



**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**  
**June 8, 2009**  
**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  
   Harold Russell, Member    Robert Kaplan, Member

Board members absent - David Sager, Member                                      Elwin Wood, Vice Chairman  
   Beverly Martin, Treasurer

Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD                                      John Kline, SWCD  
   Patricia Westenbroek, CCE    Leon Brooks, NRCS

- II. MINUTES:** Robert Kaplan made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2009, meeting, John Gorzynski seconded, the motion was passed and carried.

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

Trish Westenbroek (CCE): See written reports

- The Beef handling and pasture workshop. Mike Baker from Cornell University will assist with cow weaning, proper handling techniques and the pasture walk will talk about season variations and grazing modifications to be made.
- The Principles of Animal Management course is a federal course based on animal science and geared towards new and beginning farmers.
- First on Scene is a public awareness program to cover what to do or not to do for emergencies on the farm.

- Down on the Farm day will be held at Weiss Dairy farm.

Leon Brooks (NRCS):

- Leon spoke with someone from PACE University, which held a meeting about the organic farm that Sullivan County took over from non tax payments and removed from the tax sale. It was given to the County Dept of Planning to use as an incubator farm.
- Mark Grennan had a stroke one year ago and seems to be doing better. It doesn't appear that he will be able to come back to work anytime soon.
- NRCS seems to have a budget surplus at present and is in the process of deciding how to earmark the funds.
- Leon discussed having an agreement for clerical assistance for \$8,000 between the SWCD and NRCS. The clerical work would be things such as telephone calls and assisting landowners with NRCS programs. We will give this some thought and get back to NRCS.
- Cathy Capella is still Acting Rep for Sullivan County. Mike Clifford is back to work part-time in Delaware.
- The conflict with NRCS and the Hughson Farm has been settled for \$10,400. Issues developed because the project was built when the contract had expired and the design was not approved. Therefore engineers had to review the project, and letters sent to various agencies for approval. Funds should be received in two to three weeks.
- The K-Brand Farm project funds were held up at the computer level and funds should be received electronically shortly.
- NRCS long-term goal for Sullivan County is that NRCS needs qualified reps to canvas the area to see what needs to be done. Issues evolved with farm files and signed project designs being taken from Sullivan county and whether they should be here.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. NYC DEP Contract Talks:

- Brian attended a meeting in Grahamsville on the Rondout Neversink Grant. The DEP needs to have a plan drafted for the Rondout by February 2010. We are suppose to have the contracts by next week and will then send them to the County Attorney's for review.
- Due to deadline requirements it appears that DEP is rushing the contracts in order to get it through. Brian has reservations that tasks needed to be accomplished for this plan will be hard to complete in such a short time frame.
- A MOA needs to be completed with Ulster County.

- Brian is concerned that due to DEP rushing tasks in order to meet deadlines that DEP will not address the landowner issues.
- Brian will address these issues with Beth Reichheld when discussing the contracts.
- The funds for this project have already been earmarked by EPA.
- The DEP will hire a person to conduct surveys this year. The District will hire a Project Coordinator after contracts have been signed and registered. There will be one project coordinator hired and one streamside assistance coordinator.

B. Stream Work:

- The District is slowly moving projects along.
- We are still assessing projects with towns to see which ones we can address this year and which ones we can with Greater Upper Delaware Flood Mitigation monies from DEC.
- With both fundings we are hoping to do twice as many projects.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. NYS DOT Parksville/Rte. 86:

- The work has started. John and Les met with DOT and DEC and the company doing the work.
- Procedures were explained, when they are starting and what they are doing, and concerns will be addressed.
- It is stated to take 4 years to complete.
- It was questioned whether the District would be available to do small portions of hydroseeding. Board members suggested that the District bill both time and materials at the same rate as contracted companies. (union scale plus benefits portion of salaries) Brian wants to give a per hour rate. Bob suggested giving prevailing wages to avoid union problems. Leon suggested a per acre price, with a minimum acre cost due to set-up and moving equipment.

B. May Bank Reconciliation: The Bank Statement has not been received yet. Will review at next Board Meeting.

C. Annual Bass & Minnow Program:

- At present there are 234 bass sold 1900 minnows 59 grass carp and 2 bales of barley straw.

D. County Audit:

- The auditors have been here and they are sending each board member a letter requesting information.

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

2009 -5B	\$ 15,384.55
2009 -6A	\$ 4,670.73

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

**VIII. NEXT MEETING:** Monday, July 13, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** By regular motion at 10:00 p.m.

Lisa Schick,  
Program Assistant

Wilfred Hughson,  
Chairman