



Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
64 Ferndale-Loomis Road Liberty, NY 12754
(845)292-6552 Fax (845)295-9073

Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
May 9, 2022

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
 Eugene Benson, Treasurer John Diehl, Farmer
 Justin Sutherland, Farmer Nadia Rajsasz, Legislator

Board members absent – George Conklin, Legislator

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

- II. MINUTES:** E. Benson made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 14, 2022, board meeting, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

III. WRITTEN & VERBAL REPORTS:

NRCS: No report was sent.
FSA: No report was sent.
CCE: See written report
NYS SWCC: See written report

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Neversink/Rondout Grant: See written report
- Construction bids for Denning Road and Ladleton stream were opened.
Baker Bros-\$ 901,312.00
LaFever- \$1,028,917.00
Hubble - \$1,169,768.00
Evergreen -\$1,590,511.00

As Baker was the lowest bid, R. Kaplan made a motion to approve and accept the bid from Baker and to move forward with the contract, N. Rajsasz seconded the motion, the motion was passed and carried.

A. Neversink/Rondout Grant: continued

- A request to raise an hourly wage for a seasonal position salary of \$18 per hour was requested from the Neversink office and was discussed. The District Board felt \$18 per hour was a reasonable hourly rate and requested what was advertised for the position. If it was \$18 per hour, then that is where it should remain.

B. Program Updates:

- Flood mitigation - Looking at projects for this year with NYS DEC rep B. Drumm. Hoping to finish some projects by end of August.
- The Burlingame site will be a good project for part C funds.
- Tree & Shrub – Program was a success. We had 166 orders. Discussed programs being easier and less time consuming if ordering was put online and accepting orders.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Bank Statements: The bank statements were reviewed.

B. Technician Position: The Board discussed the hiring of a technician to train with present staff. Salary can be funded from Part C funds. The decision was to wait to hire more staff until a commitment is given from present employees to retire or leave.

C. Create a list of projects for the District.

D. Brian proposed submitting a Climate Resilient Farming grant. Board discussed and R. Kaplan made a motion for a resolution to submit the RFP, E. Benson seconded, motion was passed and carried.

E. The WQCC savings account being held at Catskill Hudson Bank has gone dormant. N. Rajsz made a motion to close account and move funds to Jeff Bank, J. Diehl seconded, motion was passed and carried. Will look into WQCC and how to use the remaining funds.

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

2022 – 3B	\$ 55,997.13
2022 – 4A	\$ 24,409.16
2022 – 4B	\$ 70,376.45
2022 – 5A	\$ 18,641.24

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval: Total - \$ 165,788.45 - See breakdown sheet

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

VIII. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 7:15 p.m. - Motion by N. Rajsz

Lisa Schick,
Program Assistant

Wilfred Hughson,
Chairman