

Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, July 8, 2024

Directors present at the District office, 25451 State Route 12, Watertown, NY: Jason Bast, Tom Boxberger, Dick Campany, Mike Kiechle, Dan McBride, and Jim Nabywaniec. Others: JCADC, Jay Matteson; CNMP, Justin Bach; Forester, Jonathan Crast; Executive Director, Patrick Crast; and Administrative Assistant, Rhonda Redder. Absent: Chuck Eastman

Prior to the start of the meeting, Pat Crast reviewed the SWCD existing and upcoming projects, and the funds generated from each program were explained.

Chairman Bast called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. ***Director Boxberger moved to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Motion seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.***

I REPORTS

Financial: June financial reports were reviewed along with a YTD profit and loss comparison to 2023; claims and bank statements were available. Open invoices: \$ 137,439.25. ***Director Boxberger moved to approve the financial reports and to sign the Itemized Disbursements Report \$ 72,152.07; seconded by Director Kiechle. Carried.***

Cooperating Agencies

SWCC & NYACD - No report

CCE - Abbey sent flyers for the upcoming Ag Trivia Night on 7/12 and Twilight Pasture Walk on 7/31.

FSA - Crop reporting deadline is 7/15/24 for corn, soybean, and spring-planted small grains. Call for an appointment; producers need to know their plant dates! Accepting nominations for county committee members and encourages all farmers and program participants to take part in the election nomination process. The area up for election is the Henderson, Adams, Rodman, Ellisburg, Lorraine and Worth townships. Nomination forms are available at FSA and must be postmarked or received by 8/1/24. Individuals may nominate themselves or others, candidates must accept nomination. Organic cost-share program will cover up to 75% of organic certification cost. FSA is accepting applications for eligible expenses incurred from 10/1/23 - 9/30/24. Payments will be made as applications are received and approved.

JCADC - Jay: Thanked Justin for representing the District at the Ag Development Council meetings. CWT egg hatchery is doing some test runs now and will ramp up production to hatch one million chicks a week in the fall. We have been utilizing ARPA funds to implement food resiliency grants; we are finishing up 64 projects throughout the county. Those include dairy processing and local meat processing businesses.

NRCS – No report

Director Reports:

Kiechle: Farmland Protection will meet later this month for inclusions.

Each employee reviewed their upcoming projects.

II CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Bike Shop – Cheddar Challenge (Winona)
- B. IRLC – Celebration of Lakes 8/4
- C. Performance Measure Evaluation: Local Government Conference has been approved by SWCC

III NEW BUSINESS

- A. CNMP/Design agreements: **Director Kiechle moved to renew the existing CNMP/design agreements with Oswego and St. Lawrence SWCDs with new dates, rates, and mileage rates. Motion seconded by Director Boxberger. Carried.**
- B. Forestry: We have been notified by the new Deputy Administrator that a contract renewal is needed; we will send a draft to Jefferson County for execution.
- C. Fort Drum: The scope of work was reviewed.
- D. Brush Cutter: **Director Boxberger moved to accept the bids through Auctions International and approve the highest bid of \$2800 for the sale of the 2023 CID, Model 306, 72” brush cutter. Motion seconded by Director Campany. Carried. (Sale of the 2017 Maschio Giraffetta flail mower was approved - September 2023)**

IV OLD BUSINESS

- A. Executive Director Vacancy Update

With no further business, **Director Boxberger moved to enter executive session at 6:32 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person. This motion was seconded by Director Nabywaniec. Carried.** At this time Justin Bach, Jonathan Crast, and Jay Matteson left the meeting.

Executive session ended and the meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Next meeting: August 12, 2024, at 5:30 pm

Director Date

Director Date