

CHEMUNG COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Agenda
Tuesday, May 16th, 2023

1:00 P.M. Meeting @ District Office-851 Chemung St. Horseheads NY

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
2. APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT for AUDIT
3. APPROVAL OF BILLS
4. DISTRICT DIRECTOR
5. EQUIPMENT REQUEST
6. BENTLEY CREEK SUPPLEMENTAL WATER AGREEMENT NO.
1
7. POLICY ON MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR RETIREES
8. CONTRACT WITH CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
9. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT
10. DISTRICT TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Anything to come before the Board!

Chemung County Soil and Water Conservation District Minutes
Tuesday, May 16th, 2023 @ District Office -851 Chemung St. Horseheads

Present:

Thomas Rhodes- Chair
Jim Bush-Treasurer
Dave Boor-Vice-Chair
David Stow-Grange
Dick Gunderman-**Excused**
Mike Smith -Legislator
Lawana Morse-Legislator

Karen Tillotson –District Manager
Mark Richer-District Technician
Diane Stage – Secretary/Assistant Treasurer
Paul Saunders - Guest

The monthly meeting of the Chemung County Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Chair Thomas Rhodes at 1:00 PM.

1. **Approval of the Minutes:** *J. Bush motioned to approve the April minutes as presented. M. Smith seconded it. All in favor and carried.*
2. **File the April treasurer's Report for Audit:** *J. Bush motioned to approve the April's treasurer's report for audit. D. Stow seconded it. All in favor and carried.*
3. **Approval of the list of Bills:** *M. Smith motioned to approve the list of bills as presented and seconded by J. Bush. All in favor and carried.*
4. **District Director resignation/replacement:** *Dick Gunderman, via a phone call, advised Karen he wanted to resign his position on the board.*
5. **Equipment request:** *Equipment usage requests intra-county entities need to have ground rules established including a chain of communication between Directors/Supervisors for scheduling.*
6. **Bentley Creek Supplemental water agreement No.1:** *the District has no financial responsibility per the NRCS*
7. **Policy on Medical Insurance for Retirees:** *D. Stow motioned to not offer the option of having "payment deposited into a Qualified Health Care Savings". **The District will reimburse retirees for a health insurance premium bill showing coverage in the retiree's name up to the amount allocated for that retiree.** D. Boor seconded it. All in favor and carried.*
8. **Contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension:** *Tabled to June meeting*
9. **District Manager's Report- 04/12/2023-05/11/2023**
Site Visits:
 - Old Chemung Canal -Josh Woodard -looking for an option on the canal flow towards Casella and doing some tree removal.
 - Breesport-N. Chemung Road
 - Patrick Collins contacted us from 756 Breesport N. Chemung Road with concerns about the drainage situation behind his home and eight of his neighbors. Mark and I met on May 10th with Mr. Collins and took drone shots to see possible solutions.
 - Revisited Susan Vieselmeyer on Jackson Creek Road-water floods driveway, which she believes is due to Jackson Creek Dam. Ms. Vieselmeyer would like to remove all the shrubs from the area to put the water back on a standard path. We did not see any obstructions causing the area to flood. I will follow up with her.
 - The town of Big Flats called about their park issues with flooding.
 - Richard Howard's Town of Erin property is in the floodplain, but Mr. Howard wants to see the stream dredged/cleaned out. The issue is he does not want equipment to go on his property. It would involve an excavator and dump trucks to remove the fill.
 - Town of Catlin-St Rt 414
 - Meeting a group of residents on May 18th to look at the stream issue

Meetings:

- Yates County-Soils -April 12th
- Bentley Creek Public Meeting -April 12th
- Round 7 Webinar April 25th

- State Committee Meeting in Utica-April 26th-discussion on a Fingerlakes Coalition Startup Environmental Field Days -May 23rd

- Hendy and Beecher Schools are signed up
- I am looking for three more presenters to fill up both trails

Interviews for Technician/Educator -Mark and I didn't realize that before interviewing, Civil Service had to approve

- Hailey Faulkner
- James Barnes
- Mattix Luferno
- Noah Dobson
- Holton Ike
- Craig Johnson-Zoom meeting scheduled for May 26th

Attended Stormwater Team Meeting May 9th

- Informed that the team will transfer to County
- An audit needs to be scheduled
- Andy asked me to send an invoice to the County for the funds to get through the end of June.
- WQIP Mapping Grant-Stormwater will complete the grant, but Andy wanted to be sure that the District is on board with them doing so-they believe they would contract it out

FLLOWPA

- Central Regional Meeting May 24th via Zoom
- Budget increased-to \$2,750,000.00-counties would get \$107,200.00, an additional \$10,000.00

Newsletter completed

The District still has not received a signed contract from the County for the lease at the cabin, the Old Chemung Canal, or the equipment contract.

Equipment Operator

- Town of Chemung
 - Completed the Town of Chemung gravel pit project
 - Lookwood Run
- Town of Southport
 - Left Branch Dry Run
- Ag Society Fairground Project

Continue training with Diane

June meeting will be at 11:30 at the cabin for District Law and Sexual Harassment Training -lunch will be provided- Important that all attend for District Law as this counts towards the Performance Measure at the end of the year

Dick Gunderman resigned from the board

I was away on vacation from April 27th through May 8th

10. District Technician's Report-

- Worked on Tree Program
- Worked on Fish Program
- Attended a meeting on Spotted Lantern Fly
- Attended the Envirothon; 3 teams from BOCES
- Hydro-seeding: 1st job on 5/16 at the Harris Hill Glider Field
- Visit Mark Dalrymple
- Shoot Grades for stream crossing on Dry Brook
- Look at Birch Hill work for Veteran
- Town of Van Etten Burns Rd. project
- Soil sample blueberry farm in Ashland
- Remove beaver dams in canal
- BOCES use of our skidster for land clearing for sewer district
- Interviews with Karen for open Technician position
- Request to buy Hydro-mulch

Anything to Come before the Board:

A motion to adjourn was made @ 2:30 PM by J. Bush and seconded by D. Stow

Respectfully submitted by Diane Stage