

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 November 16, 2017

Members Present:

Les Rathbun, Chair, Grange Rep.
Meg Kennedy, Vice Chair, Cty. Rep.
Jim Powers, Cty. Rep.
Larry Roseboom Sr., Farm Bureau

Staff Present:

Jordan Clements, District Mgr.
Sherry Mosher, District Secretary
Tony Capraro, NRCS, District Conservationist
Lisa Pedersen, FSA

Board Members Absent:

Doris Moennich, Land Owner Treasurer
Ed Lentz, Member @Large
Sam Dubben, Member @ Large

Staff Absent:

None

Guest:

None

I. Called to order:

- Les called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. Approval of October minutes:

- A motion made by Meg to approve October minutes, seconded by Larry, unanimous vote, motion carried.

III. Reading and Approval of October Treasurer Report and paid bills:

- A motion made by Larry to approve October Treasurer report and paid bills, seconded by Meg, unanimous vote, motion carried.

IV. District Report-Sherry Mosher, District Secretary:

- Sherry reported that we are waiting for 2 CPA firms to contact us with a quote for a 6 month and year end review of our books.
- Sherry has been busy working on the winter newsletter and the Leatherstocking Envirothon for 2018. We have already received several donations for the Envirothon. Sherry stated that we already have 3 schools responses for attending in April 2018.
- The annual newsletter will be sent out in December.

V. District Manager-Jordan Clements:

- Jordan reported that we received the new post pounder 2 weeks ago and we have already rented it out.
- Jordan reported that it was announced on November 15, 2017 that Otsego SWCD was awarded a Ag. non-point source grant for the buffer projects for 2 farms for a total of \$145,000.00.
- Jordan reported that NRCS announced at the NYACD meeting that they have 10 million dollars to give to districts to hire for Equip. Jordan sent in the application for possibly receiving funding to hire a contractor. The application is due by November 27, 2017 and we will know the answer by November 30, 2017.
- Jordan spoke with Dan Crowell, Otsego County Treasurer in reference to leasing vehicles through the county. The county would lease vehicles and the district would pay the county through our annual allocation. After discussion a motion

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was made to approve leasing by **Meg** and seconded by **Les. Jim** and **Larry** voted nay to the vote. Due to a tied vote the motion was struck.

- Jordan announced that there will be a Soil Health class on February 27, 2018 at SUNY Oneonta.
- Jordan provided a copy of the completed Ag & Farmland Protection plan.

VI. NRCS:

- Tony reported that he, Jeanine, Andrew have been working on 70 applications from 3 counties for round for EQUIP. Tony said that he now has a new technician in Delaware office that has filled a position, and will certainly help with all of the traveling that Tony and Jeanine have been doing.

VII. FSA:

- Lisa reported that FSA has finished Base Payments, and they are wrapping up Crop reports, reports were due by November 15, 2017.
- Lisa stated that FSA will be doing outreach meeting this winter starting in December and ending in February. There will be 4 meetings, 1)- beginning farmer, 1)- loans, 1)-conservation, 1)- disaster program.
- Lisa stated that all ballots have been mailed out for county committee elections. All ballots are due by December 5, 2017. There will be a meeting on December 8, 2017 to count the ballots.
- Lisa stated that MPP deadline is December 15, 2017, Lisa stated you can opt out.

VIII. Conservation Technician:

- Jordan reported for Chris, stating that he has been busy with Ag. Assessments, Hydroseeding, preparing for the Leatherstocking Envirothon, and the annual newsletter.

IX. Buffer Coordinator:

- See attached.

X. Other Business:

- A motion was made by Meg and seconded by Jim to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel evaluations.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

XI. ****Next Meeting:****

- **December 21, 2017**
- **Finance mtg. at 9:30am, regular mtg. at 10:00 am**

Sincerely Submitted,

Sherry Mosher
District Secretary

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11/15/2017

Update from Erica Capuana, Buffer Coordinator

Butternut Creek Watershed Study

- Coordinated volunteers/intern/entered data/landowner outreach
- Surveyed stream crossings (332 crossing surveyed)
 - Upper Butternut stream crossings – complete
 - Middle Butternut stream crossings –complete
 - Lower Butternut stream crossings – started
- Surveyed stream corridor
 - 100% complete Mainstem Butternut
 - 40% complete tributaries

CREP/EQIP/DEC

- Worked on CREP conservation plans for current projects
 - Site visits, meeting with landowners, drafting plan designs, and writing planting plans
- Met with landowners for potential new CREP sites/stream bank issues
- Met with landowner and planting contractor for CREP Project in West Winfield. Project completed 11/14/17, working with NRCS on certification paperwork and As-Built Report.
- Summarized hours for Contribution Agreement Reimbursement process.
- Conference call with Delaware County Buffer Coordinators and professional planting contractor to discuss their services and integration with our programs.

Other

- Drafted Newsletter article
- Ordered additional field equipment, measuring tapes, flag bag, etc.