



**MADISON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
November 16, 2023, 12pm  
Regular Board Meeting**

**Present:** Ric Barnes - Chairman  
Allen Hough - Vice Chairman  
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 12:00 pm.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were emailed to the board in advance for review. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by Charlie to approve the October 2023 minutes as written. Motion carried.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

A motion to approve the October 2023 report was made by Allen and seconded by Charlie. Motion carried.  
Bills to Be Paid - A motion made by Ric, seconded by Allen to approve payment of outstanding bill and the last-minute addition of an amount due to David Livermore for accrued annual time. Motion carried.

**4. Manager's Report – Steve Lorraine**

- Jess has been working on updating multiple CNMP's for non-CAFO farms in the county.
- Jess has also been helping with updates to several CAFO farms CNMP's.
- Jess, Joann and Tom continue pulling updated soil samples on both CAFO & non-CAFO farms across the county.
- Joann continues to work with the USC on data collection and BMP verification.
- Joann and Amy have been working on next year's tree sale.
- Tom has been assisting Andy with permit application for stream & shoreline work.
- Troy, Tom and Andy have been recycling a couple of old fence systems that are no longer being used by the farms. Much of the fencing can be reused next year.
- Troy oversaw the completion of a fence project in a farm in Brookfield.
- Troy oversaw the installation of a buffer/cattle exclusion fence at a farm in Cazenovia.
- Troy has been developing a couple new grazing plans for beef and sheep farms in the county.
- Andy is overseeing construction of a covered barnyard at a farm in Hamilton, a covered barnyard in Morrisville and a covered barnyard & covered manure storage at a farm in Brookfield.
- Andy has started a design for a covered barnyard at a farm in Nelson.
- Carl is overseeing a covered barnyard project in Cazenovia.
- Carl is working on a covered barnyard project in Eaton.
- Carl oversaw the completion of a silage leachate collection system at a farm in Fenner.
- Carl is also working on manure storage designs for a farm in Lebanon and another in Hamilton.

- We finished up planting cover crops for this year. There were about 1400 acres total. About 800 acres planted by District. Remainder planted by the farm or other private applicator.
- We completed the flood mitigation projects. They were located at: Park St in Munnsville, Hamilton Hill Rd in Eaton and Carey Rd in DeRuyter.
- Steve attended the NYACD Annual Meeting where the resolution we passed on solar & wind sites was addressed, revised and passed.
- Amy & Steve attended training at the Administrative Conference in Syracuse. Steve attended Investments for District, Civil Service and a manager's forum. Amy attended training on open meeting law and records retention.
- Steve continues to assist in the development of the Oneida Lake watershed 9E Watershed Plan.

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

6. **NRCS** – NRCS Partnership Update was emailed to the board members

7. **CCE**

- Mary Sheehan, Ag Instructor sent the CCE report for November, which was handed out.
- The latest flyer for the lecture series Mad Ideas was forwarded in an email to the board members.

8. **Committee Reports** – no report, no-one present

9. **NYACD**

- Emails from Blanche Hurlbutt have been forwarded as they arrive
- Annual Meeting – Awards & pending Resolutions were discussed. Madison County SWCD received 2 awards: Diversity Award and Media: Best Ed/Outreach. The plaques and prizes were discussed.

10. **CDEA**

October 2023 newsletter was forwarded to the board members

11. **Old Business**

- RD 7 CRF Awards – 4 of the 5 applications that we submitted will be funded. They are: A restoration project on a stream channel that is flooding a farm stead; Restoration on a stream channel that is severely eroding an organic dairy's pasture land; A flood mitigation program near Bradley Brook Reservoir; A Soil Health practice on an organic crop farm in Cazenovia.
- Envirothon Invoice was discussed. 24 other districts have contributed so far. Tabled for next month.
- Employee Handbook review. Several sections of the handbook that should be updated, changed or clarified were discussed with the board members. No changes will be finalized until all board members are present, have had a chance to review the changes and ask any questions.

12. **New Business**

- The 2023 Madison County SWCD Appreciation Luncheon will be held at the CCE Ag room. Catering will be by Holy Smoke.
- Review of district policies – Tabled for a future meeting.
- HSA Funding review – Steve made the board aware that the district's HSA funding amount has not changed since 2010, however employee deductibles have doubled and out of pocket expenses have risen significantly. We will discuss this again at a future meeting.

13. **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Allen, seconded by Charlie to enter Executive Session at 1:44 pm. Carried  
A motion was made by Charlie, seconded by Allen to exit Executive session at 2:08 pm. Carried.

#### **14. Additional Business**

- A motion was made by Allen and seconded by Charlie, to accept David Livermore's resignation dated 11/14/23.
- Steve discussed employee vacation time and the possibility of changing the date of when it is dispersed.
- An MOU was sent from the USC. Allen made a motion and Charlie seconded to have Chairman Barnes sign the MOU along with other districts.

#### **14. Next Meeting**

December 21, 2023 @ 10:30 am at the CCE Ag Room, Morrisville

#### **15. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Charlie and seconded by Allen. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

*Amy Hayduke*

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Amy Hayduke, District Clerk/Treasurer

Date: 11/16/2023