

Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa
Saratoga SWCD Storage Building
Minutes of Regular Meeting 08/21/2024

In Attendance:

District Directors:

Janet Bartow – Grange
Victoria Garlanda – At Large
Kevin Veitch – Legislator
JD Arnold – Legislator
Steven Ropitzky –Chairman

District Staff:

Dustin Lewis– District Manager
Kaitlyn Bemis– Office Manager
Scott Monica – Senior Technician
Dan Palemire – Technician

Regrets: Jay Matthews – At Large Farmer, Kate Girard -NRCS

Meeting called to order at 3:01 PM by Chairman Ropitzky.

1. **Minutes of July 2024 Meeting:** **Motion** to approve by Bartow, seconded by Koval, carried unanimously. *Veitch Entered the Meeting.*
2. **July 2024 Financial Reports:**
 - a. **Income Report, Expense Report, Bank 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:** Girard emailed an update: Signed 4 Conservation Stewardship Program contracts for projects including invasive control, tree and shrub planting, cover crops, nest boxes for wildlife.
 - b. **FSA:** No Report.
 - c. **RC&D:** No Report.
 - d. **NYSSWCC:** Fickbohm emailed monthly report.
 - e. **NYACD:** No Report.
 - f. **CCE:** No Report.
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Water Quality Coordinating Committee:** **No meeting was officially held.** Lewis reported that there was a brief discussion about Saratoga Lake.
 - b. **Grants:** Lewis reported on the following:
 - i. Agricultural Environmental Management – Approved projects are ongoing.
 - ii. Septic – 2/3 Mailers have been sent out, one new project pending
 - iii. Roadside Assistance Grant – No Report.
 - iv. Cover Crop - Waiting on a NYS login to begin signing up farms.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. NRCS Local Working Group 8/28/24 1-3PM, Auditorium 50 W. High St.
7. **Executive Session (if needed):** No Executive Session.
8. **Other Business:** None.
9. **Correspondence:** None
10. **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 3:00pm. Meeting adjourned at 3:38 PM. **Motion** to approve by Bartow, seconded by Koval

Respectfully submitted: _____

Kaitlyn H Bemis, Secretary

Steve Ropitzky – Chairman

ATTACHMENT A:

August 2024 Field Report

- Hydro seed Town of Galway
 - Hydro seed Town of Greenfield
 - Hydro seed Town of Wilton
 - Field drainage Farm (Saratoga)
 - Attended National Envirothon
 - County Fair booth
 - Attended Cardboard Boat Race at Schuylerville Park (Schuylerville)
 - Completed WQIP application (Charlton)
 - Saratoga Lake sediment issue drone flight (Stillwater)
 - Held an Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program class and exam
 - Cover crop grant preparation meeting
 - Septic grant mailings and site visit
 - AEM:
 - Ballston Spa Farm - ordered irrigation water reel system
 - Ballston Spa Farm – Pesticide building, waiting on farm to finalize design
 - Saratoga Farm – Ordering parts for Micro-Irrigation system
 - Ballston Lake Farm - Irrigation Pond, Waiting on Engineer
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