



Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District

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www.cortlandswcd.org

SWCD...established to promote the conservation and wise use of our county's natural resources

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

ATTENDING: Linda Jones, Vice-Chair Amanda Barber, District Manager
Tracey Evanick, Treasurer Melissa Rutter, Fiscal Officer
William McGovern, Director
John Phelps, Director

A. MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER by Vice-Chair Jones – 1:06 p.m.

B. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Motion by McGovern to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 13, 2024 as written. Seconded and carried 4-0.

C. FINANCIAL REPORTS: Including income and expenses for August. Presented for payment Abstract 08-24 for Vouchers 147-24 to 166-24.

Motion by Evanick to accept the August 2024 financial reports and approve the payment of bills presented on Abstract 08-24 in the amount of \$426,294.56. Seconded and carried 4-0.

D. REPORTS:

1. **SWCD-** Report was distributed and is appended to minutes.
2. **SWCC** – Report was distributed and is appended to minutes.
3. **NYACD-** Letter in correspondence.
4. **NRCS** – No report submitted.
5. **SLWAP** – No report submitted.

E. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **SWCC** – September 17 meeting agenda.
2. **NYACD** – Letter from Blanche Hurlbutt.

F. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **2025 Budget** – Barber advised the Board that the 2025 Budget, as approved by the Board, was submitted to the County. The County had mentioned that the 2024 ARPA funds may or may not be able to be carried over as we planned, but Barber submitted the budget as approved.
2. **ARPA Project Status** – Barber distributed an updated ARPA allocation spreadsheet. She explained to the Board members how some of the allocations have changed between projects due to adjustments in cost of materials. Barber anticipates that all of the ARPA project funds (\$234,000) will be exhausted once the final bills for the Brown and Brackel projects are paid. The balance of expenses for those projects will be paid with CRF and USC funds. CRF funds will cover the entire Merrill project.

3. **Board At-Large Member Replacement** – Barber is still seeking suggestions to fill the empty Director slot. Ideally, the At-Large member would be a non-farmer, residing in an urban/suburban area, with some SWCD knowledge, and is a conservation advocate. Barber asked the Board members to bring names of potential eligible persons to the October Board meeting for discussion.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. **NYACD Annual Meeting** – Barber told the Board that in advance of the NYACD annual meeting, there is a call for resolutions and award nominations. Resolutions would be for anything that the Board would like the NYACD to support. Barber will email the award nomination forms to the Board for review and nomination suggestions for any or all of the award categories.
2. **Murphy Memorial/Donation** - McGovern reported that he spoke to St. Mary's to set up a Mass in Jim's name, and, although the arrangements have been made, St. Mary's said that they could not tell him a specific date for the District-sponsored Mass, as there are a lot of Masses in line to be held in Jim's name thus far. McGovern picked up a Sympathy card for all the employees and Board to sign for mailing.

H. NEXT MEETING: October 8, 2024, 1:00 pm.

I. ADJOURNED at 2:18 pm.

Melissa Rutter, Board Secretary