



ORLEANS COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
October 11, 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
John Kast, Rep. at Large – Farm
William Eick, Leg. Rep.
Jenna Buckwell, AmeriCorp Volunteer

I. Call To Order: Chairman Edward Morgan called the meeting to order at 12:14 pm for the purpose of conducting routine business.

II. Public Comment Period: No public comment.

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

V. Treasurer's Report: Judy explained the Financial Report. **Motion** by DeFilipps, 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. Discussed.

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

VIII. New Business:

- A. Rain Barrel Workshop in Spring 2017:** Jena reported that she would like to host a rain barrel workshop in the spring in cooperation with Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners. The only help she would get from them would be the day of the event. She would do all the planning and preparation work for the workshop. She has talked to Genesee Brewery and we can go pick up barrels for free any time we want to go get them. She is going to look at different ways to make them to keep the cost down. She is planning on keeping the number of participants to 20 so that she can get the prep work done. Dennis said we could store them in his barn. **Motion** by Kast, second by Eick to move forward with this workshop. **Carried**
- B. Environmental Book Club:** Jena reported that she would like to get more awareness in the community about environmental issues. FLOWPA has agreed that we can use the education portion of the contract towards the purchasing of the books. She is also hoping to get some donations from the publishers to keep the cost down. The goal is to once a month have a discussion on an environmentally themed book. In order to use FLOWPA funds we have to focus on Soil and Water environmental books. That will be our main focus for picking titles. The Hoag Library in Albion has agreed to host the group. **Motion** by DeFilipps, second by Kast to move forward with the Book Club. **Carried**
- C. Approve Payment of Cover Crop Grants:** Dennis jumped ahead to the Grant Progress Report so that he could explain where we stand on the grant projects that are ready for payment. For Round 18 Bob VanWuyckhuysen's project has been completed. The building has been signed off on and Katie has sent the form to the NRCS Engineer to sign off on the floor. Round 19 Cover Crop Projects that are ready for payment are: Kirk Mathes, Kast Farms, Mike Van Lieshout, and Lynn-Ette & Sons. Round 20 Cover Crop Projects that are ready for payment are: Heidemann Farms, Anthony Piedimonte, and Mike Zingler. **Motion** by Eick, second by DeFilipps to pay the farmers for their projects upon final approval of completion and submitting all necessary paperwork. **Carried** John Kast abstained.
- D. Payroll Certification:** Judy reported that this is due to the county in the amount of \$6,014.05. **Motion** by Neal, second by Kat to approve the Payroll certification. **Carried**
- E. FLOWPA:**
 - 1.** Dennis reported that it has been a struggle to get any of the projects done this year. The only one we might be able to complete is Megan Seeley's grassed waterway.

2. Katie reported that there are 2 grassed waterways she would like to do with FLOWPA funds in conjunction with CREP for Bob Vendetti.
3. There is a Manure HUA she would like to do for Brian Dunham. It is similar to the project we did for Orleans Poverty Hill Farms. It will contain everything so that it won't get in the waterway.
4. She is also going to look at a possible stream crossing for Lynn-Ette's on Culvert Road. This project will need permits because it is in a wetland.
5. **Motion** by Neal, second by Eick to move forward with these additional projects.

F. Other:

1. Dennis reported that there is a new batch of money coming out for specialty crops (fruit and vegetable growers). There is a grant that we can apply for up to \$50,000 per farm.
2. Dennis reported that November 15 - 17 NRCS is having an extensive irrigation training in Cortland. **Motion** by Kast, second by Neal for staff to attend this training. **Carried**
3. Dennis reported we did the culvert training to do the assessments. There is some more grant money coming up where we can apply for \$10,000 to do the culvert assessment.
4. Round 23 of the Ag Non Point Source RFP should be released by the end of the year.
5. Katie reported that she ran over a bolt with the truck. It took 2 plugs to fix the tire. She reported that the truck will probably need new tires before winter.

IX. Old Business:

- A. Legislature Tour October 26: Dennis reported that this is to remind everybody. Neal is going to get his father in-laws van which is a 12 passenger van. We will go to Poverty Hill Farms and look at the HUA and the VTA, then look at some cover crops along the way, stream crossing at Kast Farms, and then to Bob VanWuyckhuysse's Covered feedlot. After this we will go to the Village Inn for dinner.
- B. Five Star Bank: Judy reported that after talking with the board members either personally or through email it was decided to switch to Five Star Bank. In the information that was sent to us it stated that Key Bank was going to be charging us fees for our Collateral Agreement and also monthly fees on all of our accounts. Dennis and Judy went and talked to Five Star Bank and they will not charge us any fees. Judy has opened up all the new accounts at Five Star and will be depositing money in them today after the board meeting. We did leave the checking account open at First Niagara at this time to make sure that all of the checks have cleared. Once we get the statement at the end of the month we will close that account out also.
- C. Grant Project Summary: Katie reported that there were a couple of designs signed off on. She also reported that we were hoping to get Andy Hendel's stream crossing completed this year, but the first bid he got in was extremely high. We have contacted other contractors that will be submitting bids, but it won't be in time to get it done this year. We had planned on using the Part C money for this project. She had a backup plan for doing an Ag Mix floor for Zeliff Farms and they aren't going to do it this year either due to money constraints. Our third back up plan is to do Megan Seeley's grassed waterway. We can take this and add in Katie's time spent on the county projects and hope to get to the amount we need. Judy reported that whatever we don't spend this year we will have to return.
- D. Other:
 1. Dennis reported on the pricing of a replacement Boom Mower. He handed out a spreadsheet with the specifications and pricing. Discussed. The choices are between a Kubota and a John Deere. Morgan will talk to the Highway Superintendents tomorrow about contributing the \$4,500 towards the purchase of the new one that they had discussed at their previous meeting. Dennis will talk to the Oak Orchard Small Watershed Protection District about their contribution. There is a statement from John Deere that if our funding does not come through then we do not have to take the equipment. **Motion** by DeFilippis, second by Neal to order the John Deere with the full frame. **Carried**

X. Cooperating Agency Reports:

- A. **District Manager:** Attached.
- B. **USDA, NRCS:** Dennis reported that Bob Bills no longer works in our office. He has moved back to Maine. A new person will be starting here soon.
- C. **Orleans County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC):** Nothing to report at this time.
- D. **NYS SWCC Report:** Victor DiGiacomo's report is attached.

Next meeting date November 9, 2016 at 12:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:17 PM.

Judy Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer
Date:

Edward Morgan
District Chairman
Date: