



Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
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Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
May 10, 2010
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
John Gorzynski, Member
Beverly Martin, Treasurer

Elwin Wood, Vice Chairman
Harold Russell, Member

Board members absent - Dave Sager, Member
Robert Kaplan, Member

Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD
John Kline, SWCD
Karen Rauter, SWCD
Quentin Gayhan, NRCS

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

II. MINUTES: Beverly Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2010, meeting, John Gorzynski seconded; the motion was passed and carried.

III. WRITTEN & VERBAL REPORTS: See attached written reports

Quentin Gayhan (NRCS):

- Quentin was in Jeffersonville surveying two sites for emergency watershed protection monies, which were approved by the State Conservation Engineer, Pete Wright. One site is the blue building by the bowling alley and was undermined. They are planning to do a stacked rock wall to protect the building. The second site is upstream where the pipeline for the town water supply has been exposed along the bank near the horse farm. They are looking at putting in some rock veins to protect it.
- Quentin conducted a farm visit where the contractor did not call the office, the practice was put in and the engineer refused to pay because he did not agree that the compaction was done correctly and felt that the culvert was crushed. Quentin is working on this issue.
- Quentin gave a preliminary plan to Brian for review for a small operation.
- NRCS will be starting a project at K-Brand Farms. Jay Czerniak of WAC was out to inspect the site today.

Patricia Westenbroek (CCE): See attached report

- The online livestock class is ongoing and has started to receive national attention. On May 20th there will be a session taught by Dr. Herbert Hitchhein, who is a Cornell University professor who specializes in how to be properly certified and humane slaughter.
- The extension corn demonstration plot was planted on Friday, May 7th, at Dan Peters' farm.
- Joe Walsh's retirement party is on Friday, May 14th, at the Rockland House in Roscoe, NY.
- May 15th the 4-H and ag program will be having a chicken BBQ at the Jeff Bank.
- There will be a Butcher class for farmers on May 22nd at the Gempler Farm. Les Kirby has donated an animal for the class.
- Milk prices are inching up.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. NYC DEP Contract:

- Karen handed out papers showing the milestones for the entire year. By the end of April they have completed all items listed but one, the design and permitting of the demonstration project. They are moving the efforts from Rondout Creek, which was assessed last year and is in process for a plan, to the Neversink stream, which is to be studied this year.
- The Watershed Advisory Group held two meetings this month. Brian, Gary Capella of Ulster County SWCD, and the two Town Supervisors and the two Highway Superintendents attended a workshop meeting. A larger meeting with the Agency folks on Thursday. The goal for this group is to keep everyone engaged in understanding of what is happening as these plans go towards town adoption process. There are approximately 25 people in this group.
- There will be an intern helping out this summer- Brent Gotsch. He is from Grahamsville and attends Binghamton University. He will begin on June 1st.
- The Watershed assessment portion of the program will start on the Neversink this summer. As they work with the Town of Denning on the process for the Rondout they are starting to hear what they would like to see done on the Neversink and requested starting on the East Branch because there are more landowners there. They are working on the plan and will spend three days a week in the summer on the stream with the team.
- Stream restoration projects are in process for the design milestone. The VanAkens, who were identified as the large restoration for the Rondout, have signed a temporary agreement to allow access for the survey process.
- There are approximately 1 to 3 Catskill Stream Buffer projects that may happen between July and the fall.
- For the educational outreach portion, Karen and Bobby are getting ready to notify the landowners on the Neversink and will be sending out a letter. There will be 3 or 4 community events that they will be able to set up a booth in order to have the opportunity to meet landowners.
- The District spent two days hydroseeding for the Town of Denning and Town of Neversink in conjunction with this program.

B. Tree & Shrub Program: The program this year had a good turnout and the District had a net profit of approximately \$2,900.

C. AEM Update: The AEM Year 5 has just been completed. As of Friday we have started Year 6. The program runs from May 7th through May 6th each year.

- D. District Dinner: Lisa asked to move the date of the District Dinner from May to September. This will allow more time to get together proposals from alternate places to hold the dinner. Harold Russell made a motion to move the date of the District Dinner to September, Elwin Wood seconded, the motion was passed and carried.
- E. County Audit: The auditor will be e-mailing the Management letter to Brian and should have it for the next Board meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Bank Reconciliation: The March Bank Reconciliation was reviewed by the Board, and the April Bank Reconciliation will be reviewed at the June Board meeting.
- B. Hudson Valley Foie Gras (HVFG): Brain spoke to Marcus and the HVFG has reached an agreement with their 4-year litigation with the Humane Society. The court ruled that in lieu of civil penalties the HVFG will pay \$50,000 for an environmental project. The HVFG asked whether the District would have such a project available. As the project requires tracking and monitoring of pollutants in navigable waterways that the HVFG is discharging into, and the District does not have such a project, the Board decided the District would not be able to make use of the funds.
- C. Insurance: The insurance bids were presented for Board review. There were four agencies that sent in an insurance package, Gersten-Hillman, Mike Preis, L. Miller and MBIA. After reviewing the policies Elwin Wood made a motion to stay with The Misner Agency providing there is not a significant price difference, Beverly Martin seconded, the motion was passed and carried.
- D. Brian was at a Managers meeting and it was stated that the State has the funds for Districts reimbursement but it is unsure when the funds will be able to be sent.

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

2010 - 4B	\$ 38,529.26
2010 - 5A	\$ 14,995.36

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval:

MSA Group (Insurance)	\$ 8,500.20
Meadowview (Tree & Shrub)	\$ 5,363.37
St. Lawrence Nurseries (Trees)	\$ 682.00
Cardmember Services (Nev/Rond)	\$ 407.30
Mid State Litho (Nev/Rond)	\$ 4,832.00

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

VIII. NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 14, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: By regular motion at 9:10 p.m.

Lisa Schick,
Program Assistant

Wilfred Hughson,
Chairman