

Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District

967 CO HWY 33 – RIVER ROAD – COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK 13326-9222 – PHONE (607) 547-8337 ext. 4

OTSEGO COUNTY SWCD BOARD MINUTES

February 16, 2017

Members Present :

Ed Lentz, Member @ Large
Meg Kennedy, Vice Chair, Cty. Rep.
Larry Roseboom Sr. Farm Bureau
Sam Dubben, Member @ Large
Doris Moennich, Landowner, Treasurer
James Powers, Cty. Rep.

Staff Present:

Jordan Clements, District Mgr.
Sherry Mosher, District Secretary
Sandy Scott, CED- FSA

Absent:

Les Rathbun, Chair, Grange Rep.
Tony Capraro, NRCS

I. Called to order:

Meg Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

II. Approval of amended December minutes:

Ed made a motion to approve amended minutes, seconded by **Sam**,
Motion carried.

Approval of January minutes:

Jim made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by **Sam**, motion carried.

III. Reading and Approval of January's Treasurer report and paid Bills:

Motion made by **Ed** and seconded by **Larry**, **Meg** abstained due to her absence. Sherry reported that she called Putnam Pest Control to have our account put on hold for now. Sherry looked into interest rates for 2 banks, NBT offers .02 percent on both checking and savings. Bank Of Cooperstown offers .10 percent for checking and .15 percent for savings. Sherry called NBT bank to inquire of why we are being charged a service fee on some of our accounts. Andrew from NBT called and said he wanted to see Sherry so they can Make sure this stops happening. Sherry reported that staff are depositing money into checking account to pay for drinking water. Sherry stated that the Annual Reports are completed other than the Treasurer's Report. Jordan requested An extension as it was due February 15th. The Treasurer report will be completed Tomorrow, February 17, 2017. Sherry stated that she went to the banks with **Les** and **Doris** to get signature authorization. Discussion of what we wanted To do with the 2008 Jeep that is at Smith Ford. After discussion, it unanimously Decided to scrap the Jeep, as it would cost more for a new engine than vehicle

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is worth. Motion made by **Larry** and seconded by **Ed**, motion carried.
Sherry is working on coming up with a new format for monthly reports.

IV. District Report-Jordan Clements, District Manager:

Jordan reported that all of his Annual Reports were completed. Jordan

Is working on several projects, AG non point grant, Buffer Grant, 2 covered Barnyards, the grazing program. Tier 3 reports are being worked On. Round 22 grants are in Albany.

WQIP-county salt shed, Jordan stated the DEC is working on this contract

With us. Jordan stated that 7 towns are interested. **Jim** suggested that

Jordan ask for more money for the time invested in the grants. Jordan and

Erica are working on Buffer grant. Jordan stated that Genesee Brewery

is willing to give the district money towards the installation of Buffers.

They said they would give us between 10-24 thousand dollars. We will know more by the end of April. Jordan stated the RAPP program is done.

Jordan states the credit card audit is complete and the auditor will be joining us at the **next** meeting on March 23,2017. Jordan asked that all board members review the audit prior to the meeting.

Jordan and **Ed** will be attending Legislative Days on March 6th and 7th.

Jordan stated we have at least 14 teams for the Leatherstocking Envirothon.

Staff will be attending the 4 hour ESC training in Oneonta on March 8, 2017.

Jordan stated that his goal for this year is 4 million dollars for grant work.

Jordan brought in Sandy Scott to introduce her as the new CED for FSA.

Sandy reports that there are a lot of CREP coming forward.

Jordan asked the board to make a resolution for Sherry to be able to sign

for Claim of payments, **Jim** made a motion to make this resolution and approved, seconded by **Ed**, motion carried.

Meg suggested that we put out RFP for insurance in The Daily Star, **Doris** made a motion, seconded by **Larry**, motion carried.

V. Conservation Technician:

Jordan reported for Chris, stating Chris has been very busy doing Ag. Assessments, working on Leatherstocking Envirothon, making arrangements for ESC class. Chris has also been working with Bob on AEM.

VI. NRCS- Report given to Sherry due to Tony's absence

Tony reports that the past few months have been very busy and apologized for not being here for today's meeting. They have been working very hard on completing the required documentation for EQIP applications. We received 13 applications this past round from Sullivan County, 11 of those were processed, 19 of them are from Otsego County alone.

CRP- We have been meeting more and more with interested participants and with the lack of staff and not enough hours in the day. Tony stated he is working on making this his top priority once EQIP applications are complete. We

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have 3-5 applications moving forward into contracts.

Open staff positions:

Program Specialist: at the national staffing team level.

Resource Conservationist (Walton): at the national staffing team level.

Soil Conservationist: (Cooperstown) The Pathways student turned down the Opportunity to start working as he is going to further his education to receive A masters degree.

VII. Buffer Coordinator-

Erica submitted her report. Erica states the following:

Butternut Creek Watershed Study- worked on background report. Erica met with County Planning to retrieve additional GIS data.

Erica is coordinating with interns who are assisting with background report- OCCA and SUNY Oneonta.

CREP-Erica has been working with Tony, Kristin, Jeanine and Sandy on CREP conservation plans. Erica has been doing site visits, meeting with landowners, drafting plan designs.

Erica met with Lori D. the FSA CREP state coordinator, they reviewed Several issues and questions that have come up during the planning stages.

Erica attended USC sponsored CREP training in Binghamton.

Security access status: have access to toolkit (used to write conservation Plans), have all the information in to Syracuse to get LincPass, in the meantime have 30 day access pass.

Morris school district- set up meeting to review stream (Tributary to Calhoun Creek) on property that the school manages. They are working with an engineering firm to develop a management plan for property and are seeking OCSWCD input.

VIII. Other Business-

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Next Meeting:

Thursday March 23, 2017

Finance meeting-9:00 am.

Regular meeting 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry Mosher
District Secretary/ Asst. Treasurer

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