



Meeting Minutes
January 15 and 16, 2019
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Syracuse
6301 NY-298
East Syracuse NY 13057

Executive Committee Members

Steve Lorraine, President
Chastity Miller, Vice President
Caitlin Stewart, Secretary
Kristin White, Treasurer
Doug Kierst, Member at Large

Partners

P.J. Emerick, SWCC

Division Representatives

Judy Bennett, Division I
Kelly Emerick, Division II
Raeanne Dulanski, Division III
Velynda Parker, Division IV
Kristin Ballou, Division V
Ben Luskin, Division VI
Erin Somerville, Division VII
Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII

Absent

Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD
Brian Steinmuller, NYS SWCC
Ed Henry, NRCS



Minutes

I. Meeting begins and introductions – Steve called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. with introductions.

II. Reading and approval of the November 2018 meeting minutes.

- **A motion was made by Kristin W., seconded by Ben to approve the minutes. Carried.**

III. Correspondence - Steve mentioned that no correspondence was received.

IV. Treasurer's report – Kristin W. mentioned that she sent the report out on January 8. The State Fair budget was exceeded due to t-shirt expenses that will cover volunteers for 2 years. The Envirothon amount will change due to the cost of envelopes. An invoice was received from Barton & Loguidice for instructor fees for Conservation Skills.

P.J. joined the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

- **A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Caitlin to accept the financial report. Carried.**

V. Proposed 2019 budget – The 2019 proposed budget was projected on the wall and each line was discussed. In order to prevent unforeseen bills, CDEA should receive a cost estimate for outside instructors who are brought in for Conservation Skills. The 4 Hour Course should include \$2,000 for expenses, and \$10,000 for income.

- **A motion was made by Velynda, seconded by Kristin W. for the CDEA Board to send a \$100 gift card to Josh LaFountain for his work on the online 4 Hour Course to be paid out of the course's budget. Carried with Steve voting against.**

Discussion took place regarding Square, including cost, maintenance, and the ease of transferring Square to a new treasurer.

- **A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Velynda to switch from the current Intuit system to the Square system for credit card payments. Carried.**

Discussion took place regarding the NYSE&SCCP, including the \$150 application fee, anticipated expenses for 2019, and the contract with Jessica Verrigni.

Discussion took place regarding the Water Quality Symposium Farmers Market and Resource Fair, including the \$150 registration fee for all vendors that was established due to complaints received from vendors who commented the 2018 registration fee of \$300 was too expensive.

Discussion took place regarding the possibility of CDEA sponsoring more training and / or scholarships, and if a line item could be added in the budget for training.

- **A motion was made by Chastity, seconded by Kristin W. to add a Training line to the budget in the amount of \$8,000 to be accessed by Division Representatives and subject to approval by the CDEA board, available first come first serve. A request by Kristin W. was made to amend the motion to \$12,000. Failed.**
- **A motion was made by Judy, seconded by Doug to amend the previous motion to \$8,000. Carried with Kristin W. voting against.**

Discussion took place regarding Ronny Raindrop costumes, and the possibility of including \$4,000 in the budget to replace 1 costume per year.

- **A motion was made by Velynda, seconded by Erin to approve the proposed 2019 budget and disseminate the budget to Districts. Carried.**

VI. Committee / Meeting Reports

i. Conservation Skills Workshop – Steve mentioned there's nothing new to mention. Dates have not yet been set. The committee will be contacted regarding the establishment of a budget.

ii. Envirothon Committee – Kristin W. mentioned that the event is on track, socks are being sold for \$15 a pair to raise funds, and socks will be available for purchase at the Water Quality Symposium. Chastity mentioned that teams of 4 to 5 are allowed at state event, but teams must consist of 5 members for the national event. She continued that an alternate may be utilized when a regular team member can't participate, and the alternate must represent the same educational unit as team. Kristin mentioned that her District will give tours during the state event.

Suspended at 2:47 p.m. for a break.

Reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

iii. Frank Bratt Scholarship – Judy mentioned that there is 1 open scholarship from 2018, and 8 applications were received for the January 2019 round of funding. Judy continued that she received a question regarding the ability to reimburse for mileage to the training. Discussion took place regarding mileage reimbursement by scholarship funds, and it was decided that, according to policy, mileage is reimbursable by scholarship funds so long as funds are not exceeded.

- **A motion was made by Velynda, seconded Ann Marie to approve the January 2019 round of Frank Bratt Scholarship funding totaling \$1,500 for Eric Renfer (\$400.00), Laura Grant (\$500.00), Teresa VanEpps (\$500.00), and Pamela Price (\$100.00). Carried.**

iv. State Fair Committee – Kristin W. mentioned that a meeting took place last week. New member Alaina Robarge has joined the committee from Ontario County. Kristin W. continued that she emailed Mark Burger saying she's stepping down and asked if anyone from his office would like to take over. Mark thanked her for her time and mentioned he will get back to her with recommendations. Kristin W. completed the application process online. Discussion took place regarding the building and difficulties with volunteer sign up to fill all shifts. Kristin W. mentioned that the schedule will no longer be posted on the website due to security issues.

v. Environmental Education Foundation Committee – Anne Marie mentioned that she missed a few meetings. Erin mentioned that the committee is in limbo with determining roles and when items are due. Chastity mentioned that Elizabeth Mangle and Dave Reckhan retired, 2 open positions must be filled by District staff, interested people should contact her for more information about the vacant positions, and the current committee members are still interested in serving.

vi. Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees and National Association Conservation District Employees – Velynda mentioned that online registration for the conference in San Antonio ended Friday the 11th. Velynda continued that resolutions have been sent and will be voted on at the annual meeting. Velynda and Jeff Parker will attend the

Northeast and national meetings. Doug inquired where the Northeast meeting will be held. Velynda replied in Connecticut, but she does not yet know when. She continued that technical assistance grants are available for SWCDS through NACD.

vii. New York State Invasive species Advisory Committee – Caitlin mentioned that she did not attend the December meeting.

viii. Municipal Assistance Subcommittee – Kelly mentioned that Jennifer Clifford sent out a meeting announcement and agenda statewide regarding the next meeting on January 30, 9:30 a.m. to discuss the statewide approach for rural roads. Steve inquired about committee membership, and who serves on the committee. Kelly replied membership includes Districts and key partners involved in stormwater, and that meetings are open to any District who would like to participate. Kelly continued that interested individuals can be added to the email list, and should contact Jennifer Clifford.

x. Operations Manual Committee – Steve mentioned that there's nothing new to report. P.J. mentioned that it is important to check the operations manual periodically, and that sexual harassment is now included in the manual.

x. TAC – Steve mentioned that an email poll took place regarding the AEM split that was voted on today by the State Committee. Steve continued that there are no plans to meet in the near future. Kristin W. mentioned that her District Manager requested more information about TAC. Steve replied that TAC is the Technical Advisory Committee. CDEA has 1 seat along with the Department of Health, DOS, State Committee, and other partners. Steve mentioned that when policy issues come up, the group gets together and advises the State Committee on how to handle the situation. Only committee members are notified of committee meetings, the CDEA president can select a person to go in his or her stead. Bethany initiates the meetings and Brain runs them.

xi. Other – No other business was discussed.

VI. Old Business

i. Update for CDEA stormwater online 4 hr. course – Kelly mentioned that the course will go live soon, and the registration fee is \$250 per person. Kristin W. mentioned that people wanting to pay with credit card should call her. Kelly continued that people are reviewing the course for language. Steve inquired about costs incurred for 2018. Kelly replied that there were no costs except a software reimbursement for \$500. Kelly continued that the online course is automated except the credit card payment. Doug inquired how the course will be advertised. Kelly replied on the DEC website. Kelly mentioned that her employee put in a lot of time, and worked hard on the programming for the course.

ii. Follow up on NYS ESC Certification and MOU – Kelly mentioned that the application fee is \$150 to sit for the test, is currently only open to SWCDs, and SWCDs won't be charged for the course fee as it is included in the Water Quality Symposium registration. She continued that Districts will pay to apply and renew. The public will have to pay. Kelly continued that the application must be submitted 30 days before the exam. Steve inquired about

expenses anticipated for 2019. Kelly replied that there are 20 total applicants (1 in 2019, 16 people are certified, and 3 renewals), the bank account at Chemung County \$4,750, and income may total \$5,000. Kelly continued that renewals are coming in, and after the test is complete, the course will be live and available to the public. The exam and course are being completely overhauled. Kelly has worked on Jessica Verrigni's contract, and Jessica will send regular reports. Chastity mentioned that, to date, 3 people registered to take exam at Water Quality Symposium, and Doug will send 1 employee.

iii. Renewal of Ronny Raindrop trademark – Caitlin mentioned that the trademark was renewed and there is nothing new to report.

iv. 2 hr. NYS DEC MS4 inspector training program for Districts – Kelly mentioned that there's nothing new to report.

v. 2019 Water Quality Symposium – Chastity mentioned that the Symposium will be held March 12 – 15, the silent auction is in Adams room, Farmers Market and Resource Fair vendor tables cost \$15 each, and the room list must be finalized by February 10. Chastity continued that entertainment will include trivia, possibly hockey, and a DJ. Chastity is researching AV deals. The hotel will donate an overnight stay and breakfast ticket for the silent auction. The hotel will provide a cheese tray for banquet. Breakfast will include a yogurt bar. The Farmers Market and Resource Fair will be held in the same location as last year's event. If Division reps would like to hold their meeting in a separate space, they need to contact Chastity. Caitlin and Chastity will order pub glasses and banners. This year is the Symposium's 40 year anniversary. Chastity mentioned that special dietary needs will be accommodated. Caitlin mentioned that she will develop and print the banquet packets and the entertainment schedule. Erin mentioned that Jim contacted her and mentioned he does not wish to MC the awards banquet, and a new MC is needed. Erin mentioned that Corey Nellis will present the Croney award. Kristin B. mentioned that she processed employee updates. Discussion ensued regarding the establishment of a cut off date for new employees and years of service. It was decided that if a new employee was hired between January 1 and December 31, 2018, they receive a gift, and years of service will be calculated for the year of Symposium (ex. start year 2001, symposium year 2019 = 18 years). Steve mentioned that he will put the packet together, and print 1 hard copy per table. Caitlin and Chastity will organize refrigerators for cheeses and meats. Chastity eliminated nut allergy foods for the banquet. Ben mentioned that volunteers contacted him who wanted to be located near the hospitality suite. Chastity will order nametags and envelopes, and set up registration. Kelly inquired how a District staff member should register if they are instructing a course. Chastity replied that they should register as a staff member and as an instructor. Chastity mentioned that projectors and laptops will be provided. Chastity mentioned that instructors needing extension cord or microphones must let her know.

Other New Business

i. Fishing Tournament – Kristin B. mentioned that Jim Liebrum contacted her requesting a fishing tournament and a clay pigeon shooting competition for fundraising. The fishing tournament entry fee would be \$10, limited to NY boundary waters, and each entrant receives a CDEA tape measure. A joker's wild category will be established for unique fish. Kristin B. continued that the clay pigeon shooting competition could take place at a centrally located facility. Kristin B. mentioned she will discuss these ideas more with Jim.

vi. Nominations – Chastity mentioned that she spoke with Nichelle about nominations, and some people are not certain if they want to participate on the CDEA committee. Chastity encouraged the committee members to reach out to District staff members and encourage them to run for a position. Judy and Kelly mentioned that they have a staff member lined up for their Division Rep positions.

vii. Other old business – Raeanne mentioned the importance of updating the bylaws and the responsibility of each Division. Chastity mentioned the importance of updating the committee list. Steve mentioned that he will email the list to Chastity.

Suspended January 15, 2019 at 4:18 p.m.

Reconvened January 16, 2019 at 9:06 a.m.

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Judy Littrell, NYS SWCC

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Ed Henry, NRCS

VIII. Reports

i. Division Reports

a. Division I – Judy B. shared her report, appended to the minutes.

b. Division II – Kelly shared her report, appended to the minutes. Doug mentioned that his county is working on plans of work and closeouts. He welcomed new employee Kim Jakaub. He continued that revisions are being made to the Owasco Lake rules and regulations, and a planning schedule is being developed for the operations crew.

c. Division III – Raeanne mentioned that her Division is working on plans of work and round 24 closeouts. She continued that Jefferson County purchased a new building and will move after renovations this spring. She mentioned that one District inquired about prevailing wages, when you have to pay them, what is involved if you have to pay them, and if anyone else has a problem where people are referred back to the assessors to determine if they qualify. Raeanne inquired if the CDEA can write a letter to make a recommendation to change the wording on the NYS tax and finance website. The wording could include a recommendation to see your assessor first before coming to the Soil and Water Conservation District. Judy L. mentioned that she will follow up with the website wording.

d. Division IV – Velynda shared her report, appended to the minutes.

e. Division V – Kristin B. shared her report, appended to the minutes.

f. Division VI – Ben mentioned that he didn't hear back from any of his Districts. He continued that fertilizer tablets were ordered. Most Districts are working on RCPP, closeouts, and the next round of CAFO grants. Washington County is working on a partial closeout on round 22, paperwork on round 21, the Upper Hudson River WQIP grant for roadside road protection, and is partnering with the county on salt issues and the Road Sensor Program. Albany County lost 2 technicians in 3 months, the clerk was promoted to Executive Director, and will hire a new clerk and technician. Discussion ensued regarding RCPP.

g. Division VII – Erin mentioned that she didn't hear back from any District. She continued that Dutchess County is working on the annual reports, seedling sale, Envirothon, the town wide management grant, NYAC prioritized culverts that need to be replaced, designs for a town to implement summer projects, and 4 hour training at end of February.

h. Division VIII – Ann Marie shared her report, appended to the minutes.

VII. New business

i. Leadership Conference – Steve mentioned that Mark Burger inquired if the leadership conference would be held this year. Steve continued that it's on a 5 year cycle, and was held 2 years ago, and the next conference will be held in 2021. CDEA has a contract with NRCS, who pays once every 5 years for the conference. Steve mentioned he will follow up with Mark Burger.

ii. Partnership Reports

a. NYS SWCC – P.J. passed out the budget, appended to the minutes. P.J. mentioned that the State Committee met yesterday in Albany and Syracuse. He highlighted the following: Overall appropriations for the SFY 2019-2020 EPF are proposed to be \$300 million. Appropriations of interest to SWCC/SWCDs include:

- \$18 million for Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects, including \$1 million for Cornell IPM, \$500,000 for the CCE of Suffolk County and \$250,000 for Cornell PMEP (**represents a proposed \$1 million increase over last year's level**)
- \$10.5 million for Soil and Water Conservation Districts (**represents a proposed \$500 thousand increase over last year's level**)
- \$18.25 million for Water Quality Improvement Program
- \$13.3 million for Invasive Species, including \$120,000 for the Cornell University Plant Certification program
- \$17.25 million for the Oceans and Great Lakes Initiative
- \$2.3 million for Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Protection Alliance

- \$250,000 for Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance
- \$5 million for the Climate Resilient Farms Program, with \$200,000 directed to Cornell Soil Health Program, and \$200,000 for a Hudson Valley Carbon Farming Pilot **(represents a proposed \$2.5 million increase over last year's level)**
- \$17 million for Farmland Protection, including \$95,000 for the Cornell Land Classification and Master List of Soils

PJ. continued that Brian will send an email to all Districts with a recap of the budget. He mentioned that he is working on plans of work, closeouts, looking forward to attending more board meetings, and providing reports in person at board meetings. The Eastern Finger Lake Cover Crop meeting will be held tomorrow.

Steve inquired if the proposed change in bottle bill goes through the EPF. Judy L. replied that that is always the intent.

Judy L. mentioned that the statewide directory needs to be updated, and Tim Clark sent an email to Districts with information about how to update the document. Kristin W. mentioned that it would be beneficial for Districts to update the document at any time. Judy L. continued that she works on Facebook posts for soil and water conservation and land and water resources, and requested that Districts email her information, photos, or projects to share on social media. Grown and certified is moving forward with great interest in maple. Judy L. attended a maple producers meeting. She mentioned that someone receives a FOIL request from news reporters, there's a policy in place to give out landowner and farmer names who receive grants in an effort to increase transparency, and Districts should be aware of this situation. Raeanne inquired if the new FOIL policy is for all grants. Judy L. replied yes, including farmland protection grants. Judy continued that when a reporter calls a Conservation District, the District must list farms who receive grants.

Blanche mentioned that NYACD does not receive notifications of pertinent information from the State Committee. She does not have access to SharePoint. She continued that she would like to share this information with Directors, but is not aware of all items. Judy L. mentioned that Blanche should contact Brian about this situation.

P.J. thanked Scott for covering for him in his absence.

Judy L. continued that CAFO Round 3 will be out soon. P.J. mentioned that there is no release date for Round 25, and the Municipal Subcommittee meeting is on January 30.

Kelly mentioned that regarding to a time extension for ag non-point, she is having a hard time in her region getting ag engineers to review and sign off on designs because of the CAFO Waste Storage Program. Kelly continued that she wanted to make Mike and Brian aware of this situation. P.J. mentioned to send grant extension requests to the AEA as soon as possible. Steve mentioned that some Districts are asking for an 18 month extension. Judy inquired if projects are being pulled back because of the dairy economy. Steve replied yes.

Judy L. mentioned that a new buffer program is being developed, and Bethany is developing webinars. P.J. mentioned to email Bethany directly with questions regarding source water.

b. NYACD – Blanche shared her report, appended to the minutes. Blanche inquired about training suggestions. Steve mentioned prevailing wages. Discussion took place about workers compensation. Kelly inquired if Blanche contacted Warren or Onondaga regarding resolutions. Blanche replied yes, and they are working together to decide how they want to rewrite and represent the resolution. Blanche continued that the Envirothon is hosting a sock fundraiser, and socks can be purchased for \$15. She continued that the release of the Oral Presentation problem has been delayed due to the government shutdown. Blanche wrote another grant request to Dominion Gas to support the Envirothon, and is working with the Elk Rocky Mountain Foundation for possible funding. Blanche mentioned that policy has been established that payment must be received 14 days in advance of the event for teams to participate.

c. NRCS – No report was submitted.

VIII. Other business

Chastity mentioned that she does not know whom to send the CDEA agenda to in NRCS. Steve mentioned to send the agenda to the new NRCS staff member.

Chastity mentioned that 2019 is the Water Quality Symposium's 40th anniversary. She inquired if CDEA should commemorate this year's event. She continued that William Croney began the event in 1979. Erin mentioned that she can assist with the 40th year celebration. P.J. mentioned that a cake could be purchased. Chastity mentioned that the anniversary will be mentioned at the beginning and end of the symposium.

Steve left the meeting at 10:46.

IX. Next meeting – Chastity mentioned that the next meeting will be held at the 2019 Water Quality Symposium. She thanked the outgoing executive committee members and Division Reps for their service.

Velynda inquired about sign up for registration table. Chastity replied that she will send it out soon.

Velynda mentioned that runners could help distribute the bucket raffle items, and the last call for the bucket raffle will be at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday. Chastity will include flyers for the bucket raffle silent auction in the registration packets. Kristin W. mentioned that an announcement should be made for people to have their payment method ready to expedite the process of the silent auction.

Caitlin mentioned she needs to purchase gloves, cups, knives, cutting boards, serving platter, and tooth picks for the farmers market resource fair. Caitlin will email Chastity the list for purchase.

Velynda mentioned that Envirothon packets will be available for pick up at the Water Quality Symposium, and Districts will sign them out.

Judy B. inquired if the Envirothon letters of intent were sent. Blanch replied yes, and she will resend them. Kristin W. mentioned the letter of intent is on the website.

- **A motion was made by Chastity, seconded by Velynda to approve up to \$800 to purchase tape measures for the fishing contest. Carried.**

Chastity mentioned that she set up a 4 Imprint account for CDEA.

X. Adjournment

- **A motion was made by Doug, seconded by Ben to adjourn at 11:12 a.m. Carried.**

Respectfully submitted



Caitlin Stewart
CDEA Secretary

Frank Bratt Report
January 15, 2019

- Active Frank Bratt Scholarships:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Angel Hinickle	June 2018	500.00

- Received 8 applications for the January 2019 round of funding totaling \$3,495.00.
 1. Nicole Laible, Rockland County SWCD Employee - \$500 for Policy Practicum
 2. Miranda Palmer, Tioga County SWCD Employee - \$500 for Intro to Environmental Science & GIS
 3. Kevin Preischel, Erie County SWCD Employee - \$95 for Adult First Aid/CPR/AED
 4. Laura Grant, Tioga County SWCD Employee - \$500 for Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional
 5. Teresa VanEpps, Monroe County SWCD Employee - \$500 for QuickBooks Desktop Introduction Course
 6. Eric Renfer, Onondaga County SWCD Employee - \$400 for StormCon 2019
 7. Pamela Price, Columbia County SWCD Employee - \$500 for Tools of Analysis: Geographic Information Systems
 8. Jessica McLaughlin, Oneida County SWCD Employee - \$500 for Master in Environmental Law and Policy
- Sent an email to Division Reps with the applications attached for their review.
- After ranking the following are recommended for funding under the January 2019 round of funding totaling \$1,500.
 1. Eric Renfer \$ 400.00
 2. Laura Grant 500.00
 3. Teresa VanEpps 500.00
 4. Pamela Price 100.00

\$1,500.00

**Division I Report
January 15, 2019**

I sent an email out to all the Districts in my division to see if they had anything they would like me to report.

Orleans County SWCD reported the following:

- We have had some staff changes. Katie Sommerfeldt is the new District Manager. Dennis Kirby retired, however we have hired him back as a part time technician.
- Completed and submitted Year-end reports.
- Planning for our annual meeting to be held in February.
- Working on the Plans of Work for 3 Round 24 Ag NPS grants.
- Closed out a Round 20 Ag NPS grant.
- Hosted the WNY Soil Health Alliance workshop on December 19 with 85 participants.
- Spring Tree & Shrub Sale is underway.
- Starting to plan for the Niagara/Orleans Regional Envirothon.
- Working on Soil Group Worksheets for Ag Value Assessments.
- Working on AEM Year 14.
- Will be closing out 6 Grown & Certified Grants soon.

Wyoming County SWCD reported the following:

- Closing an Ag NPS Round 22 Grant
- Finishing Plans of Work for 3 Ag NPS Round 24 grants
- Recently closed a FLOWPA contract
- Beginning the hiring process for a new District technician
- Working on State Aid Reports
- Coordinating with Wyo. Co. Chamber of Commerce on a Farm Awards Dinner

Genesee County SWCD

- The new District Manager Brad Mudzynski started January 7, 2019.

I did not hear back from any other county.

Submitted by: Judy Bennett, Division I Representative



Division II Report

January 2019

Report from Cayuga, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Yates

Cayuga: Verbal report provided by Doug Kierst during meeting. See meeting minutes.

Livingston: No Report Provided

Monroe:

- Reviewed and updated Personnel Policy for 2019; looking at Board member written policy for stipends and reimbursement for mileage, meals, etc.; updating training requirements for Board of Directors to be more stringent than state and more in-line with planning board training requirements.
- Continue to work with the Genesee River Watershed Coalition to implement Agricultural BMPs for sediment reduction within the watershed under EPA's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative program.
- Continue to work with the Genesee River Watershed Coalition and a contract with Bergmann Associates to create a database of Agricultural BMPs to track implementation efforts and benefits throughout the watershed.
- Working on closing out AgNPS Round 20; Working on implementation of BMPs through AgNPS Round 21.
- Contracted with consultant for the Algal Turf Scrubbers project being designed and implemented this year in the nearshore area of Lake Ontario.
- Continue to provide erosion and Sediment control construction inspections on development sites, including weekly inspections on County owned projects.
- Continue to host NYS DEC Endorsed 4 Hour E&SC Training sessions where one is being held on January 17th and another coming up on February 21st.
- The online 4 Hour E&SC Training Page has been created on the NYS CDEA website and the link went out to test the link for registration to DEC and the instructors.
- Continue to work with the Steering Committee for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program to update the training course and exam to release at the 2019 Water Quality Symposium.
- 2019 WNY Stormwater Training Series Classes at Monroe Community College were released; SWCD's receive a discount at the \$100 rate at MCSWCD sessions.
- Continue to work on 3 projects under WQIP Round 12 including a regional stormwater pond facility, a riparian buffer project, and a stream restoration project. Riparian Buffer project was completed at the end of November 2018.
- Continue to work on 2 projects under WQIP Round 14 for Stream Restoration on Black Creek with engineering from Dave Demick and a Nature- Based Shoreline (NBS) project with Monroe County Parks on Irondequoit Bay. Consultant was selected for the NBS project for design services.
- Continue to work on projects within 3 Monroe County Parks and one NYS Park under the US Forest Service grant for forest canopy restoration due to Emerald Ash Borer Impacts.
- Completed our Culvert Assessment program within the watersheds from our grant award and currently writing final report.

Onondaga:

- Onondaga SWCD staff is busy with EPF Grant Close Out reports for: Onondaga EPF Round 19, Onondaga EPF Round 20, Seneca River EPF Round 20, Upper Tioughnioga EPF Round 20.
- Revegetation crew continued hydroseeding into November before putting the equipment into storage for the winter.

- Staff is continuing to do outfall inspections when there has not been rainfall for at least 36 hours, or when the conditions are below freezing so water is not normally flowing.
- Construction site inspections on County owned projects are ongoing at Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant, Meadowbrook-Limestone Wastewater Treatment Plant, and St. Joseph's Lakeview Amphitheater.
- Our Emerald Ash Borer program has marked and organized the cutting/removal of ~4,000 ash trees from County owned properties and right of ways during this winter.
- Onondaga SWCD has secured a grant from the US Forest Service to plant 300 trees in one or more County parks within the Great Lakes Watershed.
- Planning Team is working on 3 Tier 1s, 3 Tier 2's, 5 Tier 3's, multiple Tier 4 cover crop certifications and a Tier 5 B GRAZING Plan update.
- POW's for EPF Round 24 are being prepared.
- Implementation Team is completing a Bioreactor installation plus working on designs for spring construction of 2 HUAP barnyards, 3 Pasture Systems, 1 WASCoB with Underground Outlet, and there are a few Manure Storage projects waiting on workable weather conditions.
- The SLWAP Team has completed 644 acres of cover crop documentations, No-till drill rental with 12 farms and 746 acres, plus completed 3 watershed tours with distinguished stockholders.
- Annual Reports are being completed for NYS, City of Syracuse, Legislative Days, and introductions to new County Legislative members.

Ontario: No Report Provided

Seneca:

- New District Technician Matt Everdyke started on January 2, 2019.
- Past District Manager Bill Cool passed away, he was with Seneca County SWCD from 1964-1994.
- Seneca SWCD was just awarded a CFA/WQIP grant for erosion control work in the Cayuga Lake Watershed. Implementation planned for 2019/ 2020.

Wayne: No Report Provided

Yates: No Report Provided

Submitted by,

Kelly Emerick
Executive Director
Monroe County SWCD
NYS CDEA Division II Representative



Division IV Report

Broome – No report provided.

Chemung – No report provided.

Chenango

- For over 76 years the Soil and Water Conservation Districts across New York State have implemented state and federal programs to help improve the soil and water resources of this state. Combining state and federal grant dollars when available ensures our farmers will continue to implement environmentally sound best management practices designed to increase farm production, enhance profitability, and reduce nutrients reaching the Chesapeake Bay. In 2018 approximately \$1 million dollars was spent implementing Agricultural Best Management Practices in Chenango County. An additional \$545,023.63 dollars was spent implementing a second round of the Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program (STAIEP) the Governor rolled out back in December of 2015. This amount does not include the farmer's minimum match of 25% which in many cases the farmer put more money towards their project. In September of 2017, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the release of the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System program which will provide cost-share funds through the Soil and Water Conservation Districts for the implementation of water quality protection projects that will establish manure storage capacity and/or reduce/prevent the nonpoint source contribution from agricultural activities. Three rounds of proposals will be accepted through April 1, 2019. To date, we had five producers apply in the first two rounds. Three have been successful in securing funds.

Cortland

- Cortland SWCD staff completed culvert and stream assessment work in the Cayuga Lake and Skaneateles Lake watersheds and submitted the final grant report for the New York Great Lakes Road Stream Crossings Assessment Project.
- Staff recently completed and closed two WQIP grants; one of which was for the District's on-going critical area stabilization program and the second for a municipal culvert replacement project. Two AGNP grants were also closed; one for silage leachate collection and the second for cover crop.
- Cortland SWCD is in its final year of implementing the NYS DEC Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Program. For the past three boating seasons watercraft

stewards were stationed at various boat launches to perform boat inspections, checking for and removing aquatic invasives to prevent their spread.

- Staff continues to work on AGNP implementation projects planned for spring 2019. These projects include: two silage leachate collection systems; completion of two waste storage systems including one milkhouse waste collection; a barnyard heavy use area protection project and establishment of two riparian forest buffers.
- Cortland County SWCD was awarded four new WQIP grants totaling 1.24 million dollars. Three of the grants will target working with municipalities in the Cayuga Lake, Skaneateles Lake and Chesapeake Bay Watersheds to rehabilitate culverts, streams and buffers identified as high priorities based on recent District assessments. The fourth WQIP grant will continue the District's critical area stabilization program working with municipalities primarily in the form of a Ditch Maintenance Program.
- The District will be hosting a Fresh Opportunities in Agriculture Luncheon in early February to introduce agricultural producers to new and existing funding opportunities.
- On February 27, 2019 the District will be hosting a NYS DEC 4 hour E&SC training and a Dig Safely NYS Certified Excavator class.
- The annual agricultural highway safety and nutrient application workshop is scheduled for March 8, 2019 at the NYS Grange Headquarters in Cortland.
- The District is holding a rural landowner workshop on native plants on May 1st.

Delaware

- 19 acres of Tree & Shrub Planting on four farms (For CREP Buffer Enrollment)
- 1.5 acres of Brush Management to facilitate CREP on two farms
- One spring development system
- 5,300 linear feet of High Tensile CREP Fence
- Evaluated 527 acres of Riparian Forest Buffers on 35 different farms
- Certified 275 acres of cover crops on six farms
- WAP Staff 2018 Accomplishments– Implemented 33 projects (58 BMPS) for \$1,294,694.
- 21 projects (53 BMPS) for \$408,219 designed and ready for construction in 2019
- Designs for 44 BMPS totaling \$897,600 are in progress.
- Provided Construction oversight for 10 BMPS totaling \$1,235,860
- Planning staff completed 14 Whole Farm Plan revisions and 35 Annual Status Reviews
- 2019 will begin a new 6 year contract with the Watershed Ag. Council and New York City DEP to assist in the implementation of the Watershed Ag. Program.
- New 2019 SWCD Workload includes 88 BMPS totaling \$1,054,635
- In addition to the reported items in my two previous emails, I would add that our Stream Corridor Management Program completed 7 projects in 2018 and have 8 projects being designed now for 2019 construction. We conducted one NYSDEC 4 hours E&SC course in 2018 as well as two Post Flood ESI trainings. We are currently negotiating a new 5 year contract with NYCDEP to continue stream related projects in the NYC Watershed.
- We recently learned that our West and East Branch Delaware Rivers BELOW the NYC reservoirs will be evaluated and assessed for stabilization and flooding issues with

funding through the Governor's recent NY Rising Program. We are currently providing technical assistance for 3 USDA RCPPs.

- We are currently working with the USC to develop the Phase III of the WIP.
- Also, I would like to discuss an issue that we are dealing with now. The inability to pay consulting engineers for services prior to a State funded project being completed and certified for payment as per the State's contracts (ie AgNPS).

Otsego – No report provided.

Schuyler

- Our main focus is our annual reporting paperwork. Closing out four different grants; organizing our implementation schedule for this coming construction season. Working with FEMA for our paperwork and our towns paperwork for the flooding event that we had

Steuben

- Submitted 4 Grazing application under the RCPP with USC
- 3 CAFO landowners have contacted the District regarding Round 3 CAFO WSTS program
- District award the Raubderdale Farm Inc. with 2018 Cooperator of the Year award and Michael Yochum the Highway Superintendent award at luncheon in December were 45 were presented. Jeff also presented a powerpoint on the District accomplishments. The last slide represented how much funding was brought in to the county by District/NRCS and for every dollar the County gave the District approximately \$20 was brought in.
- Conducted 68 NAACC assessments in the Cohocton River watershed
- Working on FL-LOWPA closeout for SFT 2016-17
- Working on 2nd mini closeout of STAIEP; one landowner sought a no time extension due to weather condition and will be implementing the construction of their hay storage barn in late spring
- District staff is working on stream permits for the upcoming construction season
-
- District annual outside audit has been schedule in March
- 170 acres of cover crop was implemented under the USC Cover Crop grant
- 140 acres of cover crop was implemented in the Upper Genesee River watershed and will be submitting the necessary paperwork for reimbursement
- Working on the 2018 annual reports for State Committee
- Had a staff member leave the District and current staff will be picking up the some their duties until spring when posting of the position will take place
- Two District and DPW individual will be taking the new Dig Safe Excavation training
- Jeff will be attending the municipal subcommittee meeting on January 30 on Rural Roads & Roadside Ditch Maintenance

Tioga

- Funded 557 acres of Cover Crops through three different funding sources.
- Planted a buffer along a tributary to Catatonk Creek at no cost to the landowner. Trees and shrubs and materials were supplied through trees for trib, approximately 300 trees were planted.
- We have two farms remaining in our STAIEP funding, one is currently working on construction and the other has not yet signed a contract to move forward with their project
- Submitted five applications to the USC NFWF Regional Delivery grant and were awarded for all five. Total award of \$175,466.73 with a match provided of \$36,794.66. Through this grant there will be 5.5 acres of forested buffers planted, 1.6 acres of grass buffers planted, 2.1 acres of wetland enhancement/vernal pool creation, 2.3 acres of wetland pothole construction, 3.4 acres of wetland protection, 1,418 acres of stream corridor rehabilitation, and 174.9 acres of rotational grazing!
- Worked with two local producers who applied for NY Grown and Certified grant, both we awarded \$50,000, one location plans to build a dairy goat creamery facility and the other a poultry processing facility.
- Awarded NRCS CTA for Engineering work, this is \$330,000 in funding for an Engineer and Engineer Technician to do work throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- NY Rising – Completed the assessment of three watersheds, Huntington, Apalachin, and Wappasenning. Now that these watershed assessments have been completed, we will work to prioritize problem areas and then select sites for project implementation in 2019.
- FEMA declared a federal disaster for the heavy rain/ flash flooding event that occurred from August 13th to the 15th. District staff has been working with many homeowners and municipalities where damage occurred. Have identified potential sites for funding and are working through the process. The stream technician visited 74 different sites from August 13th through December 31st.
- We continue to work on invasive species management specifically with the treatment of both Hydrilla and Parrot Feather in two local ponds, which have dams that spill into Little Nanticoke Creek, which flows directly into the Susquehanna River.
- Working to close out the NFWF I 4 grant we received funding for. Through this funding, we were able to complete assessment in two watersheds, and over the fall completed construction on one site along Apalachin Creek. At this site, there was 220 feet of riprap installed and two stream barbs. Just upstream of this project location we conducted an ESI training where root balls were used to stabilize the bank and willows were planted.
- Stream technician visited 109 sites during 2018 compared to 44 sites in 2017. Many of these site visits were due to flash flooding events that occurred in August and September.
- Completed berm removal project at local farm in Tioga County, there was 1,091 linear feet of streamside berm removed from the stream corridor. There will be a 4 acres of forested riparian buffer planted at this site in the spring of 2019.
- We continue to work with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition and NYSDEC on the Phase III WIP.
- Staff has begun planning the 2019 Regional Envirothon Event. The event will take place on Thursday April 25th. This Envirothon encompasses Broome, Chemung, Tioga,

Tompkins, and Schuyler County! Last year we had 36 teams from 13 school districts participated, nearly 200 students! We are looking forward to making this year another great event!

- We were awarded funding through AgNPS Round 24 for \$61,370.00. This project includes implementing a prescribed grazing system, planting of forested and grass riparian areas, livestock exclusion, laneway installation, water lines, and watering facility.
- Staff has begun planning the 2019 Sundaes at the Farm Event, with approximately 700 attendees last year; there is a lot of time put into making this experience a success!
- We used our Part C funding to make repairs at a local dairy farm to in their manure pump room, purchase a drone to be used to assist with site visits and tracking of projects, purchase a new 7 foot no till drill as we continue to have farms utilize our drills for conservation tillage and cover crop planting, purchase new engineering software as we continue to grow and design projects in house, and support staff in our Ag and Stream programs.
- For our Part B funding, there was a flash flooding event that caused waters to flow into the adjacent hamlet of Tioga Center flooding approximately 12 homes. In addition to the flooding, the rushing waters caused severe erosion on two outside bends of the stream, severely reducing the bank full capacity of the channel. A total of 600 ft. of stream was addressed, the channel dimensions were re-established using the Emergency Stream Intervention method. On-site large woody debris was used to install root wads into the affected banks, with willow cuttings also planted in the back fill. An in-stream rock barb was installed with large stones that were found on the site.
- Worked with local municipalities and county to finish the draft Hazard Mitigation Program.

Tompkins – No report provide.

Division 5 Report

Clinton County

- A new technician, Allison Holmes, has been hired to work on developing our AEM program
- Working on Ag Assessments
- Working on Annual Reports
- Planning projects for 2019
- Looking to hire 1-2 interns for the Spring/Summer

Essex County

- We are finishing our Round 24 POWS
- Planning for implementation of our CRF3 grants
- Working with farms for planning and potential Round 25 applications
- We are planning for some green infrastructure implementation as well as addressing roadside erosion issues through current grants
- The big news is that we moved at the beginning of January and are settling in to our new place at the Essex County DPW building
- We are also planning to hire a new employee this week.

Franklin County

- Closing out one of our CAFO grants for a 5.95 million gallon manure storage. Hoping for construction on 2 others as soon as the weather breaks. We have one more in engineering.
- Completed plans of work for our 2 Round 24 Ag non-point source grants. Prepping for the next round of applications. Along with CAFO and CRF grants.
- Finally we have a consultant to help put together the Watershed Management Restoration Plan for the St Lawrence River Watershed! So finally we get to put that project into action!
- Staff is continuing to do an awesome job at field work and outreach to producers and the public. Allycia has been promoting NYS Grown and Certified and assisting producers with planning.
- Kristin was awarded a Sea Grant for NAACC assessments! We are going to have a busy summer!
- Gearing up for tree sale, arbor day, workshops and education programs!

Hamilton County

- District Manager Elizabeth Mangle retired after 28 years of dedicated service to New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Caitlin Stewart is the new District Manager.
- Over 112 people of all ages attended conservation education presentations.
- Hamilton County Board of Supervisors presentation: discussed the annual accomplishments and showed the Conservation Field Day video.
- Completed Conservation Field Day awards ceremonies.
- Attended Hamilton County Health and Benefits Day and hosted an information booth.
- The Adirondack Watershed Institute at Paul Smiths College continues work on the 25 year lake monitoring report.
- 8 press releases.
- Completed annual accomplishments document and infographic.
- Finalized education course for the Water Quality Symposium.
- Began work on the Tree and Shrub Sale.
- Attended watershed coalition meetings.
- Attended the CDEA joint Division III and V meeting.

- Adirondack Ecotrail maintenance.
- Preliminary work on a shoreline stabilization project on Raquette Lake.
- Paper Recycling Program.
- Attended Highway Meeting.
- Researching ELAP certified labs for the 2019 water monitoring season.

Warren County

- Planning for 2019
- Revived a WQIP Grant for hydroseeding
- Received 2 Lake Champlain Basin Program Grants
 - o Invasive Species
 - Invasive species training on id, treatment and removal for Citizen Scientists specific to small lake and pond owners and riparian areas
 - o Education and Outreach
 - Ag Grant for Market Gardening with SUNY Adirondack. Garden will be built at and maintained by SUNY Adirondack through the Ag Business track but the training will be open to the public

**NYSCDEA January 15 – 16th 2019
Division VIII Report**

Suffolk County: Ann Marie Calabro

Continued Programs: 2018 Deer Exclusion Fence, Fuel Tank Replacement Program, Nutrient Management, Pesticide Sprayer Retrofit, Agrichemical Handling Facilities, Elementary School Garden Program, Comprehensive Soil Health Testing Program.

Soil Health Sampling/Testing and Equipment Rental Program (Soil HELP): The goal of the Soil H.E.L.P. Program is to assist Suffolk County farms conserve and improve the long-term health of their soils. In conjunction with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Agriculture Stewardship Program, we have purchased low impact, conservation oriented agricultural equipment. We purchased several pieces of equipment including a no till drill, a two shank and a four shank zonebuilder, New Holland 145 Box Spreader, 150Cu Ft Ground Drive ABI manure Spreader available for producers to use March 2019.

NPS: The first grant proposal was for 44 farmers to replace 80 fuel tanks the state is reimbursing \$414,476 of \$641,000, which will securing 40,640 gallons in double-walled tanks. Suffolk County has the strictest regulations governing fuel storage in the country. The EPA designated Suffolk County's aquifer as a sole-source in 1978. Long Island's sole source aquifer is one of the most productive aquifers in the United States supplying drinking water to over 2.7 million people, of which 1.5 million live in Suffolk County, through public and private wells.

The second NPS grant is for a greenhouse operator to install recirculating benches. They are zero leaching benches the state is reimbursing \$249,310.00 of \$383,503.00 it will take to install the system. The ebb and flow bench systems are an environmentally responsible alternative to conventionally fertilizing greenhouse operations. They are being constructed by greenhouse growers around the world to improve product quality, conserve water, increase production efficiency, and protect groundwater. In sub-irrigation systems, water and nutrient solution provided at the base of the container rises by capillary action through holes in the bottom of the pots and is absorbed by the soil. These systems are adaptable to crops grown in pots or flats. The water solution is then drained into recycling tanks and used again the next time the plants are watered. There is zero runoff into the groundwater, therefore zero leaching of nitrogen.

Municipal Assistance: Inventory and Evaluate (I&E) several areas for bluff erosion and stability, South Harbor Road Drainage Swale

Education/Outreach: 2019 Ag Forum two day workshop and resource fair for producers providing DEC Pesticide credits, Soil Health Field Day, DEC 4 Hour Course for Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Updating District Website, Agriculture in the Classroom provides funding for schools to connect with agriculture, published 2018 Year in Review, Ann Marie is enrolled in the AFT Soil Health Specialist curriculum, Kaitlin is attending the NOFA conference

New Hires/Team Members: Please welcome Kaitlin Shahinian, Soil District Technician hired October 2018. Stay Tuned... we are in the process of hiring another new soil technician ☺

New York City: Shino Tanikawa

We finished native garden planter project with a grant from the NYCEF Newtown Creek Fund. The project was implemented in partnership with the Newtown Creek Alliance. The planters are placed on the bulk head facing the Newtown Creek. People who work on the site (it's a film production company) often enjoy their breaks on the bulk head. Now they have benches to sit on, surrounded by native plants.

