



Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
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Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
March 14, 2011
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 8:00 p.m.

Board members present – Wilfred Hughson, Chairman
Beverly Martin, Treasurer
Harold Russell, Member

Elwin Wood, Vice Chairman
Dave Sager, Member
John Gorzynski, Member

Board members absent - Robert Kaplan, Member

Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD
John Kline, SWCD
Karen Rauter, Nev/Rond

Les Kirby, SWCD
Lisa Schick, SWCD
Patricia Westenbroek, CCE

II. MINUTES: Harold Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2011 meeting, Beverly Martin seconded, the motion was passed and carried.

III. WRITTEN & VERBAL REPORTS: See attached written reports

Trish Westenbroek (CCE): See written report

- Donnie Hoffman will be the new Environmental Educator and will start on April 11th. The Executive Director position will be advertised and end of February.
- Ag Day was held on March 7th and 123 people attended.
- Trish is starting an informal producers group which will be held at Ted's in Jeffersonville.
- The Value Added Program will begin on April 2 at SUNY Sullivan.
- Ben Halpern, a professional photographer from Livingston Manor, is starting an oral and pictorial history of farming in Sullivan County and is going around to farms and taking pictures of barns and people.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:**A. Neversink/Rondout Grant: See written report.**

- All project agreements for work to be completed this summer have been received.
- The first draft of the Neversink Stream Management Plan has been sent to the EPA. Informational neighborhood meetings with the community and landowners will be held June and July. After landowner input is received we will submit information to the Town Board.
- Outdoor activities planned for this summer are a native plants trail walk, running a landowner workshop on Emerald Ash borer and landscape architect.
- Stream restoration projects are going forward. Still working on designs. Karen met with Ulster DPW and they would like more space in their yard. Designs are expected to be costly.
- Bobby is trying to partner with the Tri Valley Central School on the CSBI projects. The school will host the plants and the students will help by taking care of the plants.
- Karen and Bobby went on the Watershed Ag Council's radio show and talked about the CSBI projects.
- The education committee is formalizing the partnership with TriValley Central School and to work with the 4H and the Catskill Center on school based activities.
- Approximately 1,600 newsletters were mailed to boxholders in the Neversink Rondout area. Some positive feedback has been received. Postcards will be mailed to landowners to advertise summer events.
- A sign stating the Neversink/Rondout program/ Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District will be placed at the Neversink Ball Field.
- The next Advisory Group meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13th. There are approximately 30 people who attend.

B. Flood Mitigation Work:

- Brian looked at sites of previous flood projects after the high rains. All the projects appeared to have held up well. Woody stated that the project in Livingston Manor by the Renaissance Park helped to prevent flooding.
- New project sites should be reviewed shortly.
- The Upper Delaware Flood Mitigation Grant monies will be looking at doing projects down by Ten Mile River and Beaver Brook this year. Hopefully a few culvert upgrades will also be completed.

C. No Till Seeder:

- The District received Performance Measure funds from the State in the amount of \$12,207.38. These funds are supposed to be spent on expandable programs or create new programs. Brian will look into prices for purchasing a no-till seeder for the District. There appears to be a lot of interest from landowners in this equipment.

D. District Policies: Will table to the April board meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bank Reconciliation: The February Bank Reconciliation was reviewed by the Board.

B. District Law Training:

- The District Law Training CD was presented for Board Directors. Bob Kaplan was absent and the CD was sent to him for review.

C. Insurance Bids:

- Three bids were received for the District insurance. Totals are as follows

The Misner Agency	\$ 8,167.20
Mike Preis Insurance	\$ 6,540.94
Marshall & Sterling	\$ 8,543.88

- Beverly reviewed the bids and presented findings. Directors reviewed and discussed the insurance bids. Dave Sager made a motion to accept the lowest bid, Harold Russell seconded, the motion was passed and carried.
- Lisa will get Directors insurance quote for next meeting.

D. Office Rent: Brian received a monthly rent fee from Joe Walsh of CCE in the amount of \$ 13.50 a sq.ft for 1149 sq. ft., which is \$15,511.50 for the year. Dave Sager stated that the building is county owned and the amount of rent will need further negotiation. CCE does use a bay in the District owned pole barn.

VI. DISTRICT CLAIMS: Harold Russell made a motion to approve abstracts and bills, seconded by Elwin Wood, the motion was passed and carried.

2011 - 3B	\$ 47,974.70
2011 - 4A	\$ 30,665.77

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval:

Sullivan County DPW	\$ 1,148.30
Fabio Wargin Design (Nev/Rond)	\$14,400.00

VII. TREASURER REPORT: The Treasurer report and Balance Sheet were reviewed. Harold Russell made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report and Balance Sheet, Dave Sager seconded, the motion was passed and carried.

VIII. NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 11, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: By regular motion at 9:25 p.m.

Lisa Schick,
Program Assistant

Wilfred Hughson,
Chairman