

**Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
April 13, 2009
Minutes**

- I. **Call to Order:** Vice Chairman Wood 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 – Elwin Wood, Vice Chairman	John Gorzynski, Member
David Sager, Member	Harold Russell, Member
Robert Kaplan, Member	

Board members absent - Beverly Martin, Treasurer	Wilfred Hughson, Chairman
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Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD	John Kline, SWCD
Les Kirby, SWCD	Lisa Schick, SWCD

- II. **MINUTES:** John Gorzynski made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2009 meeting, David Sager seconded, the motion was passed and carried.

Bob requested clarification with the NYC DEP contract as to the two positions, Project Coordinator and streamside assistant, and their use of vehicles. The Project Coordinator will use their own vehicle and be reimbursed mileage. The streamside assistant will use a vehicle leased or purchased by the District under the grant.

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

IV. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. State Grant Updates:

- Brian has spoken to the farmers involved in the State grants. It is unsure whether the farmers will complete the projects due to the milk prices and the current financial problems.

- There are two farmers left for Round 12, Dave Peters and Ed Moran. Brian is hoping that the farmers will be able to have these projects completed this summer.
- The Districts' standings on Round 15 are still not known. At the Managers meeting it was stated that the amount of funds available has decreased from \$12 million to \$9 million and these funds will not be released anytime soon.
- The State is now requesting proof of workers comp and disability insurance.

B. Contractor Training:

- The District held the contractor training session on April 2nd. Starting April 2010 in order to do site work on projects over an acre the speedes permit and a stormwater coverage permit is required. The permit requires a person who has been certified for stormwater management be on site at all times during construction.
- The settlement with Millenium Pipeline fines will fund five position for stormwater management.
- There were 51-52 attendees at the contractor training session and we have several more wanting to attend. The District will hold another training session in November or December. The training session was listed on the NYS DEC website and we have attendees from several hours away.
- The District only charged \$25 per person at this past training session. We will increase the fee to \$50 for the next training session.
- The next training session will also invite code enforcement officers to the next session.
- The State supplied a powerpoint presentation for the training.

C. NYC DEP Contract:

- Brian reviewed the options of leasing and renting a vehicle. The lease would be approximately \$6,900 per year for a half-ton pickup. A 3-year lease would be about \$21,000. It would cost less than \$20,000 to purchase it. NYC DEP thought that purchasing the vehicle would be better.
- The District would purchase the vehicle and own it. At the end of the contract the District could purchase the vehicle for its value. The Board thought that the District or the AG LDC should purchase the vehicle and lease it to the NYC DEP. This would avoid a large fee at the end of the contract.
- Insurance and maintenance expenses would still be covered under the contract.
- Brian is still working on figures for the contract. Beth Reichheld is suppose to send a copy of the proposed contract to Brian so that he can give it to the County Legal Dept. to review.
- Bob requested Brian speak to Paul Hahn from the Ag LDC about the possibility of them purchasing the truck and leasing it back to us.

D. District Dinner:

- The Restaurant options were e-mailed to Board members. Responding Board members voted for Rockland House and to be held Friday, May 8th. Social hour and cash bar will start at 6:30 pm with dinner being serviced at 7:30 pm.
- Al Thony has was chosen as the Conservation Farmer for 2008 and he has accepted. He has completed all projects with the District.
- The District did not choose a Conservationist for 2008 because we could not think of a recipient.

E. Tree & Shrub:

- The tree and shrub pick-up will be April 24th and 25th. We will have totals for the next meeting. There were approximately 122 orders. There were approximately 10,000 seedlings ordered.

F. The District has completed a 1 mile stretch of hydroseeding for county DPW. The county was invoiced for fuel and materials, but no labor.

- Maintenance on hydroseeder has been only the oil and grease for the equipment.
- The Board discussed asking the county to perform maintenance on the hydroseeder as reciprocation for the District performing the hydroseeding.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Bass & Minnow Program:

- The Trout program cannot be held at the same time as the Bass & Minnow program. They will supply Trout only in the fall. We will try and hold the Trout program this year.
- The Bass & minnow pick-up will be held in June this year because the weather should be a little cooler for the distribution of grass carp
- Brochures are being put together and should be in the mail shortly.

B. Bank Reconciliations for February and March: The Bank Recs were reviewed.

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

2009 -3B	\$ 33,648.33
2009 -4A	\$ 5,788.17

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval:

NYSCDEA	\$ 450.00
The Misner Agency -	\$ 4,052.00 & \$1,000.00

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

VIII. **NEXT MEETING:** Monday, May 11, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** By regular motion at 8:50 p.m.

Lisa Schick,
Program Assistant

Elwin Wood,
Vice Chairman