

Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District
50 West High St. Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Minutes of Regular Meeting 03/20/2024

In Attendance:

District Directors:

Janet Bartow – Vice President
Victoria Garlanda – At Large
Jennifer Koval – At Large Farmer
Steven Ropitzky – Chairman
Kevin Veitch – Legislator
JD Arnold – Legislator

District Staff:

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

Regrets: Kate Girard, Jay Matthews – At large

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm by Chairman Ropitzky.

1. **Minutes of February 2024 Meeting:** Motion to approve by Veitch, seconded by Bartow, carried unanimously.
2. **February 2024 Financial Reports:**
 - a. **Income Report, Expense Report, Budget vs Actual Report and Vouchers** Motion to approve made by Koval, seconded by Veitch, carried unanimously.
3. **Field Report: (Attachment A)**
4. **Cooperating Agency Reports:**
 - a. **NRCS:** No Report.
 - b. **FSA:** Williams sent email.
 - c. **RC&D:** No report.
 - d. **NYSSWCC:** Email was received and distributed to board members.
 - e. **NYACD:** No report. Lewis and Bartow reported on attending legislative days.
 - f. **CCE:** No report. Koval reported on the Farm Tour being planned with Saratoga Plan.
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Water Quality Coordinating Committee:** No meeting this month.
 - b. **Grants:** Lewis reported on the following:
 - i. Agricultural Environmental Management - Lewis reported that Palemire and him were ready to review applications later in the meeting.
 - ii. Septic Grants – Lewis reported that the county will be providing funds to manage the new program.
 - iii. Roadside Erosion – No Report.
 - c. **T&S 2024:** Bemis plans to close pre-orders by the end of the month.
 - d. **Envirothon 2024:** Bemis reported that student participation has grown since last year. 5 Schools are expected to attend.
 - e. **Audit of 2023 Books:** The 2023 audit of the books was successfully conducted by Bartow and Veitch prior to the meeting.
 - f. **Tire Collection Spring 2024:** Lewis reported that the collection will take place in Wilton, on May 21st, there will be a distribution of the form in the coming weeks.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. **Summer Intern:** Lewis reported preparing to higher a summer intern. **Motion** to approve the hiring of an intern for 10 weeks, 35 hours a week at the rate of \$20 per hour made by Garlanda, seconded by Koval, carried unanimously.
Koval left the meeting.
 - b. **Review and approval of AEM grant applications:** Palemire provided a list of AEM project applications, coming in just under \$200,000.00, for the board's review. **Motion** to approve the AEM project proposal list as submitted by Bartow, seconded by Garlanda, carried unanimously.
7. **Other Business:** No other business.
8. **Correspondence:** No Correspondence.
9. **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, at 3:00pm. **Motion** for meeting adjournment by Veitch, Seconded by Garlanda at 3:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted: _____

Kaitlyn H.J. Bemis, Secretary

Steve Ropitzky – Chairman

ATTACHMENT A:

March 2024 Field Report

- 10 Ag Assessments County wide
 - T&S brochures County wide
 - WQS training Syracuse
 - AEM-round 18 projects County wide
 - AEM-No-till preparation
 - AEM-round18 project budgets
 - AEM- round 17 final close out submittal
 - Hanehan Rd Site visit for water complaint (Saratoga)
 - Erosion visit (Wilton)
 - Inspection and oil change on red truck
 - Private 4-hour training
 - Proctored stormwater training exam
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