



MADISON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 18, 2026 7:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting

Present:

Board:

Ric Barnes, Chairman & At-large Farming Public Rep.
Allen Hough, Vice-Chairman & Farm Bureau Rep.
TJ Stokes, County Legislator
Charlie Pace, Non-Farming Public Representative

Staff:

Steve Lorraine, District Manager
Amy Hayduke, District Clerk/Treasurer
Other:
Katie Livingston, CCE Local Foods Educator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Barnes at 6:59 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes – The Draft of Minutes for the May 2026 meeting was emailed to the board members in advance and were also included in the board packets. *A motion was made by Allen Hough, seconded by TJ Stokes, to approve the May 2026 Minutes. Motion carried.*

3. Treasurer's Report – Amy Hayduke

- The Treasurer's report, excluding the payroll reports, was sent to the directors in advance. The board packets included the following monthly reports: Bank Account Report, Unpaid Bills Detail, Paid Bills Detail, Check Detail, Deposit Detail, Payroll Journal, Vacation & Leave by Employee. *A motion to approve the May 2026 Treasurer's report was made by Allen Hough and seconded by Charlie Pace. Motion carried.*
- Bills – *A motion was made by TJ Stokes and seconded by Allen Hough to approve payment in the amount of \$56,685.97 for 15 bills. Motion carried.*

4. Manager's Report – Steve Lorraine

- Jess and Ryan continue updating CAFO CNMP's as needed.
- Jess has been working with several CAFO's to make sure that that are ready for upcoming DEC inspections.
- Ryan has been working with several non-CAFO's with CNMP updates.
- Ryan continues to work with the state to move his CNMP certification forward.
- Joann has been working with the USC to complete BMP Verification in the Susquehanna Watershed.
- Joann and Jess attended the Regional Envirothon held in Cortland.
- Tom continues to assist multiple landowners and municipalities with permits.
- Tom continues to work on additional tree planting plans for projects to be completed this fall and next spring.

- Tom and Andrew have been completing surveys for multiple designs and as-builts on completed projects.
- Andrew and Steve met with landowners on DeRuyter Lake to review the stream design for the WQIP grant.
- Andrew is working on a design for a stream crossing on a beef farm in Brookfield.
- Andrew has been moving the post pounders around the county as needed.
- Andrew is overseeing the construction of a watering system with cattle exclusion on a dairy farm in Chittenango.
- Andrew has been working on several emergency permit applications for highway departments.
- Carl and Jake are working on a waste storage and transfer system for a small dairy farm in Munnsville.
- Carl has been working with the Town of Brookfield on drainage problems at the town park.
- Carl and Tom continue to handle Ag Assessment requests as they come in.
- Carl and Jake completed the irrigation design for the vegetable farm in Erieville. It is currently out to bid.
- Carl and Jake are working with multiple farms to evaluate and recertify their manure storage systems.
- Andrew is overseeing completion of a covered barnyard system at a farm in Nelson.
- Andrew and Jake are working on a couple culvert designs for the highway department.
- Jake and Steve have been working with the Town of Nelson and Madison County Highway Dept on a bridge that has been red flagged by NYS DOT.
- Steve has been working on multiple grant close outs.
- Steve signed a new agreement with the USC for staff funding, to do work on forestry and buffers.
- Steve submitted 2 grant applications to the USC to do buffers and grazing work. Both were chosen for funding.
- Steve attended a regional manager's meeting in Norwich.
- Steve continues to work with the USC on the strategic planning process.
- Steve attended a meeting of the Oneida Lake Watershed Coalition.
- WQIP grants are out and Steve is reviewing to see what we might apply for.
- Jake met with Don Lake for training on the specifics of engineering on SWCD projects.
- The new intern/seasonal employee is starting Monday. She will be working on buffers.

5. FSA – Alisha Cook, FSA County Executive Director

A report was sent by email, which was in the board packets and reviewed by the board.

6. NRCS – No report, no one present

Steve Lorraine reported that a project in Munnsville was recently funded by EQIP.

Andy Coulthart recently retired.

7. CCE – Katie Livingston, Local Foods Educator

A report was supplied in the board packets for director review. Katie discussed a few of the program offerings and handed out a postcard regarding the Ice Cream Trail.

8. Committee Reports

SWCC

The June 2026 SWCC report was included in the director's packets. Steve Lorraine reviewed the report with the board.

County – TJ Stokes

Wind – There was a meeting recently with the impacted towns. There are plans to have another meeting soon.

Landfill - They are still working on securing a permit to double tonnage.

Other: There were discussions regarding Brookfield road salt, a bridge repair and the potential of SWCD doing some engineering work for the county.

9. NYACD/NACD

The June 2026 Letter to Directors from Blanche Hurbutt was included in the meeting packets.

Also included was information about the upcoming Zoom meeting.

Steve Lorraine reported that he emailed the letter to NYACD that was approved at the last meeting. It was sent to Sam Cassela, along with the other NYACD Officers and Directors. Blanche Hurlbutt responded by email that she would follow up after their next board meeting.

10. CDEA – Steve Lorraine

Steve Lorraine reported that they are working on the September training.

11. Old Business

Audit – Steve Lorraine reported that CPA Dan Farrow sent us an estimate of \$6800-\$9300 for 40-60 hours of time to: review our financial policy and make recommendations; walkthroughs and testing the procedures; analysis, documentation and reporting. The board would like more information about the work to be done before a decision is made to move forward.

12. New Business

Truck – The purchase of a new truck was discussed. Steve Lorraine spoke to the local dealerships. A list of local truck pricing options was handed out. After discussion, *a motion was made by TJ Stokes, seconded by Ric Barnes, to purchase a 2026 Chevrolet 2500 HD WT from Den Kelly, with the 2024 Chevrolet as a trade-in. Motion carried.*

Computer Purchase – Steve Lorraine reported that the District Clerk/Treasurer's computer is no longer able to accept updates. *A motion was made by Allen Hough, seconded by Charlie Pace, to purchase a new computer, with a spending limit of \$1300. Motion carried.*

13. Other business

Amy Hayduke reported that check number 11674, in the amount of \$1750.00 to TJ Stokes, was reported as lost in the mail. The check will be canceled and a new one issued.

Steve Lorraine passed around a letter from a resident in Morrisville. The letter was discussed.

Steve Lorraine reported that we qualify for funds from the USC for a DR mower or personnel. He will report back to the board next month.

14. Next Meeting

July 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by TJ Stokes, seconded by Allen Hough. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Amy Hayduke

Amy Hayduke, District Clerk/Treasurer
Date: 6/23/26

Ric Barnes, Chairman Date: _____

DRAFT