

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

**423 Griffing Avenue**  
**Riverhead, New York 11901**  
**February 14, 2019**

**Board of Director's in attendance:**

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

**Staff and Organizations in attendance:**

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

- Chairman R. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
- Chairman R. Carpenter declared a quorum. Four out of the five members were in attendance and P. Schmitt unable to attend.
- The draft minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting were reviewed.  
Motion made by B. Culhane to accept the January 8, 2019 minutes; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report presented by C. Humphrey**

- The February 14, 2019 Treasurer's Report was reviewed.  
Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to accept the February 14, 2019 Treasurer's Report as read; seconded by Legislator R. Calarco; none opposed; motion carried.

**District Report presented by District Manager C. Humphrey**

- The SCSWCD has been working diligently to continue to administer our programs and projects that preserve Suffolk County's natural resources. These efforts include the NYSWCC Ag NPS projects, NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Projects, RCPP/EPF Programs, Soil HELP, 4 Hour ESC Training, expanding our staff, strengthening our partnerships, seeking new funding opportunities and fielding technical assistance requests from the public and the agriculture community.
- The District still has an open position for Soil District Technician, which is a backfill for the position previously held by A.M. Calabro. The District's hiring committee is working with the Dept. of Civil Service to provisionally appoint an eligible candidate as soon as possible. The

new hire would take over the Soil District Technician workload of A.M. Calabro. This would allow A.M. Calabro to continue her focus on agricultural conservation planning and the implementation of on-farm best management practices.

- The building at 423 Griffing is still open and occupied by FSA, NRCS, Legislator Krupski and the District. The return of Suffolk County Cornell Cooperative Extension is undetermined at this time.

#### **1. Active Grants:**

- a. Agrochemical Mixing Facilities
- b. Agriculture Non-Point Source Grants
  - i. Fuel Tank Replacements Rd 20, 21, 22, 24
  - ii. Integrated Pest Management & Sprayer Retrofits Rd 20
  - iii. Nutrient Management Planning Rd. 21
  - iv. Nutrient Recycling (ebb and flow system) Rd. 24
- c. NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Projects
  - i. 2016 Soil Health Guide and Workshops
  - ii. 2017 South Harbor Road Remediation
- d. Deer Exclusion Fencing (multiyear)
- e. Agricultural Environmental Planning (multiyear)
- f. Resource Conservation Partnership Program
- g. Environmental Protection Fund
- h. Soil Health Testing
- i. Soil Health Equipment Loan Program (Soil H.E.L.P.)

#### **2. 4 Hour NYSDEC Endorsed Erosion and Sediment Control Training**

- Held a NYSDEC 4 Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Training with Nassau SWCD on 1/29/2019. Next training will be held in March 2019 (date TBD) at Griffing Avenue Building, Riverhead.

#### **3. Municipal Assistance**

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

#### **4. Staff Training, Planner Certification**

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

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

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

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

- February 2019 attended the L.I.C.A.P. Water Conservation Sub-Committee meeting. NYS Legislation is proposed to seek damages against manufacturers for water contamination by their products.
- Attended the State Association of Counties Conference presentation on the potential legalization of Marijuana in New York State.

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

- The District Manager and B. Culhane attended the February 13, 2019 General Mtg.
- The committee review the Private Well Survey conducted comparing the number of existing private wells from 2009 compared to 2018. In 2009 the survey found apx. 40,000 being used. The next survey was done in 2018 and the finding showed a decrease in private wells to apx. 23,000. Possibly this could indicate a shift towards connecting to public water versus the use of private wells.
- Currently a study monitoring the fluctuation of ground water tables is being done comparing it to the climate changes.
- U.S.G.S. Presentation given at the meeting.
- H2M Plans are still being reviewed and will keep you updated on the review completion.
  
- Next general meeting will be held on June 20, 2019 at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; located at S.C. Water Authority Education Center, 260 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

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

- The Ag. Forum in January 2019 and other January 2019 conferences were successful.
- Soil Health Testing Services currently has 7 farmers interested and Soil Health Equipment Program had good outreach this past month.
- Attended Long Island Science and Engineering Fair and participated as a judge for the student poster contest.
- Cornell Ag. Stewardship Program is in the final stages of hiring a technician.
- NYS Soil Health Road Map

### Chairman's Report presented by R. Carpenter

- Recently attended meeting in Albany, NY. (Day 1) was working with the American Farmland Trust on more funding for Farmland Preservation. (Day 2) was part of a coalition representing all groups to work on fully funding and passing the Environmental Protection Fund. The 2019-2020 Governor's Budget proposes to fund the EPF at \$300 Million, the same as last year.
- A topic of concern is within the NYS Governor's Capital Budget, which proposes allowing staff funding for agencies be drawn from the EPF which previously only dedicated funding for NYS Environmental Programs.
- N.Y.S.C.D.E.A. is proposing a resolution and requesting support of the N.Y.A.C.D. eliminate districts receiving dedicated funding Part C – EPF that would be normally be equally

distributed amongst all NYS Soil & Water Conservation Districts. If districts do receive additional funding it should come from other sources and not taken from the pool of money from all districts.

Old Business:

- SCSWCD Procurement Policy Draft – tabled by common consent to be reviewed at March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board of Director’s Meeting.
- Attended a joint meeting with Nassau and Suffolk County SWCD to discuss the status of the Long Island Regional Envirothon.

New Business:

- Motion made by B. Culhane to approve as written the resolution for the extension for AgNPS Rd. 21 – Nutrient Management Planning Grant; seconded by Legislator R. Calarco; none opposed; motion carried
- Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to approve the extension for the EPF (2016) subcontract to 10/31/2020; seconded by B. Culhane; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to approve the N.Y.A.C.D. 2019 Assessment Fee of \$1,500.00; seconded by Legislator R. Calarco; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by B. Culhane to approve the N.Y.S.C.D.E.A. 2019 Annual NYS Fair Assessment Fee of \$100.00; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried
- Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to approve the 2019 contribution to the Friends of Long Island Horticulture in the amount of \$275.00; seconded by B. Culhane; none opposed; motion carried.
- Motion made by B. Culhane to approve the N.A.C.D. 2019 membership dues in the amount of \$1,776.00; seconded by Legislator A. Krupski; none opposed; motion carried.

Executive Session: none

- Motion made by Legislator A. Krupski to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m.; seconded by B. Culhane; none opposed; motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_