

**Minutes of the Wayne County Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting— March 20, 2024
District Office, 7312 Route 31, Lyons NY 14489**

Directors:

Mark Humbert

Pat VanLare

Peter Stoep

Guest:

Victor DiGiacomo

Staff:

Ron Thorn

Kelly Reynolds

Ian Priestley

- I. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairman Mark Humbert.
- II. **A MOTION** was made by P. VanLare to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.
- III. **Guests:** Victor DiGiacomo from SWCC reported that it is budget season in Albany and it looks good for funding. 2024 will be a big year for projects. CRF Round 8 is starting with lots of money available. CAFO program is restarting this year with \$21 million in funding available. Both AEM and Ag NPS Round 30 have a lot of funding available as well. There is a new state committee voting member Matt Brower who is a Right to Farm expert. There may be a few more members stepping down this year with the potential of some new people coming in which could change things up a bit. Overall an exciting year coming up.
- IV. Report: Farm Bureau: Mark Humbert reported being in Albany two weeks ago for Legislative Day and the importance of talking about all issues involved in farming in order to reach all interests on both sides of the aisle and find common ground in order to move forward in cooperation. He also reported that Pam Helming is very supportive.
- V. Report: Grange: Pat VanLare reported that two local granges will be celebrating 150 years and that there is a garage sale coming up in April. She also mentioned the very active youth presence in grange.
- VI. Report: NYACD: Pat VanLare reported that volunteers are needed for the State Envirothon to be held in May at Cortland. Also the National Envirothon will be held in July at William Smith-Hobart and many volunteers will be needed for that as well.
- VII. Operational Business:
 - a. No correspondence this month
- VIII. **A MOTION** to accept the meeting minutes as presented was made by P. VanLare, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.
- IX. **A MOTION** to accept the treasurer's report for March 2024 as presented by P. Stoep, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.
- X. **A MOTION** to approve the payment of the bills as presented in the PO list was made by P. VanLare, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.
- XI. Old Business:
 - a. County Redi Updates: Things are pretty quiet; waiting for permits-a very long process.
 - b. County Contracts Updates: requests are coming in for septic, bids have been received for drainage, Mike has been contacted for AVC. He plans to have the same crew as last year and will begin getting things ready in April with the others starting in late May early June. E-waste was very successful with 54 pallets and 30,000 pounds being collected. Another event is planned for May. Scott & Drew will be doing water testing in Crescent Beach. Sodus Point has requested a sand dune height survey.
 - c. Tree sale orders are up over last year with more orders straggling in. Pick up will be the end of April.
 - d. All staff attended the WQS at some point. Scott & Ian presented there. It was the largest gathering to date.

[Type here]

e. The county Envirothon is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17 at Montezuma.

XII. New Business:

- a. Ian presented six projects for AEM 18 Tier IV non-competitive grants of \$200k
 - i. Jason Demay – Empire Farms, Palmyra for waste storage roof and cover \$30k
 - ii. Howie Albrecht, Lyons for a barnyard & water treatment area \$30k
 - iii. Chris Lucky for a manure stacking pad & gutters \$20k
 - iv. Scott Flowers horse farm, Clyde for heavy use area and water management in manure area \$20k
 - v. B C Ameele fruit farm for an Agrichemical mixing facility \$50k
 - vi. J P Demay fruit farm , Rose for an Agrichemical mixing facility \$50k

XIII. **A MOTION** to approve AEM Round 18 Tier IV Implementation Projects as presented with a resolution for each project was made by P. Stoep, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

XIV. **A MOTION** to except the payroll services of Complete Payroll to begin April 1st of 2024 and to amend policy to pay salaried employees bi-weekly was made by P. Stoep, seconded by P. VanLare; motion carried.

XV. **A MOTION** to except the Construction Equipment Rentals Bid Summary as presented was made by P. VanLare, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.

XVI. **A MOTION** to purchase a vehicle (pick-up truck) using funding from the Vehicle Fund and Part C accounts for an amount up to \$50,000 then sell one of the Chevy Colorado with funds from that sale going back into the vehicle replacement account.

XVII. **A MOTION** to appoint Ron Thorn as permanent District Manager was made by P. VanLare, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.

XVIII. **A MOTION** to adjourn at 11:30 was made by P. VanLare, seconded by P. Stoep; motion carried.

Next Meeting: April 10, 2024 at the District Office, 7312 Route 31, Lyons NY 14489 at 8:30 a.m. for April Regular Board Meeting.