



Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
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Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
February 10, 2020

Minutes

- I. Call to Order:** Chairman Hughson called the regular business meeting of the Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present – Wilfred Hughson, Chairman Robert Kaplan, Vice Chairman
 John Diehl, Farmer Eugene Benson, Treasurer

Board members absent – Nadia Rajszyk, Legislator John Gorzynski, Farmer

Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD Lisa Schick, SWCD

- II. MINUTES:** R. Kaplan made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2020, board meeting, E. Benson seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

- III. WRITTEN & VERBAL REPORTS:** See attached written reports.

NRCS: District staff will be meeting with E. Sweeney and A. Capraro of NRCS to discuss projects.

FSA: Disaster declaration has low interest loans available. Deadline is around June 1st. Interested parties should contact FSA in Walton for details.

CCE: See written report.

NYS Grown and Certified-been getting interest and SWCD has been doing a lot of AEM Tier 2's.

- IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Neversink/Rondout Grant:

- The new contract, CAT 499, has been reviewed by the County Attorney's Office. Minor corrections were needed. Contract was signed and sent to DEP.
- Discussed issuing an employee (HS) salary increase. Salary funds in current budget. E. Benson made a motion to give an employee (HS) 3% salary increase retro-active to January, 1-year date, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, motion was passed and carried.

B. Program Updates:

- NYS DEC Tire mandate has been postponed until May, 2021. Reviewing the effectiveness of several projects from different counties.
- Tree & Shrub program doing well and have received several orders.
- Contractor Training has to be on hold until we can set a date with CCE rooms, due to construction.

C. Retirement Dinner: LK

- Date will be Saturday, March 28th, 6:00-6:30 pm, at Danny’s Restaurant in Wurtsboro.
- District will pay for Family attendees, all other pay \$30.00 per person
- Extra funds will go towards cake and gift (Tractor Supply Gift Card)

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Bank Statements: The January bank statements were reviewed.

B. MOA with Dutchess County SWCD:

- A 2-year pilot program for Carbon Farming/Soil Health Improvement. Up to \$270,000, approximately \$35,000 per farm.
- Dutchess County SWCD is administering grant.
- Looking at having one farm participant in Sullivan County. Somewhere in Time Farm is interested.
- R. Kaplan made a motion to participate and for Chairman Hughson to sign the MOA, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, motion to participate and sign was passed and carried.

C. Annual Reports: Annual Report of the Treasurer was submitted for review and approved. E. Benson signed.

D. District Law Training: All present Directors participated in the Module 10, District Law training. 2020 Sexual Harassment training will be done at the March meeting.

E. District 2020 County Funding: Appropriation funds is \$240,000, up \$10,000 from 2019. Flood Mitigation funding stayed at \$100,000.

VI. **DISTRICT CLAIMS:** R. Kaplan made a motion to approve abstracts, bills and pre-approvals, seconded by E. Benson, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

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| 2019 – 1B | \$ 193,408.00 |
| 2020 – 2A | \$ 1,018.00 |

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval: Total - \$ 62,041.68 - See breakdown sheet

VII. TREASURER REPORT: The Profit and Loss and the Balance Sheet were reviewed. E. Benson made a motion to approve the reports, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

VIII. NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 7:15 p.m. - Motion by J. Diehl

Lisa Schick,
Program Assistant

Wilfred Hughson,
Chairman