



ORLEANS COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
March 10, 2016

PRESENT: Edward Morgan, Rep At Large
Judy Bennett, Sec./Treas.
Dennis Kirby, Manager
James Neal, Farm Bureau Rep.
Katie Sommerfeldt, WQ Technician
Megan McAnn, Technician
John Kast, R. at Large
John DeFilipps, Leg. Rep.
William Eick, Leg. Rep.
Robert Bills, USDA NRCS
Victor DiGiacomo, NYSSWCC
Jena Buckwell, AmeriCorp Volunteer
Heather Eisele, USDA NRCS

I. Call To Order: Chairman, Edward Morgan called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm for the purpose of conducting routine business.

II. Public Comment Period: No public comment.

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

V. Treasurer's Report: Judy explained the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Kast, second by Neal to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Carried**

VI. Operational Budget vs. Actual: Dennis reported that this is in everyone's packet.

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

VIII. New Business:

- A. Tree Sale April 22 & 23: Dennis said this is on here to make sure we ask if we can use Morgan's trailer on April 19. Judy reported that to her it seems that tree sales are down. Another ad will go in the Pennysaver this week stating that we extended our deadline.
- B. Symposium Donation: Dennis reported that in the past the board has approved us to spend up to \$50 for items to put into the Silent Auction and Bucket Raffle to support the Frank Bratt Scholarship. We did get a donation of a box of items from 810 Meadworks in Medina. Motion by DeFilipps, second by Eick to approve spending up to \$50 for donation items. **Carried**
- C. Envirothon – Niagara Co. May 5th; NYS May 25-26: Dennis reported that this is just to let you know when these are going on. Judy, Megan, and Jena will be going to the one on May 5 and Megan and Jena will be going on May 25 to the state to help out. In the past we have asked the legislators for money and Western New York Energy. He has asked WNY Energy again this year, but we do not need to ask the legislators because Niagara County was able to get a \$5,000 donation from GM. We don't know if this is going to be a one-time donation or if they will continue to donate this amount every year. Motion by Kast, second by Neal for staff to attend the Regional Envirothon in Niagara County and the State Envirothon. **Carried**
- D. Annual Audit: Dennis reported that this is on here as a reminder for the Legislators to come in and do an audit.
- E. Slashbuster Repair: Dennis explained the slashbuster repairs and the charges for them. The County will be paying for the new teeth for the slashbuster, but they will be billing us for the new spindle. Discussed. Katie explained how far they got on the current project in the Town of Murray before it broke down. Motion by Neal, second by DeFilipps to pay for the repair. **Carried**
- F. Other:
 1. Dennis reported that we will be getting the full amount for Performance Measures (Part C) in the amount of \$16,173.83.
 2. Dennis reported that a new mini grant has come out for the Genesee River. We have a small corner in Clarendon in the Balck Creek Watershed which is part of this. Kaite and Megan met with someone the other

- day on a drainage complaint and they think they have a project there with fencing animals out of the ditch. It is limited to \$10,000. **Motion** by Eick, second by Neal to apply for this grant. **Carried**
3. Dennis reported that Jena is here because she has a project that she would like support from the board on. She would like to reduce the use of bottled water in the county. She explained the project. **Motion** by Eick, second by Neal to support the educational aspect of this project and for her to do this using her AmeriCorp hours. **Carried**
 4. Judy reported that she needs to update QuickBooks by May 31 in order to continue with the payroll service. **Motion** by Eick, second by Neal to go forward with updating QuickBooks. **Carried**
 5. Katie reported that for a while now we have been working on getting a general permit from DEC. She has done some research on what others have for their general permits and has talked to DEC about this. DEC is looking into the possibilities.
 6. Eick asked if the District was ever contacted about the possible quarry in Shelby about the drainage on the property. Katie reported that we have not been contacted and that they are probably dealing with DEC.

IX. Old Business:

- A. FL-LOWPA: Katie reported that there are several projects that the designs are signed off on so that we can move forward with these projects. Once these projects are completed we should be able to close out a couple of FLOWPA contracts.
- B. Round 14 Grant: Dennis reported that we received a letter from Ag & Markets stating that this grant contract is officially closed. Judy read the letter.
- C. Grant Project Summary: Attached. Dennis explained the updates are what Katie reported on through FLOWPA.
- D. Albany Visit: Morgan reported that they were able to go to the Farm Bureau's taste of NY before the meeting in the evening. However, there was no time to have dinner between the two. In the future he would recommend to have our meeting earlier so that there was time for dinner. They thanked the legislators for their support. There was a very light turn out for the Districts.
- E. Other: Dennis reported that at the Annual meeting in January we forgot to give out 10 year pins to Eick and Neal.
- F. Dennis reported that we put a lot of pressure on Megan to get the maximum amount of AEM funding. She came up with a sign for the wall to tell where we are at the AEM.

X. Cooperating Agency Reports:

- A. **District Manager:** Attached.
- B. **USDA, NRCS:** Heath Eisele went over the highlights of his attached report.
- C. **Orleans County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC):** A meeting was held on March 7 and they passed a resolution to support the application for the AG NPS grant applications. This is always good to submit with the application.
- D. **NYS SWCC Report:** Victor DiGiacomo went over the highlights of his attached report. He will be doing training after the meeting on State Aid to Districts.

Next meeting date April 12, 2016 at 12:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:22 PM.

Judy Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer
Date:

Edward Morgan
District Chairman
Date: