



Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
7:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Sam Casella, President Scott Ryan, 2nd V. President
Bruce Dolph, Member @ Lg Rollin Pickering, Div. II
Ernie Swift, Treas.
Frank Thomas, Div. V
Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr.

Absent:

Dan Farrand, Past Pres.
Rob Carpenter, 1st V. President
Jim Brick, Div. I

Guests/Partners:

Guests Present: Ric Barnes, Director Madison SWCD, Lind Coffin, Director Herkimer SWCD, Steve Lorraine, District Manager Madison SWCD

Partners Present: Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservation, Caitlin Stewart, NYSCDEA' President. **Absent:** Brian Steinmuller, Ass't Dir Ag. & Mkts., Bethany Bzduch, SWCC Ex. Dir.

- I. **Call to Order:** Sam Casella, Pres. Called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr. gave roll call.
- III. Special Meeting with Division III representatives to discuss the Division III representative to the NYACD Board. Linda Coffin, temporary Division III chair called the special meeting to order for Division III at 7:03 p.m.

A discussion took place to have Jim Cunningham, Madison Co. SWCD Director, as the Division III representative on the NYACD Board.

- A motion by Ric Barnes second by Linda Coffin to elect Jim Cunningham as the Division III representative. Carried **#4/26/2023 = A**

With no other Division III business to discuss congratulations to Jim were expressed and thanks to Jim Cunningham for becoming the Division III representative on the NYACD Board
The special meeting adjourned at 7:06 a.m.

IV. Secretary's Report/Approval of Minutes:

- A motion by Bruce Dolph, second by Rollin Pickering to approve March minutes with correction to next meeting date. Carried. **#4/26/2023 = B**

V. Treasurer's Report:

- A motion by Scott Ryan, second by Rollin Pickering to approve the February Treasurer's report as provided. Carried. **#4/26/2023 = C**
- A motion by Bruce Dolph, second by Frank Thomas to approve the February Bills to be Paid. Carried. **#4/26/2023 = D**

Ernie Swift reviewed the financial reports for March. Ernie shared what was in the NYACD accounts, what bills were paid.

Ernie reported that Sam, Rollin, and he did the annual NYACD audit, and everything was in order. Thanks to Velynda Parker for maintaining the NACD books.

VI. Partners Reports:

NYSCDEA' Report: Caitlin Stewart, NYCDEA President discussed the SWCC meeting she attended and seeing Scott Ryan and Blake Glover during the meeting.

Caitlin discussed the NYACD Leadership training and Conservation Skills workshop that will be coming up shortly.

Caitlin shared that the CDEA upcoming meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, in-person or by Zoom in Suffolk County. Suffolk Co. SWCD will be hosting a Farm Tour Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Caitlin shared that the 4-Way Partnership meeting will be held in May.

NRCS Report: NRCS Report: Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservation shared information on the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and highlighted the increases in funding for New York.

State Committee Report: Bethany Bzduch, SWCC Ex. Dir. was unable to attend by sent a report that Blanche read as follows:

1. The NYS SWCC met in person in Utica on 4/26. Special presentations were given by Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservationist and Lydia Brinkley, Upper Susquehanna Coalition. We honored State Committee Voting member, David Brass, for 16 years of service.
2. A survey will be sent to SWCDs in early May to gain feedback on the implementation of the 2019-2023 NYS SWCC Strategic Plan, as well as suggestions for future direction for the 2024-2029 NYS SWCC Strategic Plan.

Board Report:

President: Sam Casella reported on the Fly-In and how it was a productive event, they pushed IRA Funds into the Farm Bill. Sam stated he received an invitation from US Congresswoman Tenney to a meeting in Binghamton to discuss the IRA Funding into the Farm Bill.

Sam reported that the NACD President Kim Lafleur has appointed him back onto the NACD Legislative Committee.

Executive Director: Blanche reported that she has been working on the annual meeting potential training sessions to for the annual meeting. Blanche is looking into a class related to Civil Service and how it relates to SWCDs along with other sessions.

Blanche discussed with the board the amendment to the Stream C bill. Overall, the Board had concerns as to how it would affect the municipalities that work within stream c's.

Director & Representatives –

- a. **Division I:** Jim Brick unable to attend. No report provided.
- b. **Division II:** Rollin Pickering reported that not much has taken place within his division. Tree programs and local Envirothon events are taking place in April & May.
- c. **Division III:** No representative, no report.
- d. **Division IV:** No representative, no report.
- e. **Division V:** Frank Thomas reported that he will be visiting with his divisions in the next few months.
- f. **Division VI:** No representative, no report.
- g. **Division VII:** No representative, no report.
- h. **Division VIII:** No representative, no report.

Committee Reports:

Education & Envirothon:

2023 NYS Envirothon: Ernie reported that there will be a state Envirothon meeting on May 3, 2023, 11:00 a.m. at Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY.

2024 NCF Envirothon New York: Blanche reported that things are moving forward for this event. Still the main concern is funding.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting Location: Blanche reported on the site for the NYACD annual meeting at the Hampton, Penn Yan.

- A motion was made by Scott Ryan, and second by Rollin Pickering to hold the 2023 NYACD annual training/meeting session at the Hampton Inn, Penn Yan, NY. Carried. **#4/26/2023 = E**

Hand-out Items: Blanche had provided in advance of the meeting potential hand-out items. for the board to consider. Sam discussed the idea of provided lapel pins for the NYACD Board and guests. Other potential items were discussed but no decision was made.

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Adjournment:

- A motion by Ernie Swift, second by Rollin Pickering to adjourn the meeting. Carried. **#4/26/2023 = F**

Next meeting date is **Wednesday, May 31, 2023, by Zoom at 7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Blanche L. Hurlbutt

NYACD Executive Director May 9, 2023

May Motions Meeting:

#4/26/2023 = A Special Division III Election

#4/26/2020 = B Approval March Minutes

#4/26/2023 = C Approval February Finances

#4/26/2023 = D Approval of February Bills to Pay

#4/26/2023 = E Approval 2023 NYACD Annual Meeting

#4/26/2023 = F Approval to Adjourn