



Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024

Meeting called to order by Meg at 9:57AM.

In attendance:

Directors – Meg Kennedy (Chair), Helene Kraham, Jennifer Mickle, Doug Roberts

District Staff – Christos Galanopoulos

Partners – Elizabeth Fish, District Conservationist

Guests – Doug Zamelis, Esq.

Absent:

Directors – Darin Hickling (Vice Chair), Brian Danford (acting Treasurer)

Motion to accept Meeting Minutes of 3/11/2024 by Jennifer, second by Doug. Vote to adopt 4-0 (yes – Meg, Helene, Jennifer, Doug; absent – Darin, Brian).

Motion to approve Operating Fund Abstract 04-2024 (\$36,176.22) by Helene, second by Doug. Vote to adopt 4-0 (yes – Meg, Helene, Jennifer, Doug; absent – Darin, Brian).

Motion to offer Mike Ross a 1-year extension of his current agreement for janitorial services by Jennifer, second by Doug. Vote to adopt 4-0 (yes – Meg, Helene, Jennifer, Doug; absent – Darin, Brian).

Motion to approve Dean Snell to replace rear outer door and fit external doors with keyed-alike panic-bar locking systems by Helene, second by Jennifer. Vote to adopt 4-0 (yes – Meg, Helene, Jennifer, Doug; absent – Darin, Brian).

Doug Zamelis, representing Michael J Cuddy, presented preliminary information and discussion on the proposed Morris Dam removal project. The project will seek WQIP funding and is asking the District to provide “banking” services only. The applicant intends to provide all technical and management services. The Board invited Mr Zamelis to return for the next Board meeting with his engineer and give a more detailed presentation.

Motion to approve Buoy Fund Abstract 04-2024 (\$106.40) by Helene, second by Jennifer. Vote to adopt 4-0 (yes – Meg, Helene, Jennifer, Doug; absent – Darin, Brian).

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Financial Report will be reviewed at the next meeting.

(10:33 - Helene left the meeting, ceasing official business due to lack of quorum.)

Elizabeth Fish spoke on the various programs offered and overseen by NRCS. She agreed to provide the Board with a printed outline of the programs, including acronyms for the benefit of current and future Directors.

Claim for refund of NYS Excise and Local Sales Taxes will be signed by Meg and sent to NYSDTF. The expected refund is \$74.75. We are very close to having tax-exempt status filed with all regular vendors to the District.

Notice was published in the Daily Star of the NYSOSC Report of Examination 2023M-117 and posted on the District website "Newsletter page."

Evaluation of alternate investment opportunities is deferred until the next meeting.

Discussion of adopting a Breach Policy is deferred to a later meeting.

Review of quotes for a new vehicle at the next meeting.

State Contract C012524 is deferred until the next meeting.

Chris has gotten 4 Mini-Grant applications.

An engineer has been contracted for the Climate Resiliency project.

The next step in the Otsego Lake Tributary Assessment process is to get an agreement with the State in place.

The next scheduled regular Board meeting is 10AM on Monday, 13 May 2024 at the Meadows Complex Classroom A.

With no quorum present to vote, no objection to adjourning the meeting was heard at 11:13.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Moshier, District Secretary