



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 MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Members Present:

Les Rathbun, Chair, Grange Rep.
Meg Kennedy, Vice Chair, Cty. Rep.
Larry Roseboom Sr, Farm Bureau
Ed Lentz, Member @ Large
Doris Moennich, Land owner
Michele Farwell, Cty. Rep.

Absent:

None

Guest:

Angelica Palmer, Green Circle Consulting

Staff Present:

Jordan Clements, District Mgr.
Sherry Mosher, District Secretary

I. -Les called the meeting to order @ 10:10am. Out of regular session @ 10:20 as Jordan asked to go into executive session to discuss Forestry Tech position @ 10:20am. Back into regular session @ 10:50am.

II. –Approval of September Minutes, motion to approve made by **Ed**, seconded by **Meg**, motion carried.

III. -Approval of September treasurer report, motion to approve made by **Ed**, seconded by **Larry**, motion carried.

- Approval of paid bills, motion to approve made by **Ed**, seconded by **Meg**, motion carried.

IV. – District Reports: Sherry

-Sherry asked the board members to make a note of date of November's meeting, it will be held on Wednesday November 13, 2019 due to Jordan being on vacation the following week.

-Sherry and Angelica have been working on the 6-month review, which is complete. Angelica stated that the books look better than in the past.

-Sherry continues to utilize the online training courses for QB's.

- Sherry reported that next week is the Annual NYACD meeting in Cazenovia, Sherry, Jordan, **Meg & Ed** will be attending to meet our performance goals. We will be taking our projector & laptop for use at the meeting.

-District Reports: Jordan:

-Jordan gave a presentation at Hartwick College about planting buffers on October 14, 2019.

-Jordan reported that there will be a AEM mtg for year 16, on October 22, 2019.

-Jordan reported that the Annual Plan of Work is due by November 1, 2019.

- We received approx. 600 trees from USC to plant a few buffers.

Ag. Plastic:

-We are still looking for a buyer for plastic.



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- Jordan reported that he is working on an invasive species program with OCCA.
- USC Cover Crop reports are due in December, must have crop in ground by October 15, 2019 to qualify.
- Jordan reported that the Farm Tour which was held on October 4, 2019 went very well.
- The hiring of Daniel Zimmerman for Forest Technician was approved.

-**Ed** requested to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter @ 11:32am, seconded by **Meg**.
Back into regular session at 12:05 pm.

FSA:

- Lisa reported that no corn payment for this year.
 - MFP Tariff money was sent out.
- There will be conservation training that Kristin and Sandy will be attending.

-Please see attached reports.

No further business, meeting adjourned @ 11:14am.

Next meeting: Thursday November 13, 2019
Finance mtg-9:30
Regular mtg-10:00

****** November meeting will be held on Wednesday November 13, 2019**

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Mosher
District secretary



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Mark Kugler Stream Technician

September-October Monthly Report

Week of 9/23

- Attended 2019 Conservation Skills Workshop
 - Basic Surveying
 - GPS for Conservation
 - Cropland Conservation

Week of 9/30

- Returned macroinvertebrate supplies to OCCA
- Attended Upper Susquehanna Watershed Forum with Jordan
- Wrote “Trees for Tribs” newspaper article
- Explored stream restoration grant opportunities
- Worked on repairing Erica’s Tauzel GIS project for planning purposes
- Attended 2019 Farm Tour and was thrilled with the practices installed on the McGrath farm

Week of 10/7

- Worked on Tauzel GIS project
- Site visits with Mike Lovegreen in Wells Bridge and South New Berlin
- Worked on planning for 2020 T4T projects

Week of 10/14

- Inquired with local newspapers about costs to publish T4T article
- Assisted workfare workers and offered guidance for raised bed garden construction
- Worked with Pennysaver staff to finalize T4T article to be published



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September 20th, 2019 – October 17th, 2019

Conservation Technician Report

Jessica Miller

Leatherstocking Envirothon

- Sent out doodlepoll to advisors to pinpoint a date for 2020 Leatherstocking Envirothon.
- Worked on mailing list, registration form, and letter of intent for school districts.

AEM

- Attended Conservation Skills Workshop in Cortland, NY. Took two days of basic surveying and two days of prescribed grazing management.
- Attended 4R Technical Field Day Training at Morrisville State College
- Preparing for AEM implementation round 1 and DEC Cover Crop grant.
- Met with Regional Associate Environmental Analyst for Ag Non Point Source Grant training sessions.

Miscellaneous

- Timesheet corrections due to formula errors.
- Website and Facebook edits weekly.



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Karl Giroux: Conservation Technician

Board Report: 10/17/19

AEM:

- Starting three-four grazing projects AGNPS?
- Implementation money
 - Water system
 - Cover crops

Riparian Forest Buffers:

- Planning 2 potential buffer areas for AGNPS grants

Tree sale:

- Placing initial orders
- Finalizing tree sale advertisement
- Coordinating with Envirothon to set sale date

Ag Assessments:

- Completed 8 ag assessments

Training:

- Con-skills
 - Basic Surveying
 - Fundamentals of grazing
- 4r technical field day
- NRCS 9 step training (last month)

Perc testing:

- Completed three percolation tests

Miscellaneous:

- Mechanic service on some district equipment
- Ag plastic baler transportation
- Attended bid showing
- Attended farm tour
- Supervised/Delegated tasks to workfare workers
- Researching surveying equipment to start design work



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OCTOBER MEETING

Grant Opportunities:

A. Ag Non-Point Source (Ag & Markets):

1. **Calhoun Creek Manure Storage & Fuel Storage project** – Bid was done! Contractor has started project.
2. Waiting on Round 25 awards

B. Upper Susquehanna Coalition RCPP: (NRCS Funds)

1. Submitted two applications in the second round of RCPP program. The District should know if the applications receive funding late spring early summer.
2. Working on application through USC for an intern to work out of our office to do site checks and maintenance on existing planted forested buffers.

C. NYSDEC AIS Grant

1. Teaming with OCCA to provide a emergency response team to invasive species within Otsego County.
2. Also teaming with OCCA to try and eradicate invasive species within our existing forested buffers.

• Ag & Farmland Protection Committee:

- A. Moving forward with monthly meetings.

Ag Plastics :

- A. Working on trying to secure a buyer for plastic. Currently working with Montgomery County SWCD to try and team up with their buyer of plastic. Company is out of Alabama.

E. Buffer Operation & Maintenance:

1. We have contracted with the USC to maintain 125 acres of buffers this summer.
2. Two interns: Olivia Kuss & Skyler Gerard
3. Checking on tree survival rates. Invasive species removal and vegetation management.

F. Hartwick College Presentation

G. Year 16 AEM: First steering committee meeting to be held Tuesday October 22 from 10:00-11:30



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