

Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa
Cornell Room
Minutes of Regular Meeting 07/26/2023

In Attendance:

District Directors:

Janet Bartow – Grange
Victoria Garlanda – At Large
Steven Ropitzky –Chairman
Jen Koval – At Large
Mike Smith – Legislator

District Staff:

Dustin Lewis– District Manager
Kaitlyn Bemis– Office Manager
Dan Palemire – Field Technician

Regrets: Jay Matthews, Kevin Veitch, Scott Monica

Meeting called to order at 3:03 pm by Chairman Ropitzky.

1. **Minutes of June 2023 Meeting:** Motion to approve by Bartow, seconded by Koval, carried unanimously.
2. **June 2023 Financial Reports:**
 - a. **Income Report, Expense Report, Bank Report, Budget vs Actual Report and Vouchers:** Motion to approve by Koval, seconded by Smith, carried unanimously.
3. **Field Report: (Attachment A)**
4. **Cooperating Agency Reports:**
 - a. **NRCS:** No Report.
 - b. **FSA:** No Report.
 - c. **RC&D:** No Report.
 - d. **NYSSWCC:** No Report.
 - e. **NYACD:** Ropitzky reported that the board will be considering in the upcoming budget paying annual dues, as well as becoming more involved at the NYACD meetings by representing the division.
 - f. **CCE:** No Report.
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Water Quality Coordinating Committee:** No Meeting
 - b. **Grants:** Lewis reported on the following:
 - i. Agricultural Environmental Management – New round got approved, next meeting there will be a discussion about what practices will be approved with any board member who is not considering applying for a grant. Any board member interested in applying will have to recuse.
 - ii. Septic – Residence have been applying and a couple projects have been moving forward.
 - iii. Roadside Erosion – due to the storm damage in Edinburgh, Lewis will be meeting with the Town of Day to review switching over grant funds.
 - iv. Micro Irrigation Grant – No Report.
 - v. CRF -Resolutions – (**Attachment B**) Applying for cover crop and a no-till drill with \$10,000 district match.
Motion to approve made by Smith, seconded by Bartow, carried unanimously.
 - c. **2024 Budget:** The 2024 Budget was reviewed.
Motion to approve made by Bartow, seconded by Garlanda, carried unanimously.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. **WQIP Applications:** Lewis received three requests for salt storage grants. Monica applied for covering the costs of hydro mulch. Palemire reported re-reviewing community garden opportunities.
 - b. **Disposition of Map Cases:** received \$130 bid, requested permission to accept offer.
Motion to approve made by Garlanda, seconded by Koval, carried unanimously.
 - a. **Listing of old truck for sale:** requested permission to put 2021 Silverado truck up for auction.
Motion to approve made by Garlanda, seconded by Bartow, carried unanimously.
7. **Correspondence:** No Correspondence.
8. **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 3:00pm. Meeting adjourned by Chairman at 4:01pm.

Respectfully submitted: _____

Kaitlyn H.J. Bemis, Secretary

Steve Ropitzky – Chairman

ATTACHMENT A:

July 2023 Field Report

- Survey dry hydrant Hudson Dr (Galway)
 - Hydro seed Town of Wilton
 - WQIP hydro seeding grant application
 - Local working group meeting
 - AEM CRF grant application.
 - AEM Fuel storage site visit
 - AEM Dairy CRF Grant / AEM fuel storage facility
 - AEM site visit Moreau Farm, (AEM round 18 irrigation)
 - AEM tier 1-2 Farm (Saratoga PLAN)
 - County Fair Booth
 - New truck
 - Attended Bond Act Listening Session at SUNY Albany
 - Saratoga Lake HABs meeting Brown's Beach
 - Drone Flight of Saratoga Lake HABs event
 - Septic Site Visit (Clifton Park)
 - WQIP Grant Salt Shed application meetings (Wilton, Malta, Galway)
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ATTACHEMENT B:

RESOLUTION
Of the
Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Resolution No.: 2023-01

Date: 07/26/2023

Authorizing participation by the Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District in the Climate Resilient Farming Program

WHEREAS, the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee has issued a Request for Proposals inviting Soil and Water Conservation Districts or groups of Districts acting jointly to submit proposals for funding under Round 7 of the Climate Resilient Farming Program; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for projects that consist of activities that will reduce, abate, control, or prevent nonpoint source pollution originating from agricultural sources; and

WHEREAS, the Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District has determined that certain work, as described in its application and attachments, (the "Project") is in the public interest and consists of activities that will mitigate sources of climate change and/or help farmers be more adaptive to a changing climate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District Board

1) That **Dustin Lewis, District Manager**, or such person's successor in office, is the representative to act on behalf of the District's governing body in all matters related to State Assistance under Round 7 of the Climate Resilient Farming Program. The representative is authorized to make application, execute the contract for State Assistance, submit project documentation, and otherwise act for the District governing body in all matters related to the Project;

2) That the District agrees to fund its portion of the cost of the Project as provided in the application;

3) That one (1) certified copy of this Resolution be prepared and attached to the application for funding under Round 7 of the Climate Resilient Farming Program;

4) That this resolution takes effect immediately.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District at a meeting held on 26th day of July in the year 2023.
