



ORLEANS COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

August 4, 2015

PRESENT: Edward Morgan, Rep At Large
Dennis Kirby, Manager
James Neal, Farm Bureau Rep.
Katie Sommerfeldt, WQ Technician
John DeFilipps, Leg. Rep.
John Kast, Rep. at Large
Heath Eisele, USDA NRCS
Mallory Barrow, USDA NRCS
Robert VanLare, NYACD
Van Lare's Grandson

I. Call To Order: Chairman, Edward Morgan called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm for the purpose of conducting routine business.

II. Public Comment Period: No public comments.

III. Minutes: **Motion** by Kast, second by Neal to accept the minutes as written. **Carried**

IV. Treasurer's Report: **Motion** by DeFilipps, second by Kast to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Carried**

V. Operational Budget vs. Actual: Dennis reported that this is not in the packet because there was not enough time from the end of the month to get this completed.

VI. Bills & Vouchers: **Motion** by Neal, second by Kast to pay the bills and sign the vouchers. **Carried**

VII. New Business:

- A. Slashbuster Rental:** Dennis reported that Niagara County has requested to use the slashbuster. Dennis started talking to the County Highway Department about this to see if this would work. It would not work without the Orleans County Excavator so that would mean also sending an operator from Orleans County. Jerry Gray said he would have to talk to his committee. **Motion** by Neal, second by Kast to approve renting the slashbuster to Niagara County if the County approves it. **Carried**
- B. Genesee River Watershed Coalition MOU:** Dennis reported that this is 10 counties within the Genesee River Watershed. They are proposing to create a Coalition of Districts to make it easier to go after grant funds. They took the Mohawk Valley Coalition MOU and changed the name. Monroe County would be handling the contract. Right now they want our comments on the MOU. DeFilipps asked if an attorney has looked at the MOU. **Motion** by Neal, second by DeFilipps to approve Morgan signing the final MOU after the directors review it in an email. **Carried**
- C. Change Board Meeting Date to Second Tuesday:** Dennis reported that we would like the board to consider changing the Board meeting date to the second Tuesday of the month. Discussed. **Motion** by Kast, second by Neal to move the board meetings to the second Tuesday of the month. **Carried**
- D. DEC Tour:** Katie reported that DEC will be touring 4 spots in Orleans County on August 19. They will be visiting Zelazny's, Torrey's, Neal's, and Sidonio's. They will be meeting at 8:00 at Zelazny's. She will email the board members with the date and time in case they would like to go. DEC is visiting these projects because they were funded with FL-LOWPA money and this money is funneled through DEC.
- E. FL-LOWPA Projects:** Dennis reported that in the packet there is a spreadsheet with a list of projects that we expect to install with FL-LOWPA funding. Dennis explained the sheet. Some of these projects are funded 100% with funding through the CREP program with FSA. The idea is to close out the 11-12 contract. Judy reported to Dennis this morning that we have about \$6,000 left to spend in this contract so whatever project gets completed first will close out this contract. Then we will work real hard to close the next contract out this year. Robin Root got all of his bids and is waiting for his pipe to come in.
- F. Other:** Dennis reported that we talked about an AmeriCorp intern. He is applying for that for 300 hours. He had a young lady approach him at the fair and asked if we deal with Americorp. Dennis will submit her information along with the application and see what happens.

VIII. Old Business:

A. NYACD:

1. Bob VanLare is the acting Vice-President of NYACD. He is here to try to answer any questions or concerns that we may have about NYACD.
2. Morgan explained the reasons why we decided to only pay half of the dues to begin with.
3. VanLare explained that the reason that Judy Littrel was let go as the Executive Director was because she was asked to do some things and they did not get done. There were also some reports that were supposed to have been done that weren't. This could result in some sizable fines.
4. He explained how the Division Director vacancies have been filled.
5. VanLare provided a written report on the accomplishments of NYACD. He discussed these accomplishments.

B. Fish Sales: Dennis reported that sales were up this year due to one very large order.

C. Grant Project Summary: Attached. Dennis and Katie explained the updates.

D. Other: Katie reported that we are up to 100,000 feet of tile for this year.

IX. Cooperating Agency Reports:

A. District Manager: Attached

B. District Conservationist:

1. Heath Eisele reported that there are a few new faces in our office. You met Bob Bills last month. He is the Resource Conservationist and will be stationed in Albion. Most recently, Mallory Barrow started as the Soil Conservation Technician. There will be a lot of training over the next year to get Mallory going out in the field. He explained Mallory's background.
2. Heath reported that NRCS is nearing the end of their fiscal year. They are trying to get contracts completed.
3. He reported that the main program that is going on right now is the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). There are no applications submitted in Orleans County. However, there were some applications submitted through EQIP that were not funded that they may be able to roll over into GLRI.
4. The next EQIP sign up will be in October or November.

C. Orleans County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC): Nothing new to report.

D. NYS SWCC Report: Dennis gave the highlights of Victor DiGiacomo's report.

Next meeting date September 8, 2015 at 12:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Judy Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer
Date:

Edward Morgan
District Chairman
Date: