

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - Tompkins County SWCD
August 12, 2019
170 Bostwick Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Present: Aaron Ristow, Alan Teeter, Dave McKenna, Deborah Dawson (Directors)
Staff: Jon Negley, Kym Jackson
Agencies: Erin Paczkowski, NRCS, Colleen Stannard, Insero & Co., CPA's
Guests: Barry Goodrich

A Ristow, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:08am. A quorum was present.

D. Dawson moved to approve minutes of the July 2019 Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by D. McKenna. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

Agency Reports

E. Paczkowski reviewed her written report and it is attached.

A Teeter arrived at 11:15am.

C. Stannard, Insero & Co., CPA's distributed an Executive Summary, Financial Report, Management Comment Letter, and Communication Letter from their 2018 Audit, reviewed the materials, and answered questions from the Board.

C. Stannard departed at 11:30am.

J. Negley reviewed the NYS SWCC report and it is attached.

K. Jackson advised the Board there is a registration form included in their Board packet for the NYACD Annual Meeting if they are interested in attending.

Financial Report

D. Dawson moved to approve the financial reports for July as presented. D. McKenna seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. D. Dawson moved to approve the opening of two additional bank accounts from Tompkins Trust Company for a new grant and to track AEM funds. D. McKenna seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

August Vouchers

D. McKenna moved to approve the August vouchers as presented. A. Teeter seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. D. McKenna moved to approve payment for a quote from iSpring Solutions. A. Teeter seconded. J. Negley reviewed the package & explained how the software could be a timesaver, reporting mechanism, used for onboarding of new employees, & track training completions and attestations. J. Negley has also been in contact with the County and they are looking into other options, as well. It is hoped that the subscription could be a shared service in the future with the County, other Soil and Water Districts, and/or Statewide. Part C funds are available to fund the initial purchase. TCSWCD will focus on its development and encourage sharing over the new 1.5-year subscription. The Board was supportive in piloting the program. All in favor. Carried.

Staff Reports

P. Gier, and A. Hinickle, and A. Hogan provided written staff reports to the Board and they are attached.

Cooperator Agreements

D. McKenna moved to approve the Cooperator Agreement as presented. D. Dawson seconded. The project is in the Fall Creek Watershed, A. Hinickle and T. Mallory have been working with the homeowner on its design, and a permit has been requested from the NYSDEC. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

Old Business

None.

New Business

NYACD Resolution Submittal Form – 2019 SWCD District Law Investment Options discussion. K. Jackson reviewed the proposal from Cortland County SWCD to amend the law for Soil and Water Conservation Districts for how they can invest unrestricted funds. The Board expressed concern over removing some of the restrictions, as it may expose the District to mismanagement of public funds being used in the private sector. They were also leery of who would be responsible for the management and selection of the investments and if it would require hiring a broker. More information was requested before they could support the change. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

D. Dawson, D. McKenna, A. Teeter, E. Paczkowski, B. Goodrich departed at 12:00pm.

J. Negley set up the Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for A. Ristow at 12:07pm and he and K. Jackson departed.

A. Ristow adjourned the meeting at 12:57pm. Carried.

Next meeting date: September 9, 2019 at 11:00am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kym Jackson, Secretary

Aaron Ristow, BOD Chairman