The production company also has green roofs on its facilities at the site. It is a great example of what can be done on a private waterfront property.

We also hosted another successful GI tour. Details are in the CDEA November newsletter!

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.

Nassau County: David Ganim

Grants/Funding: We have two active grants. One from the NYSDEC for monitoring for and suppressing Southern Pine Beetle in the Massapequa Preserve. The second grant is through NFWF and it is for raingarden and permeable pavement installations in Bayville along with G.I. classes.

Part C projects and updates: We have purchased a Shellfish seed Sorter and for use in Oyster Bay. This has greatly assisted in the shellfish seeding process. We are actively working on Outreach Program. Black Skimmer Foraging Monitoring this project was completed in July and stats like feeding habits and mortality will continue to be monitored through the coming years. The Humes Meadow Restoration is completed, we look to have successfully cut back the invasive plants there. Cedarhurst Boxwood restoration and removal is complete - many native plants were added. Everything is on track for our Sustainable Agriculture project at the Town of North Hempstead Conservation and Waterway's Clean Energy Park, we are currently restoring the greenhouse.

Part B: MAPS station. Equipment was purchased, and bird banding work was completed over the summer.

ESCT: Partnered with SCSWCD to host and administer 3 trainings.

Education/Outreach: It has been a rigorous and busy Outreach Campaign. We have outreached to 40,000 people. Here is a list of events that we attended this year. We have also launched a social media campaign and that is where we get the most exposure from.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Raingarden Presentation | • BMP Workshop |
| • ESC Training | • DEC Cleanup |
| • Raingarden Presentation | • TOB Earth Day |
| • CCE Science Day | • DEC Invasive Sign Posting |
| • Water Week Outreach | • Harborfest |
| • Seatuck Eco Carnival | • Water Chestnut Pull |
| • Glen Cove Earth Day | • ESC Training |
| • Envirothon | • Water Chestnut Pull |
| • Fish Hatchery Event | • LI Fair |

New Hire/Team Members: Re-structuring the NC SWCD....

- Patricia Manzi no longer works for NCSWCD
- David Ganim was promoted to District Manager.
- Olivia Calandra is our new District Technician
- Yoan Carrillo is our new Bookkeeper / Finance / HR Admin

Putnam County: No Report

Rockland County: No Report

Westchester County: No Report

Submitted By: Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII Representative



Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) FY19-20

<u>Open Space Account</u>	<u>FY 18-19 Enacted</u>	<u>FY18-20 Executive Proposed</u>
Open Space / Land Conservation	35,000	32,387
LTA Conservation Partnership Program	2,600	2,600
Urban Forestry	1,000	1,000
Cities with Population 55,000 or more	300	600
Projects in DEC Regions 1-3	3,000	3,000
Working Forest Conservation Easements	0	3,000
Tug Hill Tomorrow for Ft. Drum ACUB	0	1,000
Towns of Long Lake, N. Hudson, Minerva, Indian Lake & Newcomb	1,000	0
Lake George Park Commission	700	200
Farmland Protection	18,000	17,000
Tug Hill Tomorrow for Ft. Drum ACUB	1,000	1,000
Cornell University Land Class/Master Soils List	90	95
Agricultural Waste Management	1,500	1,500
Cornell Dairy Acceleration Program	700	700
Municipal Non-point Source Pollution Control	7,000	7,000
Cornell Community Integrated Pest Management	650	650
Agricultural Non-point Source Pollution Control	17,000	18,000
Cornell Integrated Pest Management Program	1,000	1,000
Suffolk County Cornell Cooperative Nutrient Management	600	600
Cornell Pesticide Management Education Program	250	250
Hudson River Estuary Program	6,500	6,500
Mohawk River Action Plan	1,000	1,000
Biodiversity / Landowner Habitat Conservation Program	1,350	1,350
Pollinator Protection Plan Implementation	600	600
Cornell Pollinator BMPs	300	300
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies Catskill Research	100	100
Albany Pine Bush Commission	2,675	2,675
Long Island Pine Barrens Commission	2,000	2,000
Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve	900	900
Finger Lakes/Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance	2,300	2,300
Lake Erie Watershed Protection / Erie Co. SWCD	250	250
Invasive Species	13,300	13,300
Lake George	450	450
Eradication Grants	6,060	6,060
Cornell Hemlock Woolly Adelgid project	600	600
Cornell Plant Certification Program	120	120
Southern Pine Beetle Incl. Rx Fire in Pine Barrens	600	600
Ocean and Great Lakes Initiative	17,250	17,250
Peconic Estuary Program	200	200
Great Lakes Commission	60	60
Long Island South Shore Seagate Feasibility Study	250	0
SUNY Brockport Resiliency Monitoring Program	60	0
Water Quality Improvement Program	20,250	18,250
Suffolk County / DEC Nitrogen Reduction	3,000	3,000
Suffolk County Sewer Improvement Projects	1,600	1,600
Nassau County Bay Park STP, well testing & LINAP	6,000	6,000
Statewide Drug Collection Program	1,000	1,000
Fire Department Disposal of PFCs	100	100
Source Water Assessment Plans	6,000	6,000
Firefighting foam disposal	0	100
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	10,000	10,500
Steuben County SWCD	65	0
Chemung and Schuyler County SWCDs	270	0
Water Resources Commissions	1,063	1,063
Susquehanna River Basin Commission	269	269
Delaware River Basin Commission	369	369
Ohio River Basin Commission	14	14
Interstate Environmental Commission	41	41
New England Interstate Commission	38	38
SUNY ESF Center for Native Peoples and the Environment	360	360
Sub-Total	168,338	162,226
<u>Parks and Recreation Account</u>		
State Land Stewardship	32,638	33,700
ORDA/Beleayre Mountain	1,000	1,000
Parks & Trails NY Grants Program	600	1,000
Waterfront Revitalization Program	14,000	15,000
Inner City/Underserved	9,000	9,000
LWRP Updates to mitigate climate risks	2,000	2,000

Niagara River Greenway Commission	200	200
Municipal Parks	19,500	19,500
Inner City/Underserved	10,000	10,000
Tivoli Park	250	250
Hudson River Valley Trail Grants	500	500
New York City East River Esplanade	500	500
SUNY ESF for Adirondack VICs	120	120
Paul Smiths for Adirondack VICs	150	150
Bronx Zoo	1,000	0
Hudson River Park	3,200	3,200
ZBGA	15,000	15,000
Navigation Law	2,000	2,000
Sub-Total	88,338	88,400
<u>Solid Waste Account</u>		
Municipal Recycling	14,000	14,000
Organics/Food Waste Programs	2,000	2,000
Secondary Materials Markets	149	200
Pollution Prevention Institute	4,000	4,000
Interstate Chemical Clearinghouse	100	100
Pesticide Program	1,800	1,800
Long Island Pesticide Prevention	200	200
Natural Resource Damage Assessment	2,025	2,025
Landfill Closure / Gas Management	700	700
Essex County	300	300
Hamilton County	150	150
Environmental Justice	7,000	7,000
Community Impact Grants Program	3,000	3,000
Connect Kids Outdoor Recreation Program	1,000	1,000
SUNY ESF Center for Native Peoples and the Environment	0	350
Environmental Health	6,500	6,500
Childrens Environmental Health Centers	2,000	2,000
Fresh Connect	626	626
SUNY 1-4 Dioxane Treatment Pilot	0	1,000
Clean Sweep	500	500
Center for Clean Water Technology at Stony Brook	1,000	0
SUNY Stony Brook for chemical testing lab	500	0
Brownfield Opportunity Area Grants	2,000	2,000
Sub-Total	38,174	38,226
<u>Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Account</u>		
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Outside Power Sector	1,000	1,500
Regenerate NY grant program	0	500
Cornell Natural & Working Lands Ag Inventory	0	500
Climate Adaptation	3,000	2,000
Wood Products Development Council	0	200
Smart Growth Grants	2,000	2,000
Climate Resilient Farms	2,500	5,000
Cornell Soil Health Program	200	200
Hudson Valley Carbon Farming Pilot Project	0	200
Climate Smart Communities Projects	10,650	10,650
Resilience Planting Program	500	500
Sub-Total	18,150	21,150
TOTAL EPF	300,000	300,000

000s omitted. Programs in *italics* are sub-allocations within programs.
 Data Compiled by The Nature Conservancy, January 15, 2019. For more information, contact joinnew@tnc.org.
 For more information about the EPF, visit www.kcepprotectingny.com.



New York Association of Conservation Districts
c/o Steuben County SWCD
415 W. Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
www.nyacd.org

January 15, 2019

To: CDEA

From: Blanche L. Hurlbutt,
NYACD Executive Director

Re: Report for CDEA 1/15/19 meeting

- NYACD is preparing for Legislative Days, Monday, March 4th in the evening and Tuesday, March 5th meetings with Legislators. We have eight (8) Districts registered as of today, January 14th, and a total of forty-four (44) Legislator appointments scheduled. Appointments are still being made all most daily, so I'm sure more appointments will be on the schedule by the time the event comes about.

The Legislative Day booklet has been created, printed and ready for distribution. Many thanks to all the Districts who sent project reports to show Legislators what SWCD's do for New York.

- I have reached out to Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner to discuss and gather her support for the Waterfront Revitalization Bill. This was presented at the end of the 2018 session under bill numbers Senate #S7799 & Assembly #11194 will be discussed during the Legislative session. During last year's session our assembly support passed away, so we are back to gathering support.
- We will be meeting with eighteen (18) delegates from the Chinese Academy of China on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at the Cortland SWCD office. Cortland, Onondaga, and Ontario SWCD staff will be presenting what their counties do in Best Management Practices (BMP's).
- NYACD has changed their monthly meeting date from the fourth Thursday to the fourth Wednesday. They will still be teleconferences beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- NYACD Annual meeting date is set for October 22-24, 2019 to be held at the Hampton Inn, Cazenovia. Training sessions are being considered, so if anyone has any ideas please let me know.
- NYACD 2019 Calendar has been created and each month will be mailed along with the monthly Director/District letter. If you have anything, you'd like added please let me know.
- I have been scheduling appointments for NYACD President Sam Casella to meet with US Senate & Congress in Washington, DC during the annual Fly-In session.

- Resolutions passed at the 2018 NYACD Annual meeting were formatted to NACD resolution format and forward to NACD for their annual meeting in February. Sam Casella, NYACD President will be carry copies w/support information provided to hand-out during the resolution meeting. It is our hope that Sam will provide the message needed to have these resolutions move forward.
- **NEED:** Updated information regarding who your District Chairman is and contact information, so that the monthly NYACD letter is forwarded to them directly as well as to the District Manager.



