

SUFFOLK COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS'
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

423 Griffing Avenue
Riverhead, New York 11901

April 11, 2019

Board of Director's in attendance:

Rob Carpenter, Chairman - Grange/Farm Bureau
Legislator Al Krupski, Legislative District 1 –Treasurer
Legislator Robert Calarco, Legislative District 7
Brian Culhane – Member at Large
Phil Schmitt – Farm community Representative

Staff and Organizations in attendance:

Ann Marie Calabro – SWCD Staff
Susan Odell-Pepe-SWCD
Kaitlin Shahinian – SWCD Staff
Deborah Aller – S.C. Cornell Cooperative Extension
Corey Humphrey – SWCD District Manager

- Chairman R. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.
- Chairman R. Carpenter declared a quorum. Four out of the five members were in attendance and P. Schmitt will be joining the meeting shortly.
- The draft minutes of the February 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed.
Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to accept the February 14, 2019 minutes; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report presented by S. Odell-Pepe

- The April 11, 2019 Treasurer's Report was reviewed.
Motion made by B. Culhane to accept the April 11, 2019 Treasurer's Report as read; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Let the record show that P. Schmitt joined the board meeting at 4:15 p.m.

District Report presented by District Manager C. Humphrey

1. Active Grants:

- a. Agrochemical Mixing Facilities
- b. Agriculture Non-Point Source Grants
 - i. Fuel Tank Replacements Rd 20, 21, 22, 24

- ii. Integrated Pest Management & Sprayer Retrofits Rd 20
 - iii. Nutrient Management Planning Rd. 21
 - iv. Nutrient Recycling (ebb and flow system) Rd. 24
- c. NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Projects
- i. 2016 Soil Health Guide and Workshops
 - ii. 2017 South Harbor Road Remediation
- d. Deer Exclusion Fencing Agricultural Environmental Planning (multiyear)
- e. Resource Conservation Partnership Program
- f. Environmental Protection Fund
- g. Soil Health Testing
- h. Soil Health Equipment Loan Program (Soil H.E.L.P.)

2. 4 Hour NYSDEC Endorsed Erosion and Sediment Control Training

- Held a NYSDEC 4 Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Training April 4, 2019

3. Municipal Assistance

- On a regular basis the District receives technical assistance requests from the public in addition to several I & E requests from municipalities such as the Town of Southold, Sound Beach Community and the others. On average, the District receives between 3-5 requests per month to inventory and evaluate resource concerns associated with a specific project.

4. Staff Training, Planner Certification

- Over the next months, District staff will participate in several intense trainings. These trainings provide opportunities for staff to earn credit towards becoming a NRCS Certified Planner as well as prepare them to provide technical assistance to Suffolk County. Training topics include Prescribed Grazing, NRCS Toolkit, and NRCS NY Guide to Developing Conservation Plans among others.

Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to accept the District Report; seconded by B. Culhane; none opposed; motion carried.

USDA - NRCS Field Office Report – Liz Camps – No report provided

Legislative Report presented by Legislator A. Krupski and Legislator R. Calarco

- 2019 Rain/School Gardens

L.I.C.A.P. Representative update presented by Brian Culhane

- Interim meeting will be held on May 1, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Next general meeting will be held on June 20, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; located at S.C. Water Authority Education Center, 260 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, N Y 11788.

C.C.E. - Ag. Stewardship Report presented by Deborah Aller

- Soil Health Testing Services has gathered the majority of soil samples and have two farms left to visit to take soil samples. 21 Farms participated in the 2019 Soil Health Testing Services. SWCD Soil Health Equipment Lease Program has received the purchased equipment.
- Ag. Stewardship has a new pilot project “Mulching Trial with Fruit Trees. The participating farms are Trieber and Wickhams.
- American Farmland Trust will be funding two more Soil Field Days in 2019. Will keep the board updated as more information becomes available.
- Schmitt Family Farm participated in the American Farmland trust video presentation “Finding the value of soil health management”.

Chairman’s Report presented by R. Carpenter

- 2019 NYS Budget approved funding in the amount of \$500K for the Ag. Stewardship Program and unfortunately the Deer Fence Program was removed from the 2019 NYS Budget and we will receive no funding to continue this program.
- NY Senator Martinez will be holding a meeting to hear public testimony on the proposed Farmworkers Fair Labor Act to be held on April 26, 2019 at the Rose Caracappa Auditorium, Hauppauge from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Attended the 2019 W.Q.S. in March 2019 in Syracuse, New York and was awarded the N.Y.S.C.D.E.A. 2019 District Chairman Award.

- Old Business:
- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to approve the disbursement of \$30,000.00 from the 2017 Part A Award to Suffolk County Comptroller for department administrative costs; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to approve the disbursement of \$38,052.00 from the NYS SWCC AEM Base Year 13 Award to Suffolk County Comptroller to reimburse County for department administrative costs; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to approve the disbursement of \$10,096.85 from the 2015 NYS Deer Fence Grant administrative balance to Suffolk County Comptroller to reimburse County for department administrative costs; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to approve the disbursement of \$4,529.95 balance of the 2017 NYS SWCC Part C Award to Suffolk County Comptroller for department administrative costs; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.

New Business:

- Motion made by B. Culhane to approve the 2019 Envirothon Memorandum of Agreement between Suffolk County and Nassau as written; seconded by R. Calarco; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by P. Schmitt to approve the continuation of the Soil Health Testing Program and to dedicate \$10,000 from the 2018 NYS SWCC Part C Award to run the program in 2019; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to approve the 2019 Farm Tire Recycling Program and to dedicate \$14,400 from the 2018 NYS SWCC Part C Award to run the program; seconded by B. Culhane; none opposed; motion carried.
Note that Legislator A. Krupski and P. Schmitt recused themselves from voting on the 2019 Farm Tire Recycling Program.
- Motion made by B. Culhane to approve the request for additional funding to sponsor two more participants for the 2019 Agriculture in the Classroom Program. Dedicating an additional \$6,934.52 of the 2018 NYS SWCC Part C Award to run the program; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.

Executive Session: none

- Motion made by Legislator R. Calarco to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m.; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by _____
 Susan L. Odell-Pepe
 Principal Account Clerk
 Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District

Date: _____

Approved by _____
 Rob Carpenter – Board of Director - Chairman
 Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District

Date: _____