

Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District

967 CO HWY 33 - RIVER ROAD - COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK 13326-9222 - PHONE (607) 547- 8337 ext 4

OTSEGO COUNTY SWCD BOARD MINUTES

Date July 20, 2017

Members Present:

Les Rathbun, Chair, Grange Rep.
Doris Moennich, Land Owner, Treasurer
Ed Lentz, Member @Large
Larry Roseboom Sr., Farm Bureau
Jim Powers, Cty. Rep.

Staff Present:

Jordan Clements, District Mgr.
Sherry Mosher, District Secretary
Tony Capraro, NRCS
Lisa Pedersen, FSA

Absent:

Sam Dubben, Member @ Large
Meg Kennedy, Vice Chair, Cty. Rep.

I. Called to order:

-Les called meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. Approval of June minutes:

-Motion made by **Doris** to approve June meeting minutes, seconded by **Larry**, unanimous vote, motion carried.

III. Reading and Approval of June Treasurer Report and paid bills:

-Motion made by **Ed** to approve June Treasurer Report, seconded by **Larry**, unanimous vote, motion carried.

IV. District Reports:

-Sherry reported on office activities:

Continuing working with Quick Books with assistance from a CPA. Sherry has been working on 2018 budget with Jordan.

- A Review of Investment Policies and Personnel Policy.

-Motion made by **Jim** and seconded by **Doris** for the Investment policy to remain the same, unanimous vote, motion carried.

-Amendment made to the Personnel Policy: Page 12,
Vacation (annual Leave):

One to Five Years-10 days vacation

Six to Ten Years- 15 days vacation

Eleven years or greater -20 days vacation

-Resolution made for this update, motion made by **Ed** to approve the change, seconded by **Doris**, unanimous vote, motion carried.

-The only change was One to Five years- 5 days vacation, amended to:

One to Five years- 10 days vacation.

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-Sherry reported that she opened 5 new grant accounts, 1 for Round 21, and 4 for Round 22. Sherry stated that we have received 25% of monies for each grant.

-Jordan reviewed the proposed 2018 budget line by line, explaining the Expense/Revenue to the board members.

-A resolution was made to approve the budget, **Les** made a motion to approve and **Ed** seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

-After last month's review of Robert Weaver's contract, discussion with the board offering him .50 per hour raise, Robert accepted the offer.

-Jordan reported that 3 USC funded Buffer projects are complete.

-Jordan explained to the board that the farm tour this year will be Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 8 am. , with lunch to follow at Boces at noon. We will visit 4 farms where projects have been completed.

-Jordan reported that we will have a high school student volunteering starting next week, for approximately 2 days a week, 4 hours a day, until sometime in mid-end of August. She will be helping Erica (buffer Coordinator) with Butternut assessments, etc.

-Jordan asked for approval for himself, Erica and Stephanie to attend a Buffer Symposium at Paul Smith College on August 11, 2017. Motion made by Ed and seconded by Larry for approval of attendance and 1 night motel, unanimous vote, motion carried.

V. Conservation Technician:

-Jordan reported on Chris's behalf. Chris is very busy working on WRP's , he has 22 to complete, he has 14 completed as of now. They are due by August 31, 2017. The Hydroseeder was out for repair and is back in working order to start hydroseeding as well.

-Jordan would like to try next year for the WRP's to be done in the fall which would make it easier (without the foliage) to track the markers, etc.

VI. NRCS:

-Tony reported that they finished applications for general equipment on June 16, 2017.

-Tony stated that Erica continues to show great progress with the buffer program.

-Tony stated that the deadline for USC- ag lands and cover crops is tomorrow, (July 21,2017).

-Tony is working on 3 year contribution agreements.

VII. FSA:

-Lisa reported Crop Reporting was completed last week.

-Lisa stated that The Dairy Program has been postponed until September 1, 2017.

-The deadline for NAP (hay & small grains) is September 30, 2017.

-The deadline to report hay & fall planting is November 15, 2017.

-Lisa reported that there is low participation in FSFL (Farm storage facility loan).

- County Committee elections are coming up soon, and Jennifer Hunnington is running for the County Committee. Other nominations will continue to be accepted until August 1, 2017.

VIII. Buffer Coordinator:

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Erica continues to be very busy doing Butternut assessments with assistance from Stephanie. 1/3 of culvert assessments have been completed and stream assessments have been completed.

IX. Other Business:

None

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Mosher
District Secretary/Asst. Treasurer