Meeting Minutes
May 30, 2019
Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District
50 West High Street
Ballston Spa NY 12020

Executive Committee Members

Chastity Miller, President
Dustin Lewis, Vice President
Caitlin Stewart, Secretary
Kristin White, Treasurer
Dean Moore, Member at Large

Partners

Jennifer Clifford, NYS SWCC
Tom Bielli, NRCS
Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD

Division Representatives

Scott Collins, Division I
Aaron Buchta, Division II
Raeanne Dulanski, Division III
Velynda Parker, Division IV
Kristin Ballou, Division V
Amber Luke, Division VI
Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII

Absent

Erin Somerville, Division VII



Minutes

I. Meeting begins and introductions – Chastity called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with introductions.

II. Reading and approval of the January 2019 meeting minutes.

- **A motion was made by Kristin W, seconded by Ann Marie to approve the January 2019 meeting minutes. Carried.**

III. Correspondence – Chastity passed the folder containing the following correspondences:

- Annual Report – National Association of Conservation Districts
- Environmental Protection Fund budget
- Letter from New York State Conservationist Blake Glover regarding NRCS staff attendance at Soil & Water Conservation District Board Meetings
- Thank you letter from the director of Syracuse Convention Services regarding the Water Quality Symposium

IV. Treasurer's report – Kristin W. mentioned that the budget income for the 4 hour online class has already been exceeded, totals \$13,000, and 1 to 3 participants register daily. A new account under general was created for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certification

Program containing \$4,500 to contract with Jessica Verrigni. Receivables include New York State Envirothon registrations. Un-deposited funds include credit card registrations that have not yet been added. Raeanne inquired about the \$5,000 expense for the ESC Program. Kristin W. replied that she assumes it is for the \$10,000 2-year contract, and is for last year's expense.

- **A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Velynda to accept the Treasurer's report. Carried.**
- **A motion was made by Velynda, seconded by Caitlin to transfer \$2,500 from the Envirothon Scholarship for the award recipients. Carried.**
- **A motion was made by Raeanne, seconded by Ann Marie to transfer \$3,380 from the bucket raffle and silent auction to the Frank Bratt Scholarship. Carried.**
- **A motion was made by Dustin, seconded by Dean to submit the CHAR 500 and I900 forms. Carried.**

V. Reports

i. Division Reports

a. Division I – Scott shared his report, appended to the minutes.

b. Division II – Aaron arrived at 10:29 and shared his report, appended to the minutes.

c. Division III – Raeanne mentioned that Nichelle Swisher is working on a resolution for CDEA to request cost shares for WQIP salt shed return to 75 / 25 instead of 50 / 50. She continued that Districts in her Division are concerned about farms that may not be eligible for Farm Service Agency (FSA) loans due to FSA's environmental review requirements and the look back periods for projects the farm has implemented.

d. Division IV – Velynda mentioned that a joint Division meeting was held April 3, with 7 out of 10 counties were represented. She reached out to the SWCDs in her Division but didn't hear back from them. Velynda mentioned that is important for volunteers to sign up for a booth shift at the New York State Fair. Discussion ensued about who is responsible for recruiting volunteers for the NYS Fair booth shifts. A concern arose from some Directors regarding a grange representative on the Board of Directors. Velynda mentioned that Scott and PJ researched District Law and they reported that when a grange is inactive, a Member at Large can fill the vacant grange position. Steuben County SWCD hired an intern and is busy with the construction season.

e. Division V – Kristin B. shared her report, appended to the minutes.

f. Division VI – Amber mentioned that she is not yet appointed, and did not have anything to report.

g. Division VII – No report submitted.

h. Division VIII – Ann Marie shared her report, appended to the minutes.

- **A motion was made by Caitlin, seconded by Dustin to appoint Scott Collins as the Division I Representative, Aaron Buchta as the Division II Representative, and Amber Luke as the Division VI Representative. Carried.**

ii. Partnership Reports

a. NYS SWCC – Jennifer reviewed the draft SWCC Program Timeline and asked for feedback from Districts. She mentioned that the goal of the timeline is to stagger deadlines when possible, line up the announcements, free up the summer for the field season, and line up winters for reports. Dustin inquired if the timeline would be on a year to year basis. Jennifer replied yes, but sometimes awards do get held up due to the Governor's timeline. Chastity mentioned that the timeline should be distributed to Divisions for feedback and discussed at Managers' Meetings.

Jennifer mentioned that some District boards have difficulty replacing their Grange representative. Velynda mentioned that, according to District Law, a Member at Large is appointed by the County and will serve in the absence of a farm organization.

b. NYACD – Blanche shared her report, appended to the minutes. Blanche inquired if the CDEA Board would consider entering into memorandum of understanding with colleges for District Technician positions. Discussion ensued. Chastity mentioned that this proposal may be a challenge due to the civil service exams that are specific to each county, and applicants must be on a county list in order to be hired.

c. NRCS – Tom mentioned that Blake apologized for his absence resulting from the Tribal Liaison meeting. Tom continued that SWCD employees are welcome to attend the Conservation Boot Camp in Nebraska in August and September, and the NACD covers training expenses. Those interested should contact their District Conservationist for more information.

The sign up period for the continuous Conservation Reserve Program is June 3 through August 23, and a variety of practices are available under the program.

The 2020 EQIP sign up cut-off date is July 19, 2019. There is a change in how the applications are handled. CNMP is reviewed by NRCS in order to be eligible. Ranking and prioritization will be established. Dustin inquired if NRCS will prepare the CNMPs. Tom replied he was not certain.

NRCS employees are no longer allowed to attend evening meetings of SWCD boards. This is a national initiative enacted at the state level.

For SWCD offices co-located with NRCS offices, there is a new online vehicle management tool for signing out NRCS vehicles. Vehicles must be signed out in advance. The fleet of NRCS vehicles is being reduced. The tracking tool will show who uses the vehicles on a daily basis.

Velynda inquired about the release of Conservation Desktop. Tom replied he did not know. Discussion took place regarding continuous sign up criteria for CRP. Dustin inquired about job approval authority. Tom replied that, for our area, the State Engineer delegates down to area

engineers, who then go through NRCS employees, and then District employees follow. This process will allow District employees to obtain approval. The approval process depends on the area engineers. Documents signed by the previous state engineer are no longer valid.

Dustin inquired about next year's Part C final report. Jennifer mentioned that the SWCC does not know when Part C final report form will be released, but it will probably look similar to last year. She mentioned the importance of documenting how funds are spent, but the full dollar or budget amount will probably not be included in the report. Part C will probably include metrics, projects on the ground, a narrative of completed projects and funds spent for those projects.

VI. Committee / meeting reports

i. Conservation Skills Workshop – Chastity mentioned that a planning meeting was held. The workshop will be held September 23 – 27. Classes begin at 10 am on Monday, go through Thursday, and the NYS ESC exam will be held on Friday. Courses will include AEM Tier III, NRCS Planning, Introduction to Surveying, Wetlands, RRAMP, Stormwater Surveying with GPS, Forestry, Grazing, and Cropland BMPs. The committee hopes to have registration out by August. The cost is \$30 per person per week, and the workshop will be held in Cortland. Dustin mentioned that the Game of Logging may be an interesting course for the workshop. Chastity mentioned that she will add it to the list. Chastity continued that the workshop was a little over budget for 2018 due to 1 presenter's cost. Chastity mentioned that the committee thinks about raising more funds to cover instructor costs. Volunteers are needed to help plan the workshop, and Division Reps could send an email requesting assistance, and interested volunteers should contact Mark Burger.

ii. Envirothon Committee – Kristin W. mentioned that the event was a success. 46 teams participated, and there were no glitches. Ulster County's Mount Academy won and will go to North Carolina for the national event. Blanche and Joanne Kurtis will attend the national event as New York State representatives. Blanche mentioned that at this year's national event, students will have a choice of making a poster or power point for oral presentation, but next year, only power point presentations will be accepted. Blanche is working on an online format for bids from interested schools to host the event. A 4 year contract is currently in place with Hobart and Williams Colleges. Chastity mentioned that 2 applicants need to be added to the Envirothon Committee. Velynda mentioned that normally the Envirothon membership forms are sent out statewide in June, and CDEA would review and approve the applicants at the July meeting. Blanche mentioned that Cal Lewis stepped down from his volunteer position as Vice Chairperson. Chastity mentioned that she will reach out with a state wide request for Envirothon Committee members with the application. Jennifer mentioned that a press release will be distributed state wide. Caitlin mentioned that she will add the press release to CDEA News.

iii. Frank Bratt Scholarship – Scott mentioned that 3 people closed out their scholarships in the past 5 months, and there are only have 2 active scholarships totaling \$500. The next round closes tomorrow, June 1. The full report is appended to the minutes.

iv. State Fair Committee – Kristin W. mentioned that planning is going well. Alana Robarge from Ontario County and Eva Brown joined the committee. Alana ordered promotional

items. Event preparations are complete. Volunteers are still needed. Chastity mentioned that she will send out a state wide request for volunteers.

v. Environmental Education Foundation Committee – Anne Marie mentioned that she didn't attend the last meeting. Chastity mentioned that the brochure has been updated, and credit card payments have been removed. The committee is working to send out New York State Envirothon sponsorship requests. Ben Luskin is no longer on the committee, and there is only 1 open position at this time. Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of every month at 11 AM via conference call. Mark Gaston is the chairperson. Amber mentioned that she is interested in serving on the committee.

vi. National Association of Conservation District Employees – Velynda mentioned that meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month. The NCPP (National Conservation Planning Partnership) website will go live in August or September. Initiatives include working with NRCS on contribution agreements and some national issues. People should contact Jeff Parker or Velynda with any New York State issues that should be addressed. Regional Planning Groups are focusing on invasive species. Ann Marie inquired about solicitations for awards. Velynda mentioned that she will send the solicitation for awards to SWCC for state wide distribution.

viii. Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees – Velynda mentioned that the Northeast Employees' Association will hold a conference in Connecticut August 25 – 28. Workshops include capacity building and branding. A travel stipend is available for any new employee attending the conference. The stipend covers the registration fee and meals, but does not cover mileage or the hotel. Registration will go live soon.

ix. New York State Invasive Species Advisory Committee – Caitlin mentioned that she attended the February meeting. The invasive Asian longhorned tick is a species of concern. The tick may not impact humans, but hosts include pets, livestock, and wildlife. No harmful germs have been found in the ticks, but research is ongoing. Some legislators are working to ban some herbicides, and that legislation would be a detriment to invasive species management. Caitlin completed the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan spread sheet for Conservation District involvement.

- **A motion was made by Velynda, seconded by Dustin to submit the completed Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan Initiative spread sheet with SWCD comments to the ISAC, who will submit it to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Carried.**

x. Municipal Assistance Subcommittee – Chastity mentioned that this position is vacant. Jennifer mentioned that the subcommittee focuses on municipal programs. The last meeting focused on the topic of the Rural Roads Active Management Program (RRAMP), and initiatives include statewide protocol and research. A meeting was held this past winter, and another meeting has not yet been scheduled. Conservation Skills may be able to offer a RRAMP class including field work and approach discussion. The SWCC is working with Cornell Local Roads, DEC, & SWCDs to create a training course on roadside water conveyance issues. Lauren Prezorski has released the RFA for training for ESI, NAACC, and RRAMP.

