

Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, November 13, 2023

Directors at the District office, 25451 State Route 12, Watertown, NY: Tom Boxberger, David Brass, Allen Drake, and Mike Kiechle. Others: CNMP, Justin Bach, ERS, Jonathan Crast; Executive Director, Patrick Crast; and Administrative Assistant, Rhonda Redder. Absent: Jason Bast, Chuck Eastman, and Dan McBride

Vice-Chairman Brass called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. *Director Boxberger moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Motion seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.*

I REPORTS

Financial: October financial reports were reviewed; claims and bank statements were available. Open invoices total: \$157,208.78. *Director Kiechle moved to approve the financial reports and sign the Itemized Disbursements Report \$105,040.55; seconded by Director Boxberger. Carried.*

Cooperating Agencies

SWCC: Ryan Cunningham's report was shared; the next meeting is scheduled for November 21.

CCE: Abbey Janti's report was shared.

Director Reports:

Kiechle: Farm Bureau's annual meeting was held at the Gathering Barn (Old McDonald's Farm); Doug and Sue Shelmedine were recognized for their distinguished service to the ag community.

Drake: Jefferson County has approved a ten percent decrease in the tax rate.

II CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Environmental Resource Specialist - ST*
- B. County Treasurer: Timber Sale*
- C. Belleville-Henderson FFA invitation
- D. Guardian: Renewal
- E. Guardian: IRS requirements
- F. County Administrator: 2024 Appropriation
- G. Indian River Lakes Conservancy newsletter
- H. SWCC: AEM award of \$260,000 for 2024-25
- I. NYS Envirothon request
- J. Farm Bureau: Annual dues; resolution will be prepared for December

*Outgoing

III OLD BUSINESS

- A. Expiring Terms: Bast and Eastman
- B. American Farmland Trust update

IV NEW BUSINESS

- A. Manure Sampling Rate: *Director Boxberger moved to approve the manure sampling rates as proposed. Motion seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.*
- B. NYCLASS: No action
- C. Health Insurance: *Director Boxberger moved to increase employee health insurance contributions by one percent every year from ten to fifteen percent, effective April 1, 2024, (renewal) and to amend the employee handbook to reflect this change. Motion seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.*
- D. Retiree Benefit: *Director Boxberger moved to approve Retiree Benefit Policy for 2024 with no changes. Motion seconded by Director Drake. Carried.*
- E. 2019 Rav: *Director Boxberger moved to counteroffer the high bid of \$19,900 with \$22,500 for the 2019 Rav 4 through Auctions International. Motion seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.*
- F. AEM final payment: No action

Director Boxberger moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Next meeting: December 11, 2023, at 5:30 pm

Director

Date

Director

Date