



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: flrcd@infoblvd.net

The Finger Lakes RC&D Council Meeting was held Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at the Rural Urban Center, Montour Falls, N.Y.

In attendance:

Chemung Co.

Ken Bush, SWCD Rep.

Ontario Co.

Tom DeRue, SWCD Rep.

Schuyler Co.

Wayne Dimmick, SWCD Rep.

Jim Ochterski, Legislative Rep.

Elaine Dalrymple, SWCD Rep.

Seneca Co.

Nancy O'Connor, Alternate SWCD Rep.

Steuben Co.

Lola Tears, Legislative Rep.

Tom Tomsa, Member at Large

Velynda Risley, Alternative SWCD Rep.

RC&D Staff

Dick Winnett

Meeting called to order by President, Lola Tears at 1:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes- *Wayne Dimmick moved and Nancy O'Conner seconded to accept minutes as written. Carried*

Treasurer's Report- In the absence of Treasurer, Greg Heffner, Dick gave everyone a copy of the Treasurer's Report. On the Statement of Revenues and Expenses the expenses for both the current month and year to date do not add up. A clarification will be obtained.

Jim Ochterski motioned pending an explanation and Ken Bush seconded. Carried.

Closeout and transfer 2004 CLCI funds to General Account- Jim Ochterski motioned to transfer the remaining \$2,497.00 and Velynda Risley seconded. Carried.

Communications

- a) Dick said the Fiscal Year 2006 budget numbers for the House and Senate are within \$100,000 of each other. Both are at approximately \$51 million.
- b) A thank you letter was received from the Soil Conservation Society for the donations provided for the national meeting held in Rochester.
- c) The NARC&DC forum will be in Kansas City, MO on November 7th and 8th.

County Reports

Chemung Co. - Ken Bush reported the following:

- a) Mark Watts has been busy building an 18 acre wetland.
- b) The Seeley Creek wetlands are hoped to be used with school children for educational purposes.

Ontario Co. – Tom DeRue reported the following:

- a) He has submitted two plan of works for Round XI Ag Grants- working on proposals for Round XII- working on existing grants
- b) Their 2006 Budget year is about complete with a 3% increase which is better than the last few years which have been at 0 increase or a cut.
- c) Dick attended the most recent Board of Directors meeting
- d) Work on Honeoye/Hemlock/Candice Roadbank Stabilization Grant continues
- e) District continues to receive Region 8 stormwater referrals – review plans that are under 60 day review
- f) Progress continues to be made in making uniform standards for the inspection and design of septic systems
- g) District continues to focus on three nonpoint sources – onsite systems, stormwater and agriculture

Schuyler Co. – Jim Ochterski reported on the following:

- a) CCE had a contract with RC&D for forest land best management practices which has been completed. They produced 200 CDs and most of them have been distributed. They also sent out an evaluation questionnaire to 46 of the CD recipient. Of those 24 Responded and he handed out the summary. Most are happy with the product.
- b) He has been going to pastures and checking on the variety of birds. He gave everyone a copy of the Grassland Birds Regional Pasture Use Survey

Elaine Dalrymple reported on the following:

- a) Working on making a wetland more accessible for education purposes
- b) The Agricultural Education Program with Farm Bureau and Extension for 6 graders to visit a working farm

Seneca Co. – Nancy O'Connor reported on the following:

- a) Weed harvesting continues in Cayuga and Seneca Lakes and the Canal with 435 tons harvested to date
- b) Notified that a \$5,000 Level 2 mini-grant was awarded to the Water Quality Committee to examine land use regulation, controls and practices for each Seneca County community and compare to the standards of the Statewide Phase II Construction Permit

Steuben Co. – Velynda Risley reported on the following:

- a) Working agreements have funding available for EQIP and WRP- New agreements begin in April of 2006
- b) FEMA- there are 5 remaining projects- working on P-4 for SEMO which will be into SEMO in February
- c) Single Audit completed with a couple of recommendations
 - 1) weekly deposits
 - 2) Purchasing a new computer w/ QuickBooks instead of Quicken

