



MADISON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 22, 2023, 7pm
Regular Board Meeting

Present: Ric Barnes - Chairman
Allen Hough - Vice Chairman
TJ Stokes – County Legislator
Charlie Pace - Non-farming public Representative
Steve Lorraine – District Manager SWCD
Amy Hayduke - District Clerk/Treasurer

1. Call to Order

Chairman Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were emailed to the board in advance for review. A printed copy was also provided at the meeting. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by Ric to approve the September 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

3. Treasurer's Report

July – A motion to approve the report as presented was made by Charlie, Seconded by Allen. Motion carried.
September – A motion to approve the report was made by Allen and seconded by TJ. Motion carried.
Bills- A motion made by Allen, seconded by TJ to approve payment of outstanding bills including the late addition of a bill in the amount of \$27,703.80 to Cody Farms, which was not listed on the report. Motion carried.

4. Manager's Report – Steve Lorraine

- Steve passed around a flyer titled Grassland Initiative, made by Troy Bishopp in collaboration with the USC.
- Steve also passed around an article from Country Folks that Troy Bishopp wrote, titled "Casual pasture walk celebrates footsteps".
- We are working on 3 covered Barnyard projects and are hoping to wrap them all up very soon.
- The flood mitigation project we have been working on in Munnsville is almost done.
- We are working on a fencing project in Brookfield.
- The buffer at the Pushlar farm is finished.
- We are wrapping up the cover crops. This season was cut a little short due to weather.
- Jess Heim, Joann Burke and Tom Conklin have been busy soil sampling.
- We hope to complete most active projects in the next month.

5. FSA- No report, no-one present.

6. NRCS – No report, no-one present

7. CCE

- Mary Sheehan, Ag Instructor sent the CCE report for October, which was handed out. They have been busy programming and year-end meetings. CCE has several on-going technical assistance programs and have been supporting farm business plans for a greenhouse center, farm stand and several perennial disease and pest issues.

- CCE kicked off a new series called “Mad Ideas”, which Larkin Podsiedlik, Executive Director sent a flyer about, and it was passed around.

8. Committee Reports

State: Scott Fickbohm sent the October report, which was handed out and reviewed.

County: TJ gave a report about the status of the budget.

9. NYACD

- A letter from Blanche Hurlbut regarding some recent updates was handed out and reviewed.
- The annual Conservation Investment from NACD was discussed. A motion was made by Allen and seconded by Charlie, to donate \$500. Motion carried.
- The annual meeting is on 10/24/23-10/26/23 in Penn Yan. Steve and Jim are planning to attend.

10. Old Business

- Dormant account closure at NBT – Allen motioned, and Charlie seconded to close the dormant bank accounts from closed grants. Motion carried.
- Envirothon donation – tabled. The board would like to know how many other districts have donated. Amy will look into and report back at next month’s meeting.
- Employee Handbook update – Steve discussed with the board the need to update some sections of the handbook. He would like to bring those to the next few board meetings to review and get clarification on with the board.

11. New Business

- AEM Round 18 – A motion to approve the Action Plan Form as presented by Steve, was made by Allen and Seconded by TJ. Motion carried.
- 2024 Plan of Work – A motion was made by Charlie and seconded by Allen, to approve the proposed Plan of Work for Madison County SWCD, which was presented by Steve. Motion carried.
- The 2023 Contractor’s Appreciation luncheon was discussed. Location and date to be determined at a later date.
- District Policies – Steve discussed with the board the need to review and update the Madison County SWCD policies. He plans to bring a couple of the policies to the following several meetings to go over with the board.
- Office Internet change – Still looking into options.

12. Training Session

Steve held a training session for the board members regarding Flood Mitigation. Information was passed out and the training session was interactive.

14. Next Meeting

November 16, 2023 @ noon

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Charlie and seconded by Allen. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.



Amy Hayduke, District Clerk/Treasurer

Date: 10/19/2023