

**DRAFT**  
St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District  
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
For March 26, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

**Note: Meeting was held via telephone due to COVID – 19. The date and time of the meeting was posted to the District’s website one week prior.**

**Board Members Present:** Robert Andrews, Jr. (Chairperson), Adam Cook (Vice-Chair), Becky Allen (Treasurer), Patrick Smith, Kevin Acres and John Burke.

**Board Members Excused:** Mark Matthews

**Staff Present:** Raeanne Dulanski (Manager), and Liz Gallup (Secretary/Treasurer).

**Guests Present:** Ryan Cunningham, SWCC

**I. Call to Order and Agenda (Attachment A) and Free Conference Telecom phone log (Attachment B)**

**a. Roll call:**

Robert Andrews - present  
Adam Cook – present  
Rebecca Allen – present  
Patrick Smith – present  
Kevin Acres – present  
John Burke – present  
Mark Matthews - absent

**II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Motion to approve the February 19, 2020 minutes, made by Cook, seconded by Allen approved by:**

*Robert Andrews - Aye*  
*Adam Cook – Aye*  
*Rebecca Allen – Aye*  
*Patrick Smith – Aye*  
*Kevin Acres – Aye*  
*John Burke – Aye*

**III. Treasurer’s Reports:** Gallup discussed items relevant to the financial information provided to the Board. *Motion to approve the February 2020 Treasurer’s report, made by Allen, seconded by Acres approved by:*

*Robert Andrews - Aye*  
*Adam Cook – Aye*  
*Rebecca Allen – Aye*  
*Patrick Smith – Aye*  
*Kevin Acres – Aye*  
*John Burke – Aye*

#### IV. Reports

**A. BOL** – John Burke, Kevin Acres

1. Acres updated the Board on what is happening with the COVID – 19 situation in the County.

**B. AFPB** – Bob Andrews

1. Next AFPB meeting will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> via telecom. Ag District additions and solar array land use will be discussed.

#### V. SWCD Reports:

**A. Manager’s Report** – Raeanne Dulanski

1. Dulanski updated the Board on how the District is handling the COVID – 19 situation to ensure staff is safe. After much discussion with Andrews, other board members, guidance from SWCC, and NYS Executive order number’s 202.4 and 202.6, it was decided to have staff work remotely from home. SWCC has informed the District that Part C monies may be used to pay the cost of these hours.
2. Dulanski informed the Board that this year’s Envirothon has been cancelled. Paul Smith’s is not allowing any activities on campus thru May 15, 2020. The date of the Envirothon was May 12<sup>th</sup>.
3. Dulanski is in contact with Patrick Ames, CCE and other Districts to come up with a safe and practical way to handle the tree sale handout.
4. Dulanski told the Board that the high bid for the No-Till was \$8,700.00. ***Motion** to accept the No-Till high bid of \$8,700.00 from Auctions International and to allow Dulanski to do all paperwork.* made by Acres, seconded by Cook **approved by:**

***Robert Andrews - Aye***

***Adam Cook – Aye***

***Rebecca Allen – Aye***

***Patrick Smith – Aye***

***Kevin Acres – Aye***

***John Burke – Aye***

5. Dulanski said that the next area of discussion was the proposed cost share program for the rental of no-till or InnerSeeder by producers. She asked if any board member may be interested and said that they should recuse themselves before she began. Cook and Smith said they may be interested and recused themselves.

Dulanski explained the program and said that with utilizing the sale proceeds from the No-Till and Part C monies, the program as outlined could be funded for two years. (**Attachment C**) The District will have a goal of 150 acres per year. Each farm will be capped at 30 acres of reimbursement. Reimbursement will be 75% of the USDA calculated cost per

acre of no-till planting which is \$19.00/acre. Total amount to be used for both years is \$13,700.00. The applicants will be ranked and must apply by April 24th for the spring and July 20th for the fall. Foster is working with Kitty O'Neil of CCE on application/ranking form. **Motion to accept the No-Till/Interseeder Cost Share program**, made by Acres, seconded by Burke approved by:

**Robert Andrews - Aye**  
**Adam Cook – Recused**  
**Rebecca Allen – Aye**  
**Patrick Smith – Recused**  
**Kevin Acres – Aye**  
**John Burke – Aye**

6. Dulanski asked for the board’s approval for a second year of the Right of Way Hazard Roadside Inventory Part C project. Focus will be on town roads starting along the St. Lawrence River and moving into the County with an estimated cost of \$4,300.00 **Motion to approve the 2020 Part C Right of Way Hazard Tree Roadside Inventory program**. made by Burke, seconded by Cook **approved by:**

**Robert Andrews - Aye**  
**Adam Cook – Aye**  
**Rebecca Allen – Aye**  
**Patrick Smith – Aye**  
**Kevin Acres – Aye**  
**John Burke – Aye**

7. Dulanski asked if the Board thought that it would be wise for the District to continue working remotely. Dulanski will continue to work with Allen on plans as we move forward, the Board concurred.
8. Gallup requested a motion to transfer monies for operational costs. **Motion to approve a transfer from Money Market to Checking for April and May 2020 to cover operating costs up to \$20,000 each month** made by Burke, seconded by Cook **approved by:**

**Robert Andrews - Aye**  
**Adam Cook – Aye**  
**Rebecca Allen – Aye**  
**Patrick Smith – Aye**  
**Kevin Acres – Aye**  
**John Burke – Aye**

## **VI. SWCC – Ryan Cunningham**

- A) Cunningham said that many Districts across the state were making similar decisions as the District’s choices on how to handle the COVID 19 situation. He also wanted the Board to know that SWCC has suspended the performance measures for Part C monies and that grants have been pushed out to the beginning of May. He also informed that Board that Part C monies may be utilized to pay for admin leave

incurred. He assured the Board and staff that he is available for any questions or help that they may require.

**VII. Old and New Business:** None

**VIII. Announcements:** Andrews reminded the Board that anyone can dial in to participate in the AFPB meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup> and that the details on how to do this will be sent out soon.

**IX. Time and Date of Next Meeting:** May 21, 2020, 7:30 PM at the SWCD Office.

**X. Meeting Adjourned:** Adjournment, telecom turned off at 9:25 PM

**Note:** Due to technical difficulties with FreeConferencecall.com the recording of the meeting was deleted. (**Attachment D**)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth J. Gallup, Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attachments: A - D