



Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
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Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
April 10, 2023

Minutes

I. Call to Order: Chairman Hughson called the regular business meeting of the Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present – Wilfred Hughson, Chairman John Diehl, Farmer	Robert Kaplan, Vice Chairman Eugene Benson, Treasurer
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Board members absent – George Conklin, Legislator Nadia Rajs, Legislator	Justin Sutherland, Farmer
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Agency representatives: – Brian Brustman, SWCD Ben Luskin, NYSSWCC	Lisa Schick, SWCD
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II. MINUTES: E. Benson made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2023, board meeting, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

III. WRITTEN & VERBAL REPORTS:

NRCS: No report was sent.

FSA: No report was sent.

CCE: See written report.

NYS SWCC: See written report.

- CRF (Climate Resilient Farming) grant has been released, application due in Aug.
- AGNPS (Ag Non-Point Source) grant has been released. Application due in June.
- Looking into these grants for Bella Poultry for a barnyard compost project.
- Performance Measure Funds: Start a farm application list for funding programs for farms and rate each project in order to utilize funds.
- NYSSWCC Committee meeting is April 26th. Future meetings can be called into and will qualify for Part C requirements.
- AEM Leopold Conservation award is out. Deadline to nominate a farm is May 27th.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Neversink/Rondout Grant: See written report.

- Board discussed hiring two people for seasonal help for Neversink/Rondout program. R. Kaplan made a motion to hire at a salary of \$18-\$20 per hour, a higher wage would need to be requested and discussed, E. Benson seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

B. Program Updates:

- Technician Position: A Technician position was put in the District Budget for 2023. Part C funds can be used for salary.
- Tree and Shrub: Program is going great. Have 160 orders to date.
- Fish Program: Talking with current Fish Hatchery supplier, and looking for other suppliers as our current supplier is having difficulty getting fish. Supplier only has grass carp available for spring.
- Working on helping a landowner obtain a road access permit through wetlands to build a pond.
- Flood Mitigation: Looking at sites in Town of Rockland and Town of Callicoon. Looking at a site with County DPW on a drainage site that borders a NYS DEC fishing access.

C. Personnel Policy will be tabled to the next meeting. Has been sent to County Risk Management for review. Waiting to hear back.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bank Statements: The bank statements were reviewed.

B. Contracts: Waiting on the 2023 County MOU contracts for appropriations and flood mitigation.

C. Audit-2022: County Auditors will be here in April.

VI. DISTRICT CLAIMS: R. Kaplan made a motion to approve abstracts, bills and pre-approvals, seconded by E. Benson, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

2023 – 3B	\$ 209,015.82
2023 – 4A	\$ 268,969.24

Bills presented to the Board for pre-approval: Total - \$ 41,877.26 - See breakdown sheet

VII. TREASURER REPORT: The Profit and Loss and the Balance Sheet were reviewed.

R. Kaplan made a motion to approve the reports, J. Diehl seconded, no one opposed, the motion was passed and carried.

VIII. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 7:00 p.m. - Motion by R. Kaplan

Lisa Schick,
Secretary to Treasurer

Wilfred Hughson,
Chairman