stated that the year-end performance reviews were a separate issue from the industry standard adjustments addressed earlier. Peter stated that under normal circumstances he would agree with Lynn, but that the steep



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inflation in recent years validated the increase. Mark stated that our district is still middle of the road in salaries compared with others. Ron clarified that the increases were only for the 4 techs as his salary and Kelly's had recently been adjusted.

- XX. **A MOTION** to adjust employee salaries as part of a year-end/COLA as discussed and presented was made by P. VanLare, seconded by L. Chatfield; motion carried.
- XXI. **A MOTION** to adjourn was made by L. Chatfield, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2024 at the District Office, 7312 Route 31, Lyons NY 14489 at 8:30 a.m. for March Regular Board Meeting.