



ORLEANS COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
December 13, 2016

PRESENT: Edward Morgan, Rep at Large
James Neal, Farm Bureau Rep.
Dennis Kirby, Manager
Judy Bennett, Secretary/Treasurer
Katie Sommerfeldt, WQ Technician
John DeFilipps, Leg. Rep.
Megan McAnn, Technician
William Eick, Leg. Rep.
Maggie Gnann, USDA NRCS
Victor DiGiacomo, NYS SWCC

I. Call To Order: Chairman Edward Morgan called the meeting to order at 12:05 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 Financial Report. **Motion** by Neal, second by Eick to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Carried**

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

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

VIII. New Business:

- A. Meetings for WNY SHA – Corn Congress, Empire State Expo, Soybean Congress, Ontario SWCD Workshop: Dennis reported that he will be attending these meetings for the Soil Health Alliance and setting up a booth.
- B. Approve Payment of Cover Crop Grants: Dennis reported that we finally got all the cover crops looked at. The ones we need to approve payment are: A & J Kirby, Andy Hendel, Bruce Sentiff, Eric Bentley, Gregg Rush, Tim Kirby, Orleans Poverty Hill Farms, and Toussaint Farms. **Motion** by Eick, second by DeFilipps to pay these farms for their cover crops. **Carried** James Neal recused himself.
- C. Approve Grown & Certified Grant Application: Dennis reported that last month the board approved us to submit a mini grant, but now a new grant has come out for specialty crop farms. We would rather submit applications through this grant for up to \$50,000 for each project. **Motion** by Neal, second by DeFilipps to apply for this grant. **Carried**
- D. WNY Energy Tour – Ken DeRoller & Jim Whipple: Dennis reported that Ken DeRoller wanted to know if we wanted to take a tour of WNY energy and Intergraw. He is going to work on this for some time in January.
- E. Water Quality Symposium: Dennis reported that this is the week long training session in March. Usually the four of us find trainings to attend for the entire week. Judy reported that it is \$580 each to attend for the 4 days. **Motion** by Eick, second by Neal for staff to attend the training session. **Carried**
- F. Deposit on Trees: Jud reported that the 25% deposit on trees is due in January. **Motion** by Eick, second by DeFilipps to pay the deposit. **Carried**
- G. Annual Meeting: Dennis reported that last year we had it in January, but he would like to do it in February this year. He talked to the Village Inn and we can have the meeting in the Carriage Room. We have come up with a date of February 17. Last time we had the board meeting at 10 and then we had the Annual Meeting at noon. Discussed who to invite.
- H. Credit Card: Dennis reported that Megan does not have a District Credit Card and it would be beneficial for her to have one. Judy reported that at this time there is a combined credit of \$3,000 split up evenly between Judy, Dennis, and Katie. We would have to increase our total credit line to \$4,000 to add Megan. **Motion** by Eick, second by Neal to increase the credit line to \$4,000 and to have Megan get a credit card with a limit of \$1,000. **Carried**
- I. Other:
 1. Dennis reported that he was talking to Katie and they think it would be beneficial to have a tablet and portable printer in the field. If we get the grant for the culvert assessment we could possibly purchase one with that grant.

2. Morgan reported that Adam Tabelski from Wendel Engineers came into the office and met with Ed and the staff to discuss what they could do for us. It was discussed that they send us a proposal for having them on retainer. He did send a proposal of \$100 a month. Discussed.
3. Dennis reported that he hasn't heard anything about Legislative Days yet. Dennis talked with Steve Hawley and he said he can talk to us here, we don't need to go there. DeFilippis said he thinks we should really go there.
4. Judy reported that she is working on trying to figure out what meetings the directors have attended on behalf of the District. She reported what ones she has and asked if there was anything else so that she can pay the directors their per diem.

IX. Old Business:

A. Slashbuster Projects:

1. Katie reported that we got a permit for Sandy Creek off of Fancher Road that we couldn't get into in the Murray Muck previously. We will go in there and get that project finished up.
2. We will also try to get in behind Christo's to get that finished up.
3. It will also go to Gaines Basin Road on Proctor Brook from where we did the stream crossing for Robin Root down to Route 104.
4. We sent over 30 letters to landowners for easements on property located on a tributary to Johnsons Creek in Yates and on Bald Eagle Creek in Kendall.

B. Tree Planting Workshop – Feb. 4, 2017: Dennis reported that this is something that Jena is working on. The DEC Forester will be coming to it as well.

C. Rain Barrel Workshop – April 8, 2017: Dennis reported that we picked up 25 barrels.

D. Grant Project Summary: Dennis went over the updates. Katie reported that there is another project she would like to add to FLOWPA. It is a covered feedlot for Gary Thering. He already has a pad and he needs it up to current standards.

E. Other:

1. Dennis reported that IJC has decided to go with the Plan 2014 for the lake levels.

X. Cooperating Agency Reports:

A. District Manager: Attached.

B. USDA, NRCS: Maggie reported that there is a local working group meeting in Lockport on Thursday. They are looking for public opinion as to what should be in Fiscal Year 2018 funding. This Friday is the deadline for round 1 applications to be submitted. There is a new employee in our office. Her name is Jaime and will be based out of Albion after a couple of months of training in Genesee County.

C. Orleans County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC): Nothing to report at this time.

D. NYS SWCC Report: Victor DiGiacomo's went over the highlights of his attached report.

Motion by Eick, second by Neal to suspend meeting to go into Executive Session at 12:47 pm. **Carried**

Meeting reconvened at 1:09 pm.

Next meeting date January 10, 2017 at 12:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Judy Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer
Date:

Edward Morgan
District Chairman
Date: