

DRAFT

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District
1942 Old DeKalb Road, Canton, NY 13617
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
For April 18th, 2024, at 4:15 pm

Board Members Present: Robert Andrews, Jr. (Chairperson), Adam Cook (Vice Chair), Jackie teRiele, Kaitlyn Kulp, John Burke, Margaret Haggard

Board Members Excused: Patrick Smith (Treasurer)

Staff Present: Cayce Salvino (Manager), Melissa Woods (Secretary/Assistant Treasurer), Heidi Knafelc (Technician), Jevonnah Foster (Technician) and Aaron Barrigar (Forester)

I. Call to Order: at 4:15 pm

II. Agenda (Attachment A)

III. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: *Motion to approve the March 21, 2024 minutes*, made by Cook, seconded by Burke **approved by all.**

Motion to approve the March 2024 Treasurers Report, made by Cook, seconded by Burke **approved by all.**

IV. Reports

A. Board of Legislators –John Burke and Margaret Haggard

1. Burke reported that the tax for cell phones is back on the table, .90 cents per phone per month (a year away). No need has been specified for the extra money generated.
2. Discussion on lead shot for hunting, county passed the resolution.

B. Ag and Farmland Protection Board – Bob Andrews

1. Andrews reported that Rich Road Solar final comments are due May 7th.
2. Mossy Ridge Solar farm in DeKalb/Bigelow starts construction in 2026. Also building a substation for this solar facility.
3. Proposal for Solar Farm in Brasher, could be the biggest in SLC.
4. Andrews stated that SWCD has been asked for \$25,000 for administrative costs for the Septic System Grant from the Planning Dept.
5. Andrews said there is a methane digester going in Potsdam that farms will truck their manure there and then the gases will be put into pipeline, and then be trucked back to the farms.
6. IDA summary has been handed out for 2023 good information in the booklet.

V. SWCD Reports:

A. Treasurer's Reports: Melissa Woods

1. Woods stated that she received the Frank Bratt Scholarship for the full \$500 that will go towards the reimbursement of the QB class.
2. Woods stated that she had used the QB live help a few times and it was very beneficial and helpful.
3. Woods has submitted the Annual Treasurers Report to OSC.
4. *Motion to pay final invoice from Alpha Nurseries for \$4,896.86* made by Haggard, seconded by Kulp, **approved by all.**
5. *Motion to pay bill of \$2,346 for AEM Planning by Morse Agronomics* made by Cook, seconded by Burke, **approved by all.**

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6. Woods helped Barrigar and Knafelc hand out trees from the annual tree sale.
7. We have received the new truck, working on transferring the plates from the old truck; have an appointment to get the old truck detailed before we list it on Auctions International.
8. **Motion** to allow Woods to transfer up to \$35,000 from Money Market Savings Account to the Checking account to pay for May expenses made by Cook, seconded by Kulp, **approved by all.**

B. Technician Report- Jevonnah Foster

1. Foster is working on AEM Planning with Nutrient Management Grazing and Barnyard plans.
2. Foster is tweaking the Tier 4 Plans, has 5 farms that total approximately \$200,000.
3. **Motion** supporting implementation of AEM Round 18 Tier 4 Cost-Share projects on the following farms; Zufall Farm, Bawden Farm, Cambridge Farm, Jones Farm, and Morrison Farm to send with project budgets, made by Cook, seconded by teRiele, **approved by all.**
4. Foster reported that there has been no movement or update on CRF grant.
5. AgNPS has been pushed to the fall, so no movement on that grant either.

C. Forester's Report – Aaron Barrigar

1. Barrigar has been working on AEM Forest Management Plans and Part B Forest Management plans.
2. Barrigar also handed out trees from the Annual tree sale.
3. Been working on a few site visits.
4. Discussion on County Forest Management Plan and County Land, BOD all supports Barrigar to apply for whatever needs to be done and investigate land to see if the county has land to plant trees on to generate more forest. Would like to get county land into TNC program for carbon credits.
5. Will start ARPA work in the next month or so, will do as much as he can get to.
6. BOD is in full support of Barrigar on Forest Management Plan.

Kulp left at 5:12 pm

D. Technician Report- Heidi Knafelc

1. Knafelc reported that she's been working on AEM and Part B Forest Management Plans.
2. Knafelc has been working on Huntley Farms maps which are complete so Barrigar can start doing FMP.
3. Knafelc also did tree sale handouts.
4. Knafelc took WRP training class.
5. Knafelc also did bark peeling with SRMT and APHIS.
6. Knafelc has been working on internship prep.

E. Manager Report- Cayce Salvino

1. Salvino reported that we have received Mosquito Dunks and have been handing them out at the counter. Discussion on where to hand out, maybes Farmers Market.
2. NACD contacted Salvino about info for an article for their Forestry newsletter & Blog on EAB and our forestry program.
3. Salvino stated that we have had 6 or 7 applicants for the summer internship.
4. Salvino has applied for a grant through the IDA that would cover our Wilderness First Aid (WFA) training class. WFA instructor will come to SWCD and do the training; it will cost \$1,400 for our staff (including interns).
5. **Motion** to pay for WFA training course made by Haggard, second by Burke **approved by all.**

- VI. **Old and New Business:**
 - A. Discussion on First Aid Go Bags, contact SLC Emergency Services see if they can help.
 - B. Look into other SWCD to see what they have for Strategic plan, also check with Ryan Cunningham. (High Risk, High Volume, Problem Prone)
 - C. No update on Save the River Group, they never reached out.
 - D. Discussion on potential for having to move out of the USDA building in the future.
- VII. **Correspondence:** Mail was available for the Board’s review.
- VIII. **Announcements:** None
- IX. **Next Meeting:** May 16th, 2024 4:15 p.m.
- X. **Meeting Adjourned:** *Motion to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.* made by Cook seconded by Haggard **approved by all.**

Robert Andrews, Jr., Chairperson

Date

Melissa Woods, Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

Date

Email Motion 4/23/24:

*Motion to continue our support of the positive environmental impacts created with the implementation of the DEC Septic System Repair and Replacement program by providing \$25,000 in Part C funds to St. Lawrence County Planning Office for the administration of the septic funds, **approved by all via email.***