



Finger Lakes
Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
CHEMUNG, ONTARIO, SCHUYLER, SENECA, STEUBEN, AND YATES COUNTIES, NEW YORK
415 West Morris Street, Bath, New York 14810
(607) 776-7398 Ext. 5 Fax: (607) 776-7487
Email: sultrred@linkny.com

The Finger Lakes RC&D Council Meeting was held Wednesday, July 21, 2004 at the Rural Urban Center, Montour Falls, NY.

In attendance:

Chemung Co.

Ken Bush, S&WCD Rep.

Ontario Co.

Doris Kenny, S&WCD Alternate

Schuyler Co.

Elaine Dalrymple, S&WCD Rep

Charlie Fausold, Schuyler Co. Legislature Rep.

Seneca Co.

Frank Sinicropi, Member @ Large

Jim Malyj, S&WCD Rep.

Steuben Co.

Greg Heffner, Alternate Legislature Rep.

Lola Tears, Legislature Rep.

Tom Tomsa, Member @ Large

Yates Co.

Marion Balyszak, Member @ Large

RC&D Staff

Joyce Baxter

Dick Winnett

Meeting called to order by President Lola Tears @ 1:50 P.M.

Approval of Minutes – *Greg Heffner moved and Ken Bush seconded to accept minutes as written. Carried.*

Treasurer's Report – *Ken Bush motioned and Elaine Dalrymple seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as presented by Greg Heffner. Carried.*

- a) **Audit Engagement Letter** – *Greg Heffner moved and Marion Balyszak seconded to enter into an Audit Agreement with Carnevale, Nilis, Whitney, & Davis, PC for a three year contract for \$3,000.00/year. Carried.*

County Reports

Chemung – Ken Bush reported District continuing with stream work. Working with the County on a logging project (tree damage removal – from a storm that blew down trees 1-1 ½ yr. ago). District will use the logs to make a log cabin/building type structure at the Chemung Co. Fairgrounds.

Ontario – Doris Kenny reported on the following:

- a) District Board has authorized the Soil & Water to enter into an agreement with USDA NRCS to service and assist with CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program).
- b) Storm Water referrals continue to come in from the Regional Department of Environmental Conservation at a steady pace, probably fueled by the continuing rains this spring and summer.
- c) Have contracted for part-time assistance two days a week, for the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Inspector. The program has continued to expand especially in the area of alternative waste water treatment systems.
- d) Plans of Work have been completed for two Ag. Round 10 proposals that upon contracting will bring implementation of BMPs to several more farms in Ontario, Yates, and Wayne Counties. Each grant is in its 3rd phase of watershed Ag. Program, one the Northern Watersheds and the others in the Flint Creek & Seneca Lake Watersheds.
- e) The District Board's budget committee met to finalize the 2005 budget. Due to the third consecutive year of zero increase in county appropriation, following two previous years of decreased appropriations, the Board is looking at a deficit in revenues, and will have to work to close the deficit or reduce staff.

Schuyler – Elaine Dalrymple reported that Steuben and Schuyler Co. Districts are working together with a new group “Meads Creek Watershed Citizen Advisory Group” interested in doing a watershed plan for Meads Creek.

Seneca - District is taking over the septic design and certification for Seneca County. The County will have a PE on staff to address the engineering issues. (b) The District has used grant dollars to purchase a total station.

Steuben – Tom Tomsa reported that Steuben Co. Cooperative Extension office is evaluating several options for a speaker for their annual meeting in November. (Looking for someone who has vast experience and knowledge (University Research experience) of (large) wind farms.

Yates – Marion Balyszak reported that Steuben and Yates Co. S&WCD co-sponsored a special project (received grant funds through FLOWPA) for the collaboration of Keuka Watershed Improvement Cooperative and the Seneca Lake Area Partners to produce and hold contractor training workshops which provide certification training for installation of on-sight and information re: health regulations and engineering requirements. Working on putting together a power point presentation, display and educational materials for the workshops. (b) The two watersheds are still continuing to collaborate on storm water management. Have had a successful series of contractor workshops and produced a user friendly contractor workbook to help them on small construction sites (single family homes, etc.). (c) Mrs. Balyszak also reported that Les Travis will be leaving the S&WCD to take a position with the Dept. of Ag. & Markets (Monroe to Herkimer Counties) in September.

Coordinator's Report (handout - available upon request)

Civil Rights Policy Committee Report – reviewed statement

Greg Heffner moved and Frank Sinicropi seconded to accept with the Civil Rights Policy. (It was recommended to delete of the last sentence of the last paragraph (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Carried.

The new paragraph will read “In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy, the Finger Lakes RC&D Council, Inc. prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status”.

Drug Free Workplace Committee Report – *Elaine Dalrymple moved and Ken Bush seconded to accept the drug free policy as presented. Carried.*

NRCS Report – No Report

Old Business

- a) *Mid Atlantic RC&D Council Meeting, Wheeling, W.V., Sept. 1-3, 2004. Lola Tears and Ken Bush will be attending the meeting on behalf of the Council.*
- b) *Update of Finger Lakes Council web page – Tom Tomsa and Dick Winnett updated the Council on the progress being made to create a Finger Lakes RC&D Council website.*

New Business

- a) Establish Records Retention Policy – tabled till the Sept. meeting.

Other Business

- a) New RC&D Information Sheet (handout – available upon requests).

Approval/Cancellation of Measures

Ken Bush moved and Jim Malyj seconded and it was carried to accept the following measure.

- a) *Western New York Rural Entrepreneurship Collaborative.*

Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting – **Wednesday, September 15, 2004 at the Rural Urban Center, Montour Falls, NY.**

Greg Heffner moved and Marion Balyszak seconded to adjourn meeting at 2:40 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Baxter