- d) FL-LOWPA- closed out 2003-2004 contract and received the retainage The contract for 2004-2005 has been signed but no funds- hydroseeding ongoing.
- e) NRCS – working on 1026’s, reporting progress in PRS also AMA & WRP
- f) NYACD Annual Meeting will be in Alexandria Bay – One Board member may be attending with Velynda and Jeff – Jeff will give a PowerPoint presentation on accomplishments with BOCES, DOT, DEC, County Highway and local municipalities
- g) Purchases – new truck and copier
- h) Budget approved by Board – will be requesting \$10,000 for streambank program
- i) Water Quality Level I mini-grant has been completed
- j) Meads Creek Citizen Group is a joint effort with the Schuyler and Steuben Water Quality Committees for a macro invertebrate training on the 15th of October at the East Campbell Fire Station
- k) USC project in the Seeley Creek watershed – met with contractor to discuss layout and sent information to landowner and Melissa Yearick

Yates County- No one from Yates County was present

Coordinator’s Report – Dick Winnett highlighted handout (available upon request) *Venison Donation Coalition* – 2005 Venison Donation processor’s flyer distributed – special effort being made to encourage town clerks throughout New York to promote program. – 350 town clerks requested information packets – effort being made to promote the \$1.00 check which is “*Feed Four with a Buck*”

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Grant – A \$60,000 grant in which CCE of Schuyler with the Chemung Valley Audubon Society conducting survey of grassland nesting bird on 20 grazing farms in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben counties

2005 Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Grant – Council notified that it has received \$24,000 from NRCS to continue grazing program - preparing agreement with Ontario County SWCD to prepare 4 grazing plan with a reimbursement of \$1000 per plan

RC&D Council FY 2005 Accomplishments - Administered 14 grants with a total value of \$1,150,369.00

NRCS Report – No one was present for a NRCS report

Old Business

- a) Mid-Atlantic Assoc. RC&D Mtg. – Ken Bush, his wife, Lola Tears and Dick Winnett will be attending – They received 2 cases of wine from the Seneca Lake Wine Trail, 1 case from the Cayuga Lake Wine Trail, 3 bottles from Hosmer Winery and 4 bottles from Dr. Frank’s Winery
- b) Update on National RC&D Budget – Done earlier
- c) Update on temporary secretary situation – Council has spent \$2260.00 with a \$920.00 reimbursement from the venison program – Tom DeRue said he felt the situation is not acceptable. It was agreed that a letter drafted by one of the Council members and agreed upon by some other members be sent to the State Office requesting a resolution as soon as possible. Jim Ochterski said he would work on the letter.
- d) Grazing Agreement with Ontario County
***Ken Bush motion and Jim Ochterski seconded to approve the agreement.
Tom DeRue abstained. Carried.***

New Business

- a) Contribution Agreement with NRCS
- b) National Association of RC&D Council's national conference- 6/18-6/20/06 in Savannah, GA – For information only have until April or May to register

Other Business

- a) IRS 990 Report – Has been filed
- b) Proposal for NY Federation of RC&D Councils to sponsor Non-Profit Management Course in spring of 2006 – Responsibilities of non-profit agencies need a vote from Council Representative, Ken Bush

Velynda Risley motion and Nancy O'Connor seconded to authorize Ken Bush to vote to approve. Carried.

Ken Bush reported that Dick Gunderman will be replacing John Flory if approved by the Legislature.

Approval/Cancellation Projects

Velynda Risley moved and Ken Bush seconded to accept the following projects. Carried.

- a) 2005 Finger Lakes Grazing Application to NYSEPF Round XII – Schuyler, Seneca and Yates Counties
- b) 2005 Chemung River Basin Grazing Application to NYSEPF Round XII – Schuyler and Seneca Counties

Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting – November 16, 2005 at the Rural Urban Center, Montour Falls, NY at 1:00 p.m.

Velynda Risley moved and Jim Ochterski seconded to adjourn meeting at 2:50 p.m. Carried