

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

Regular Meeting – Tuesday December 21st, 2010

Ag Service Center, Malone, NY

Directors:

Ray Susice, Daniel Crippen
David Vincent, Thomas Derouchie
Bill Wood

Staff:

Chastity Miller
Jane Robinson
Tricia Decosse

Other Agencies:

Anne Marie Ziros, NRCS
Bob Brower, SWCC
Clark Decker, NYACD

- 1.) Secretary Jane Robinson called meeting to order at 9:20 am
- 2.) Minutes of November meeting approved 1st D. Crippen, 2nd T. Derouchie.
B. Wood arrived and took over chairing the meeting.
- 3.) Financial Reports:
 - a.) Financial Reports approved 1st D. Vincent, 2nd R. Susice; carried
- 4.) New Business:
 - Chastity went over the latest version of the 2011 Budget, which accounted for the decrease in County appropriations, and no salary changes for staff members. It was decided to table discussion on salaries until later in the meeting. D. Vincent made a **motion to approved** the Budget as presented, 2nd Tom Derouchie carried
 - Clark Decker representing the New York Association of Conservation Districts (NYACD) made a presentation to the board about what NYACD is doing for Districts and Conservation. Also he informed them that meetings with State Legislators would be taking place at the beginning of February in Albany, he encouraged the Directors to attend and get more involved at the state and local level. Another topic he discussed was the recent EPA Forums on the Chesapeake Bay and how EPA regulations on TMDLs being discussed could have an adverse affect on NYS Farmers, the SWCC and the DEC are working together to demonstrate to the EPA that stricter regulations for NYS will have a negative effect on New York State producers. No decisions has been made by EPA to date.
 - Aid to Localities funds were used to hire the Adirondack Watershed Institute to do water sampling at the storm drain by the Community Development Building in the Village of Saranac Lake. The sampling to date have supported the concept that storm events increase the amount of phosphorous going into the lakes and rivers, in this situation the water then makes it into Lake Flower and the Saranac River. The retro fitting of some of the storm drains in the village will dramatically reduce the amount of phosphorous entering the system and the watershed.
 - The District put in 2 applications for Round 17 Ag non point source grants.
- 5.) Financials Part II:
 - A brief discussion on payments for those who applied for reimbursement under the Cover Crop program. The Board felt it was still important to fund the practice. A **Motion** to make payments was approved 1st B. Wood, 2nd T. Derouchie; D. Vincent abstained; carried.
 - Abstract 12-10 voucher # 's 10-281 to 10-303 were reviewed and **Approved** 1st D. Vincent 2nd D. Crippen (App. B) **Carried**.
- 6.) Old Business:
 - Preparing to close out Round 14 with Bob before the end of the year.
 - Went over the Hydroseeder policy, the Board decided to table approving at this time so some of the suggestions can be addressed.
 - Training for Bill Wood and Dave Vincent will take place immediately following this meeting
 - Chairman Wood thanked Dan & Ray for their service to the County and the District on behalf of the Board.
 - Board discussed what to do with the 2005 Chevy now that the 2011 Truck is here (it was delivered during our meeting) and is to be used to pull the Hydroseeder and the Ag Plastics Baler. Money for the purchase of the 2011 Truck can mainly from CWICNY. B. Wood & D. Vincent will be on a committee to research selling the truck and getting a car instead
- 7.) Correspondences:
 - RC & D monthly review of activities.
- 8.) Staff Reports:
 - Chastity presented a written report of her activities since November report approved 1st D. Crippen, 2nd R. Susice, carried.

- Updated the directors on additional meetings during the month of December.

Tricia's

- Finished up 17 Ag NPS grant application
- Finished Farm Viability grant 2010 work on 5 farms. Will be working with 3 to 4 farmers in 2011.
- Completed AEM interim report to state committee
- Called farmer's that have been put on the one the contact list for EQIP they need to apply by January 14th. She also assisted with sign-ups.
- Completed 2 tier Twos.
- Attended CWICNY Meeting, SLWRP meeting, and WQCC meeting

Jane's

- Worked on insurance certificates for Baler for St. Lawrence Co.
- Usual Office work. Preparing for Year End reports.
- Attended LGRMIF grant seminar in Canton, will be working on applying for SARA funds for our aerial photos.
- Began work on Tree Sale Order form. Researching replacement blueberry vendors, the past plants have not been so healthy and we are looking for new options.
- Preparation for 2011 Envirothon fund raising.

NRCS Report:

- Anne Marie is filling in as DC until a replacement for Kent is appointed. She and Joe will be taking turns serving the District.
- NRCS is accepting 2011 application for all its programs deadlines vary by program EQIP sign up now until January 14th.
- Closed on 2 WRP contract in the county.

9.) Bob Brower gave a brief on what was happening at the State committee level and that Manager's meetings will be held throughout the state. Our area meeting will be held on Jan. 10th @ 10am in Raybrook.

10.) Chairman Wood excused the staff from the meeting so that they could discuss staff salaries for 2011. After a brief session the board asked the staff to return. The board decided that they would not make any changes to salaries at this time.

Next meeting will be on January 18th at 10am at the Ag Service Center. This will be our organizational meeting.

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm, 1st R. Susice, 2nd D. Crippen

Respectfully,

Jane Robinson/ Chastity Miller
Secretary/ District Manager