The 4 hour ESC training list is updated and managed by Kelly Emerick, Dave Gasper, and Jennifer, and is available on SharePoint and the CDEA website. Only some SWCD staff can teach the class. Other agencies can assist a class, but can't accept payment. PJ Emerick would like to be added back to the list as a certified instructor to aid in teaching the class as a co-presenter and assist with mentoring new instructors with their certification. The Executive Board agreed to add PJ to the instructor list.

Chastity inquired if Jennifer has a list of members of the municipal subcommittee. Jennifer replied that the list has grown to include all Managers and Technicians wanting to be involved.

The Executive Board agreed that Dustin will attend meetings and report back to CDEA.

xi. Operations Manual Committee – Jennifer mentioned a meeting has not been held since the manual was updated. The manual is a living document, and updates will occur as needed. Jennifer does not know who the point of contact is at this time.

xii. TAC – Chastity mentioned that no meeting was held in March.

xiii. Other – Scott inquired if his information could be updated on all Frank Bratt Scholarship documents and the website. Kristin W. will make these changes.

Chastity mentioned that the CDEA needs to review the bylaws. The by law have not been reviewed since 2016.

Jennifer mentioned that those interested in attending the Managers Meetings should RSVP, and that directors who attend are eligible for meeting performance measures.

VI. Old Business

i. Update for CDEA stormwater online 4 hr. course – Chastity mentioned that the course is doing very well financially. Kelly Emerick provided a 3 page summary. A small firm could provide a higher level of registration outside of Google Docs and host the course, allowing the registration link and course to be removed from the Monroe County SWCD's server. Course updates will take place as needed. ISpring software needs to be purchased for course updates. Chastity mentioned that Kelly recommends a plan for migration by June 1, 2020. Velynda inquired if CDEA should obtain a server to house the course. Kristin w. will contact Go Daddy for more information about moving the course to the CDEA website.

Suspended at 12:11 for lunch.
Reconvened at 12:42.

ii. Follow up on NYS ESC Certification – Chastity mentioned that Jessica Verrigni compiled and sent a report. The application fee is \$150, the exam fee is \$100, and the certificate course fee is \$125. The certification will go public sometime this summer, with an exam will be held at Conservation Skills. Kristin inquired about the contract with Jessica Verrigni. Chastity replied that the current contract goes through the end of this year with the opportunity to renew

for another 2 years at \$10,000 at the mutual consent of all parties. Dustin inquired if Jessica feels that \$10,000 is adequate for the next 2 years for the amount of work and time that is put into the certification. Chastity mentioned that she will follow up with Jessica.

iii. 2 hr NYS DEC MS4 inspector training program for Districts – Chastity mentioned that there is no movement until the new MS4 permit is issued. Jennifer mentioned that under the new permit, MS4s are now required to take additional training facilitated by DEC. A list of certified instructors has been developed who can teach the course. A train the trainer might be developed.

iv. 2019 Water Quality Symposium – Chastity mentioned that over 330 people attended, 40 instructors presented, and the event made \$28,830.61. Next year's event will again be held at the Syracuse Double Tree Hotel through the 2 year contract March 10 – 13, 2020. Evaluations were emailed and attendees made class recommendations for next year. Recommendations were shared with Mark for future Conservation Skills classes. Chastity mentioned that if people register for the entire week but do not plan to attend all days, they should contact her because there were some problems with the hotel with rooms.

Caitlin mentioned that she received concerns from Districts regarding the Farmers Market and Resource Fair regarding this year's registration fee for all participating vendors. Caitlin continued that she feels it is best to not host the Farmers Market and Resource Fair at the 2020 Water Quality Symposium, and revisit the event in 2021. This will allow the vendors time to recoup from registration fees that have altered over the last few years. The CDEA Board concurred to suspend the Farmers Market and Resource Fair for 2020 and revisit the event in 2021.

Entertainment suggestions included a corn-hole tournament, CDEA Olympics, hockey, beach party, and mechanical bull.

v. Other old business - Chastity passed out the 2017 – 2018 NYS CDEA committee list for review. Discussion ensued regarding the leads for each committee.

Kristin W. mentioned that the safe cannot be opened, and an estimate is needed for the cost to hire a locksmith. The archives filing cabinet is housed at Seneca County SWCD.

Chastity received a call from Judy Littrell inquiring if the location for Empire Farm Days should be moved to the Soil Health Building. Kristin W, mentioned that this building would be a better location because the current location does not receive much traffic.

VII. New business - Chastity mentioned that she was contacted by EnSave, an energy efficiency company. EnSave is submitting a grant through NYSEDA for developing and disseminating agricultural BMP documents. EnSave inquired if CDEA and SWCDs would be a partner in disseminating the materials via newsletters and outreach events. Dustin mentioned that CDEA would be promoting a private company, and more information is needed. Chastity will follow up with more information.

Chastity mentioned that a 4-Way Partnership meeting is scheduled for June 11. People should let Chastity know of any items she should bring up for discussion, and if anyone would like to attend.

Chastity mentioned that SWCDs and CDEA need to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act regarding websites. Chastity will send a state wide email detailing what Districts need to do to comply, and she will include more details about the law.

Chastity mentioned that she received an email from Blanche regarding EPF funding for Owasco Lake, and if those funds would impact SWCD funds. Chastity mentioned that this may be a challenge if funds are taken from SWCDs.

Chastity mentioned that for future meetings, she will ask Kelly Emerick and Jessica Verrigni to provide reports 2 weeks in advance, affording CDEA review time for those documents.

Chastity recapped the action items.

VIII. Next meeting – TBD in July. Dustin requested location ideas.

IX. Adjournment

- **A motion was made by Kristin W, seconded by Dean to adjourn at 1:50 p.m. Carried.**

Respectfully submitted



Caitlin Stewart
CDEA Secretary

**Division I Report
May 30, 2019**

I sent an email out to all the Districts in my division to see if they had anything they would like me to report.

Niagara County

- Hired Dave Reckahn as a District Technician to assist with the AEM program and to oversee the Japanese knotweed eradication program.
- Hiring 3 summer interns at the end of May to perform invasive species eradication work.
- Completed and closed out our final NY Grown and Certified grant.
- Awarded 2 grants in Round 3 of the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program.
- Completing the installation and certification 2 roof water management systems for the NRCS.
- Completing the installation and certification of a building to store separated manure solids for the NRCS.
- Completed AEM Year 14 closeout documentation.
- Continuing management of Eighteenmile Creek Area of Concern.
 - Update beneficial use impairment removal criteria
 - Continue mink PCB exposure assessment
 - Fish community assessment planned to start in Summer 2019
- Will be starting a baseline water quality monitoring program of 17 creeks in June.

Orleans County

- Hiring another technician very soon, conducting interviews now.
- We are very busy getting projects designed and getting bids. Construction season is going to be very busy again like every year.
- We sold our Boom Mower and are in the process of purchasing another.
- The rain won't stop so we have tons of drainage problems in the County that we are facilitating.
- Last month we held our annual tree sale, which was a success.
- We held our regional Envirothon a few weeks ago.
- We are getting ready for our fish sale program.

Genesee County

- Genesee County was busy working with the Tree and Shrub program that was very successful.
- A two-day event for Genesee County Envirothon was held at the County Park. We also volunteered at the NYS Envirothon.
- Currently working on our first fish pick up of the year.
- We will be participating in the Genesee County Kinderfarming event that has over 600 students participating.
- We are currently in the processes of hiring an AEM specialist for our office as well as looking for an intern to for the summer as part of the Genesee River Coalition.
- Grants and field work are keeping us busy as we head into the summer season.
- Brad our new District Manager has been busy attending many different meetings.

Cattaraugus County

- Cattaraugus County Farmer Neighbor Dinner – The District actively participates in the County Ag & Farmland Protection Board through our county planning dept, which sponsors this annual event. Over 350 were in attendance at this dinner in April, where awards are presented to farms and other ag industry supporters, including the District's Conservation Farm of the Year award and AEM road sign.
- Tree & Shrub Sale
- Catt. Co. Envirothon – 9 teams representing 6 schools in this year's county competition. Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central School won the 2019 event and represented the county at the NYS Envirothon.
- Ag Nonpoint Program – Continue to work on projects from multiple rounds. Several projects ready for construction.
- County funded streambank projects – 3 to 4 projects planned for this year. Project descriptions & drawings have been submitted to the county for contract development, permit applications in progress.
- Flood control structure maintenance – Annual O&M inspections of 16 flood control dams and other associated structures were completed in early May. Mowing, brush & debris removal, and other maintenance work to occur this summer.
- WQJP Road Ditch Stabilization Program – District staff has already begun working with local highway departments on rock lined ditches and check dams funded through this program. Hydroseeding of other sites under this program will begin soon.
- Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA) – The first round of water sampling has begun on various streams throughout the watershed in Cattaraugus, Erie, and Chautauqua Counties. Several BMP's are also planned for this year by Districts in these counties.

I did not hear back from any other county.

Submitted by: Scott Collins, Division I Representative



Division II Report

May 2019

Report from Cayuga, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Yates

Cayuga: No Report Submitted.

Livingston:

Wrapping up construction final two ag. projects funded thru the Genesee Coalition of Districts. Routine site visits, drainage and stream erosion concerns county-wide. Administrative audit coordination with County and CPA. Base AEM requests. SHPO and Dig safely background work for pre-design of upcoming ag. projects. Attending monthly county wide meetings.

Monroe:

- Hired new Soil & Water Resource Technician (SWRT), Amanda Little;
- Josh LaFountain, SWRT, has left the District to pursue an opportunity as a NYS DEC Forest Ranger;
- Hiring for a new position created, Conservation Program Specialist, to increase District capacity;
- Implemented a Board member written policy for stipends and reimbursement for mileage, meals, etc.; Implemented a training policy and program for Board of Directors;
- Continue to work with the Genesee River Watershed Coalition to implement Agricultural BMPs for sediment reduction within the watershed under EPA's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative program;
- Continue to work with the Genesee River Watershed Coalition and a contract with Bergmann Associates to create a database of Agricultural BMPs to track implementation efforts and benefits throughout the watershed including the hiring of three seasonal interns throughout the watershed to input data on behalf of the members;
- Closed AgNPS Round 20 grant; Working on implementation of BMPs through AgNPS Round 21 but having issues with finding Ag Engineers to sign off on project designs; Received 18 month extension;
- Preparing for implementation of the Algal Turf Scrubbers in the nearshore area of Lake Ontario;
- Continue to provide erosion and Sediment control construction inspections on development sites;
- Continue to host NYS DEC Endorsed 4 Hour E&SC Training sessions where 4 sessions have been held through May of this year;
- The online 4 Hour E&SC Training is up and running on the NYS CDEA website (see separate report);

- Continue to work with the Steering Committee for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program to finalize training course and exam based on comments received from the 2019 Water Quality Symposium (see separate report from J. Verrigni, Program Administrator). Information for the program is planned to be up and running on the NYS CDEA website by mid-June 2019;
- 2019 WNY Stormwater Training Series Classes at Monroe Community College were held and series is complete for the year;
- Continue to work on 3 projects under WQIP Round 12 including a regional stormwater pond facility, and a stream restoration project;
- Continue to work on 2 projects under WQIP Round 14 for Stream Restoration on Black Creek with engineering from Dave Derrick and a Nature- Based Shoreline (NBS) project with Monroe County Parks on Irondequoit Bay. Design is completed for the NBS project and scheduled to go to bid mid-June;
- Continue to work on projects within 3 Monroe County Parks and one NYS Park under the US Forest Service grant for forest canopy restoration due to Emerald Ash Borer Impacts. A large planting was completed this spring 2019;
- Closed our Culvert Assessment program grant.

