

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 20, 2023

MEETING # 882

Present:

Scott Ryan, *Chairman, Grange Member*

Robert Headwell, Jr, *Legislative Rep*

Brian Holloway, *Farm Bureau Member*

Richard Kennedy, *Member at Large*

Corey Nellis, *District Manager*

Karen Klemczak, *District Clerk-Treasurer*

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER @ 7:47 PM

MINUTES of the January 23, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Richard Kennedy made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Robert Headwell, Jr. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of March 20, 2023

District Checking:	22,567.61
Building Acct:	230,682.79
MCSWCD Savings (Grants)	181,746.76
Canjo 27 C701470	557,244.75
Bolster CRF C012140	64,366.80
Water Quality	993.38
Hill Side Farm C701471	185,886.50
Kelly CAFO C012082	947.92
Holloway C012182	956.77
Hoefele C012183	152,791.20
Fisher C012181	582.65
AEM	100,286.00
Ridgedale C701426	88,437.73
Crowe T012325	996.27
SOTF Grant	168.05
Undeposited Funds	445.49
Total in all accounts	\$ 1,588,655.18

Review of disbursements (check register 2/22/23 through 3/17/23)

Review of outstanding accounts

Bills to be paid: None

Brian Holloway made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, pay all audited bills, approve all salary payments for the next month and/or the next board meeting, seconded by Robert Headwell, Jr. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- 1.) **Field Work** - Hoefele project was on schedule to kick off the field work season. Due to a snowy March, that has been put on hold.

New Business

- 1.) **Truck Sale** – The 2021 Ram ½ ton was put up for bid and it did not sell. The board decided to keep the truck until next year to see if the new vehicle prices come down at all.
- 2.) **Farm Implement tire recycling** – Implement tire recycling last year was a big success. We will be holding the event again this year sometime in April. We will have it open for 2 weeks at the MOSA western transfer station in Sprakers. The date is to be determined.
- 3.) **Round 29** – Round 29 hasn't been released yet. There is a state committee meeting tomorrow and they may announce when round 29 will be coming out. Since it is so late being released there will be the opportunity to include EQIP money.

- 4.) **CRF** – Cover crops are going to be included in CRF at \$74/acre. There were some farms that would like to apply for cover cropping. Corey would like to get some CRF projects with a goal of \$800k in contracts for round 7 which is to be released soon. CRF is also going to allow equipment purchases for the first time.
- 5.) **EQIP** – The EQIP rank list should be out the end of March. There maybe a round 2 if there are not enough applications for round 1.
- 6.) **Training** – Scott and Corey went to training on Wednesday. Karen and John attended the symposium on Thursday. Joe and Becky did not attend the WQS this year.
- 7.) **2024 National Envirothon** – NYS will be hosting the national Envirothon in 2024. The committee is requesting support of \$3000 from each district to help with the costs of the event. **Robert Headwell, Jr. made a motion to donate the \$3000, seconded by Brian Holloway, all in favor, motion carried.**
- 8.) **NYS SWCC committee report** – In the budget for this year the state is proposing 16 million for Soil and Water which is another increase of 1.5 million dollars. That will give an additional \$28K per district next year in Part C money.

NRCS: No Report

FSA: No Report

AED:

Harvest Connection – Farms are loaded in. Farmers have had some training in person and sent out paper-training material as well. Working on website fixes and a marketing plan.

Workshop Series

- Insurance Information Session – March 23rd
- Ag Ball – March 25th 102 people confirmed purchase of tickets.
- Graphic Design March 28th
- Beef Quality Assurance Class April 29th
- Pork Quality Assurance class sometime in May TBD

The Quality Assurance Classes are to get farms qualified to take advantage of the NY Grown & Certified grants.

Grants – Working on talking with farmers on being ready for other grants with Rural Development, HVADC, AG & Markets NE-DBIC. Topics are: Value Added Grants, Energy Efficiency, Processing Grants etc.

Future Projects – Homesteaders Workshops, Farm store owners' discussion group, Ag & Markets Inspector Training Meeting with New Regulations (Regulations being formulated now and not currently done yet), and Small Business owner discussion group. Thank you.

Becky Ferry
Ag Economic Development Specialist

AEM: No Report

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned @ 8:50 pm

NEXT MEETING: April 24,2023

Respectfully, Karen Klemczak