

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**February 24, 2025**

**MEETING # 899**

Present:

**Scott Ryan**, *Chairman, Grange Member*

**Richard Kennedy**, *Member at Large*

**Martin Kelly**, *Legislative Member*

**Robert Headwell, Jr.**, *Legislative Rep*

**Corey Nellis**, *District Manager*

**Karen Klemczak**, *District Clerk-Treasurer*

**Public Comment: None**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER @ 7:16 PM**

**MINUTES of the January 27, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Richard Kennedy made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Martin Kelly. All in favor, motion carried.**

**TR TREASURER'S REPORT as of February 24, 2025**

<b>District Checking:</b>	<b>48,746.18</b>
<b>Building Acct:</b>	<b>182,595.00</b>
<b>Canjo 27 (Michalak) C701470</b>	<b>577,675.88</b>
<b>Canjo 28 (Ulman) C701511</b>	<b>148,009.71</b>
<b>Creek Acres Farm CRF</b>	<b>355,393.04</b>
<b>AEM</b>	<b>67,113.99</b>
<b>Ridgedale C701426</b>	<b>56,094.47</b>
<b>Crowe Irrigation CRF C012432</b>	<b>119,505.12</b>
<b>Slate Creek Farm T00335GG</b>	<b>4,604.06</b>
<b>Part C:</b>	<b>198,423.03</b>
<b>Water Quality</b>	<b>938.91</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>230.00</b>
<b>Undeposited Funds</b>	<b>2000.00</b>
<b>Total in all accounts</b>	<b>\$ 1,780,965.40</b>

**Review of disbursements (check register 01/27/25 through 2/24/25)**

**Review of outstanding accounts**

**ABSTRACTS # 02-2025: Bills paid, to be paid and transfers.**

**Motion: by Martin Kelly to approve Abstracts #02-2025, accept the Treasure's report, pay all audited bills, approve all salary payment for the next month and/or the next board meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Richard Kennedy, motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

**1.) Field Work**

- *Ulman's job will be done tomorrow. He was finishing up on the fence and the pump today and tomorrow.*
- *NRCS is all done with geology and archeology for Michalak, both were approved. They have the completed design in their hand.*

**2.) NRCS – As a result of the massive federal job cuts, two of the new hires from Greenwich on our team and Amy who was stationed here, were all cut. We lost 3 people out of our 16-person network.**

**3.) AED – We received a resume that seemed like good fit for the position. The board agreed and thought it would be worth setting up an interview.**

**4.) Wildlife Cameras – Scott contacted Warren County, and they did put the trail cameras out for educational use and their websites. They used regular trail cameras that don't run off cell service. Regular cameras cost \$40 - \$150, Cellular Trail cameras are \$100 + which would require a monthly service plan. Some locations suggested to put the cameras were at Walts Rd, County Forest, Chuchtanunda Trail. **Robert Headwell, Jr. made a motion to purchase regular trail cameras, seconded by Martin Kelly, all in favor, motion carried.****

#### **New Business:**

- 1.) Employee Evaluations (Joe, John, and Scott)** - Upon their reviews, Scott was moved to a GS 9-4, Joe was moved to a GS 9-9 and John was moved to a GS 6-5. **Martin Kelly made a motion to approve the raises and recommendations, seconded by Robert Headwell, Jr. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 2.) CAFO Ranking List** – We applied for two grants. We received one for MMT for \$700k for a manure storage.
- 3.) Director Training – Module 4 – District Director Roles and Responsibilities** – All directors present reviewed the material on Module 4, District Director Roles and Responsibilities. Martin, Bob, Richard, and Scott all fulfilled their director training responsibility for the 2025 Performance Measures. Brian Holloway was absent from the meeting.
- 4.) State Budget** – The executive budget was released. This is the first year in about 6 years that we had a level line item for districts. We were being increased annually by approximately 1.5 million dollars and this year we leveled out at 17.25 million.
- 5.) Grants** – The Ag-Nonpoint source grants were due by the end of business today. The staff worked diligently to complete 5 applications, and they were all submitted by the end of the day.

#### **Committee Reports**

**NRCS: No Report**

**AED: No Report**

**AEM: No Report**

**FSA:**

We are in the middle of sign up for the corn base program (ARC/PLC) and the dairy margin protection program (DMC) and are waiting for the emergency and disaster programs to roll out that were approved with the extension to the farm bill. We are also working with several landowners in Hamilton County to clean up forest land that was damaged by the tornado this past summer. Elizabeth (Liz) Jennings has been hired as a permanent employee to replace Keletha since she retired. If anyone has any questions, please let me know.

Sandra L Scott  
County Executive Director  
Farm Service Agency | New York  
Montgomery, Fulton, Hamilton Counties

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned @ 8:02 PM

**NEXT MEETING:** March 24, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

***Respectfully, Karen Klemczak***