Onondaga:

- 6-mo hydroseeding aide hired
- 4 -1.5 month water chestnut hand pull crew secured (work from July 1 – Aug. 16)
- Multiple groups concerned about HAB = numerous & lengthy meetings = A LOT of SWCD/SLWAP time to meet with all these different interest groups = A LOT of time away from being in the field planning & implementing non-point sources of pollution that can help address HAB.
- Regarding HAB, decision makers need to remember that science, experience, sound judgement and recommendations from the people in the field that do the work every day will lead to the best decision making matrix.
- At the request of the County, and to address what folks are thinking the new DEC Stormwater Permit will require, our County has asked us to submit revised cost estimate to provide enhanced stormwater management services to County. This will require SWCD to make a full-time position to help keep County and participating municipalities in compliance with stormwater regulations. A lot of training will be required to make sure that folks can accurately identify outfalls and how to record the necessary data (cross-connections, municipality ownership, etc.).
- We are very grateful for all the funding that NYS Department of Agricultural and Markets, Onondaga County Ag Council, OCWA, and the City of Syracuse has provided to help our organization address non-point sources of pollution in Onondaga County and the Skaneateles Lake Watershed.
- To that funding end, funding agencies need to be mindful of how many pots of money are available for a BMP (example: cover crop-right now there are 5 programs funding cover crops in our area). We are hearing from municipalities that they really need funding for infrastructure repairs/replacements from 2017 summer storm events that also triggered

the HAB events. Many of these municipal repairs/replacements will help address NPS of pollution.

OCSWCD has turned 75 years old!
SLWAP has turned 25 years old!

Ontario:

Elaine Borgeest has retired as Secretary/Treasurer and Diana Thorn has taken her place. We are currently in the hiring process for a new Watershed Inspector with George Barden's impending retirement. We are involved in a number of construction projects related to AgNPS, CAFO, FLOWPA and WQIP grants as well CRF grant implementation.

Seneca:

We have a new District Tech., Matt Everdyke as of January 2, 2019.

The SWCD is partnering with CCE & Farm Bureau for a Twilight Farm Tour series this summer for Cty Leg and the public. The first tour planned for June 26th to a local dairy, the second on July 30th at Wagner Winery and the final tour on August 29th that includes visits to a specialty beef, pork & poultry farm, a large cash crop farm and Muranda Cheese dairy. The tours will conclude with a locally sourced Farm to Table Dinner. The hope is to educate the public about common ag practices and inform them of BMP's the farms are implementing to aid in water quality improvement efforts.

Wayne:

Wayne County SWCD is continuing to work on many projects throughout the field season. We have successfully hired a new Conservation Secretary/Treasurer name Bethany Comella. Bethany will begin her career at the Wayne District on June 10th.

Yates: No report submitted.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Aaron Buchta
Resource Conservation Specialist
Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District
NYS CDEA Division II Representative

Division 5 Report

Clinton County

- No Report

Essex County

- We just submitted some CRF grant applications and have closed out all of our old AgNPS grants.
- We are working on some permits and getting ready for roadside erosion and hydroseeding projects.
- We are doing lots of AEM planning and farm visits.
- We have looked at stormwater issues in some municipalities and continue to assist landowners with erosion concerns and water issues.
- Some educational events are being planned and we've hired an intern for the summer.
- Our tree sale went well and Environmental Field Days and Envirothon are complete.
- With the help of Warren County SWCD we will hold a 4-hour course in Lewis on June 19.

Franklin County

- Summer season has started!
- This summer we are doing culvert assessments, farm visits, tree inventories, school educational events, workshops, water sampling, soil testing, grant implementation and so much more!
- We were recently awarded another CAFO grant, so that puts us at 5 total. One has been installed and closed out, another is under construction.
- Just received the contracts for Round 24, working on getting all the paper work situated for those grants.
- Grants are being written for more projects to assist with planning and implementing.
- Allycia has been extremely successful in assisting our local producers in begin awarded NYS Grown and Certified funding! She has also been reaching out to more and more of our local producers.
- We have hired 1 intern to assist with our forestry work. We welcome Devin back!
- This year we are also assisting with EAB locations and identifications. Kristin has stated a local task force also, not an easy under taking. She is also coordinating putting out traps and working with the local tribal members.
- It seems like we have more and more we need to fit in every year!

Hamilton

- Successful Adirondack Tree and Shrub Sale
- 5 teams participated in the Hamilton County Envirothon
- Septic System Inspection Program – working with the Town of Arietta to implement a local law
- Arbor Day Poetry Contest – 26 entries
- Hike for Invaders celebrated National Public Health Week
- Water Testing Program for residents and businesses with certified results. Tests include bacteria and E. coli.
- Attended the St. Lawrence River Watershed Partnership Watershed Advisory Committee meeting
- New District Technician Alexnadra Bielli begins June 12
- Shoreline stabilization projects

Warren

- Very busy this spring, but have gotten some projects done already so now we can move onto construction projects.

- We will be entering into an agreement with an engineering firm "on retainer". County DPW did this and it will save time for us with projects. No guarantee of work and when work is needed it is through a letter of authorization. Six firms applied, three will be interviewed, one will be selected.
- We thank God that the rain has not stopped and that the drought is broken.....:)
- Maren Alexander was appointed as a full time, permanent employee today. Hopefully other Districts were as lucky.
- We will apply for WQIP funding through DEC as a District and watershed partner.

**NYSCDEA May 30th, 2019
Division VIII Report**

Suffolk County: Ann Marie Calabro

Continued Programs: Deer Exclusion Fence, Fuel Tank Replacement Program, Nutrient Management, Pesticide Sprayer Retrofit, Agrichemical Handling Facilities, Elementary School Garden Program, Comprehensive Soil Health Testing Program.

Soil Health Sampling/Testing and Equipment Rental Program (Soil HELP): The goal of the Soil H.E.L.P. Program is to assist Suffolk County farms conserve and improve the long-term health of their soils. In conjunction with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Agriculture Stewardship Program, we have purchased low impact, conservation oriented agricultural equipment. We purchased several pieces of equipment including a no till drill, a two shank and a four shank zonebuilder, New Holland 145 Box Spreader, 150Cu Ft Ground Drive ABI manure Spreader available for producers.

NPS: The first grant proposal was for 44 farmers to replace 80 fuel tanks the state is reimbursing \$414,476 of \$641,000, which will securing 40,640 gallons in double-walled tanks. Suffolk County has the strictest regulations governing fuel storage in the country. The EPA designated Suffolk County's aquifer as a sole-source in 1978. Long Island's sole source aquifer is one of the most productive aquifers in the United States supplying drinking water to over 2.7 million people, of which 1.5 million live in Suffolk County, through public and private wells.

The second NPS grant is for a greenhouse operator to install recirculating benches. They are zero leaching benches the state is reimbursing \$249,310.00 of \$383,503.00 it will take to install the system. The ebb and flow bench systems are an environmentally responsible alternative to conventionally fertilizing greenhouse operations. They are being constructed by greenhouse growers around the world to improve product quality, conserve water, increase production efficiency, and protect groundwater.

Municipal Assistance: Inventory and Evaluate (I&E) for bluff erosion and stability, South Harbor Road Drainage Swale

Education/Outreach:

- LI Regional Envirothon was another great success, everyone had a great time.
- Town of Babylon Earth Day
- Seatuck Eco Carnival
- E&SC Trainings

New Hires/Team Members: Stay Tuned... we are in the process of hiring another new soil technician ☺

New York City: Shino Tanikawa

We are working on a pollinator garden on a traffic triangle next to a public high school in the Bronx. It's covered in turf grass right now and we are going to transform it with native grasses and other flowering plants and bushes.

Nassau County: No Report

Putnam County: No Report

Rockland County: No Report

Westchester County: No Report

Submitted By: Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII Representative

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.



New York Association of Conservation Districts
c/o Steuben County SWCD
415 W. Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
www.nyacd.org

NYACD May NYSCDEA' Report May 30, 2019:

- **Directors Update** – May monthly letter has been completed & will be mailed or emailed by end of this week.
- **2019 Annual Meeting** – I have scheduled eleven (11) training sessions that should provide a session or more for District Directors, Managers, and Administrative. Guest speakers are lined up and the honor guard will be present. Madison SWCD will be doing another tour. The registration packets along with the award nomination requests and any District resolution requests will be mailed at the end of June.
- **Meetings** - I will be attending a 4-Way Partner meeting on June 11th at the Cayuga SWCD office, if anyone would like to attend, they are welcome. On June 12th I will be attending the Cayuga SWCD monthly Board meeting.
- **NE NACD** - The NYACD Board has approved for me to travel to the annual NE NACD meeting in August.
- **Waterfront Revitalization Resolution** – As most of you are aware this resolution passed in both the Senate & Assembly and has been forwarded to the Governor for signing. No word as to when the Governor will sign it.
- **NACD Summer Meeting** – Sam will be attending the NACD Summer meeting in Santa Fe August 2nd-6th 2019.
- **Division Meetings** - Division meetings are being scheduled through-out the state. Division I will be holding their meeting on July 24th. Division IV held their joint meeting in Cortland.

Question: Has the CDEA ever or have you considered entering in a Memorandum of Understanding with colleges for possible District technical positions, such as NY DEC has? NYACD was approved with this question to see what how we could help or if colleges had ever been approved in this manner.

Frank Bratt Report
May 30, 2019

- Active Frank Bratt Scholarships:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Eric Renfer	January 2019	400.00
Pamela Price	January 2019	100.00

- Received 1 application for the June 2019 round of funding totaling \$95.00.
 - Kevin Preischel, Erie County SWCD Employee - \$95 for Heart Saver First Aid, CPR, AED
- Laura Grant of Tioga County submitted a request for payment of \$499.51 relative to her award under the January 2019 round of funding. Approved by Scott Collins and sent to Member @ Large.
- Angel Hinickle of Tompkins County submitted a request for payment of \$500 relative to her award under the June 2018 round of funding. Approved by Scott Collins and sent to Member @ Large
- Teresa VanEpps of Monroe County submitted a request for payment of \$500 relative to her award under the January 2019 round of funding. Approved by Judy Bennett and sent to Member @ Large.