

BROOME COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2022

1. **Call to Order**: Meeting was called to order at 4:22 p.m., by Chair, M. Donahue.

Present Were:

M. Donahue, Chair
L. Price, Treasurer
A. Urda, Member

P. Shafer, Vice-Chair – via zoom
J. Puglisi, District Manager
B. Park, Nat. Resource Asst.

2. **Minutes**: The minutes of the February 2022 meeting were approved.
Motion by L. Price to approve, seconded by A. Urda.

3. **Treasurer's Report & Bills:**

A) Financial Report February 2022 was approved. (see attachment)
Motion made by P. Shafer to approve the February Financial report, seconded by A. Urda.

B) March 2022 bills were approved. (see attachment)
Motion made by A. Urda to approve March bills, seconded by P. Shafer.

4. **Correspondence**: None.

5. **Reports**:

NRCS: Written report in folders. E. Steele not able to attend.

District: J. Puglisi and B. Park updated the board (written reports provided).

J. Puglisi: Mike Jura, Vernon Myers (From T.O. Vestal), and I met out at Meeker Rd. on the 11th. Our initial concern was the erosion on the Eastern stream bank. After discussing the concern with Vernon it was his opinion that little additional erosion had occurred on this section after the gravel bar was removed in the past. He also stated that he was not against the project, but does feel this site will eventually just fill itself back in. Vernon's concern in the past was the processing of the removed material directly adjacent to the stream. Mike and I discussed shaping of the channel and felt it would be better to leave some lateral curvature to the stream path, rather than a direct straight line to the bridge. Ideally, it would be nice to see some material place along the eastern stream bank. Although said material may not stay in place following a storm event. This would also require de-watering of the site, and additional sediment and erosion control measures. Not certain that this additional work is in the budget. Wanted to share some of our concerns and observations. M. Jura and I also looked at a site in Town of Fenton. M. Jura agreed that there really is no issue at this site. The landowner could place additional rock but it would be at their expense.

Attending Water Quality Training Symposium classes held via zoom.

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AEM Round 17 - Landowner J. Thomas has decided not to do the project he was approved for. The next producer on the List is D. Townsend - he will replace J. Thomas on the Round 17 implementation. J. Puglisi provided the board with the Resolution that includes the producers doing prescribed grazing project for the AEM Round 17 Implementation. After discussion, Motion was made by A. Urda to approve the RESOLUTION (Attached) regarding the participants in Round 17 and submit the Resolution to the State, Seconded by L. Price. All agreed. Motion carried.

B. Park updated the board. She is working on AEM plan developments. Has not heard in regards to the spring USC buffer program. We finally received the cover crop payment. Trees for Tribes – did two site visits. Also attending the Water Quality training symposium classes. Presented an outreach presentation with NRCS and Broome County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Asked by Professor at SUNY Broome to possibly do a presentation regarding her career path and Broome SWCD.

H. Lurenz: Has been working on the upcoming Envirothon 2022 Regional Competition which will be held in person at Tioga County Sportsmen's Center in Owego. Working on trees and fish orders. Also attending zoom classes for the Water Quality symposium.

6. **New Business:**

- A)** Conflict of Interest Policy – discussion regarding adding a Conflict of Interest Policy is the Personnel Policy Handbook. A sample was provided from Tompkins County SWCD. After discussion J. Puglisi will forward to the County Attorney's office for review.
- B)** Round 28 Ag Non-Point Source Grant Proposals - RESOLUTION: set forth to authorize preparation and submittal of grant proposals and committing to the execution of the program as stipulated, if approved. Motion made by A. Urda, seconded by L. Price. All members agreed, carried.
- C)** Natural Resource Conservationist position – resumes and applications have been received. Personnel Committee (Donahue, Urda, Heard) will meet this Friday at 1:00 to review them.

Old Business

- A)** Work update – provided in District reports above.
- B)** Personnel Policy – discussion regarding if specific board members need to be mentioned in the sexual harassment policy. After discussion Motion made by L. Price that review of this policy will be done annually at the Organizational meeting to see if the directors' names need to be changed, seconded by A. Urda.

7. **Personnel:** Timesheets – reviewed and signed by A. Urda.

At 4:35 p.m. Motion was made by L Price and seconded by A. Urda to enter into Executive Session regarding a personnel issue. At 4:43 A. Urda moved to remove from Executive Session and continue the meeting, seconded by L. Price.

Next meeting will be April 19, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

M. Donahue, Chair

H. Lurenz, Secretary

Attachments:

Financial Report – February 2022

List of Bills – March 2022

E. Steele - NRCS Report

J. Puglisi's Report

B. Park's Report

P. J. Emerick, NYS SWCC, Report

AEM Round 17 Resolution