



Zoom – Teleconference  
Wednesday, April 27, 2022  
7:00 P.M.

**Attendance:**

Sam Casella, Pres.  
Tom Ryan, Secretary, Treas. Ernie Swift, Div. IV  
James Brick, Div. I Bruce Dolph, Member @ Lg  
Scott Ryan, 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Pres. Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr.

**Absent:**

Dan Farrand, Past Pres.  
Frank Thomas, Div. V  
Maureen Leupold, Div. II  
Rob Carpenter, 1<sup>st</sup> V. Pres.

**Guests/Partners:** **Partners Present:** Dustin Lewis, NYSCDEA, Saratoga Co. Dist. Mgr. **Absent:** Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservation, Brian Stienmuller, Ass't Dir Ag. & Mkts. **Guests Present:** Caitlin Stewart, CDEA VP & District Manager Hamilton County SWCD

I. **Call to Order:** Scott Ryan, 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Pres. Called the meeting to order 7:10 p.m.

II. **Roll Call:** Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr. gave roll called.

III. **Secretary's Report/Approval of Minutes:**

- A motion by Bruce Dolph second by Tom Ryan approve March minutes as written. Carried.  
**#4/27/2022 = A**

IV. **Treasurer's Report:**

- Motion by Tom Ryan second by Ernie Swift to approve March treasurer's report as presented. Carried **#4/27/2022 = B**
- Motion by Jim Brick second by Scott Ryan to approve the March bills as presented. Carried.  
**#4/27/2022 = C**

Tom Ryan reviewed the expenses and financial reports provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

V. **Partners Reports:**

**NYACDEA' Report:** Dustin Lewis, CDEA President reported that the CDEA and District staff are working on a possible Administrative Conference in the fall. Dustin reported a survey went out to Clerks, Managers, and Partners.

Dustin reported the CDEA is working on a contract with Wayne County SWCD to manage the 4 hr Sediment and Erosion Control online classes. Kristin White, former CDEA Treasurer had managed this, but it has grown so much the CDEA needed to bid it out to Districts.

The next CDEA meeting will be on Long Island. Dustin stated it has been a while since the meeting has been held in that area. He felt it will be nice for folks in that area to be able to attend.

Dustin mentioned the Water Quality Symposium went very well this year and that Caitlin will speak more on that.

Caitlin Stewart, CDEA Vice President expressed her thanks and appreciation to the Board for allowing her to attend this meeting and provide her time to speak.

Caitlin reported that the WQS was extraordinarily successful this year being held online by Zoom. They had over thirty-two (32) sessions with over five hundred (five hundred) in attendance. This included SUNY students and Professors along with District staff. Next year the 2023 WQS will be in person at the DoubleTree, Syracuse, NY. Everyone is looking forward to having a face-to-face event again.

Caitlin spoke on the Recruitment and Retention project. Caitlin stated that she sent out a survey and has provided it to the committee and partners to review. Presently she is working on a time to host a meeting to review her findings and move forward with this project along side of NRCS, SWCD, and NYACD. Sam requested that Maureen Leupold, Div. II Representative be included in these meetings, since she was the one that was encouraging this effort. Blanche provided Caitlin with Maureen's contact information.

**NRCS Report:** Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservation was unable to attend due to another commitment. No report was provided.

**State Committee Report:** Brian Stienmuller, Ass't. Director NYS Ag & Mkts was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. No report was provided.

### **Board Report:**

**President:** Sam Casella reported on the work he is doing as the NY NE representative with NACD through the Farm Bill Task Force. Sam is no longer on the Climate Change Committee with NACD. NACD has been put to the task of what they feel should be helpful to SWCD's by ways of programs, funding, equipment etc. Presently they are meeting every two weeks because they must complete the request process by next year.

Sam reported on the work that Blanche did setting up meetings for the Zoom Fly-In sessions with the US Legislators. Sam reported the meetings went very well and next year everyone is hoping these meetings will be face-to-face.

Sam reported that the NACD summer meeting will be held in Porta Rio in July. Sam plans to attend if the NYACD Board is fine with him attending. Sam stated he realized funding is in the budget, but he wanted to have full approval.

- A motion was made by Ernie Swift second by Bruce Dolph to approve Sam Casella attend the NACD summer meeting. Carried. **#4/27/2022 = D**

**Executive Director:**

**2022 Annual Meeting:** The NYACD Annual ben working on training sessions. Blanche reported she presently has eight (8) sessions schedule as follows: Ethics, Urban/Suburban, Grants, Effective Evaluations, Directors Roles & Responsibilities, E-Records Management, E-Records Policy &Preventions, and Caitlin Stewart will be hosting a session. I am working with NRCS for sessions and researching instructor for Inside/Outside Audits and How to Understand and Create Budges. Kevin

**Meeting:** Blanche reported that she is working with Scott Ryan on meeting with Kevin King, Deputy Secretary Ag & Mkts for Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. by Zoom. We will be introducing ourselves and sharing NYACD information with Mr. King.

**Director & Representatives –**

- a. **Division I:** Jim Brick reported he reached out to Erie County SWCD regarding the NYACD assessment, and they stated that the check was in the mail. Sam reported that Victor DiGiacomo, Region 1 Ag & Mkts, held a required Director's training session. During this meeting, the additional funds coming from the state was discussed. Jim stated that folks present felt the credit was due to Blanche's work on state budget changes.
- b. **Division II:** Maureen Leupold was unable to attend due to recent surgery. No report provided.
- c. **Division III:** No representative, no report.
- d. **Division IV:** Ernie Swift reported that his district is closing out AEM Round 16 projects and working on Round 23. They are still short staff, but getting the work completed.
- e. **Division V:** Frank Thomas was unable to attend, and no report provided.
- f. **Division VI:** No representative, no report.
- g. **Division VII:** No representative, no report.
- h. **Division VIII:** Rob reported was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. No report provided.

**Committee Reports:**

**Education & Envirothon:** Ernie reported the following:

**NYS Envirothon Updates:** The 2022 NYS Envirothon will be hosting a face-to-face meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022, at HWS, Geneva, NY at 11:00 am. We are in need volunteers this year. Presently they have twenty-five (25) volunteers signed up counting the committee.

Sam Casella stated he plans on volunteering for the state event. Sam stated he hopes to be able to help out both days.

Tom Ryan inquired if Blanche had reached out to the Ag. Classes in schools. Tom stated they are required to do community service, so maybe that is an area the Envirothon could tap into. Tom will forward Blanche his local contact person for her to reach out to. Sam stated Gen

**2024 NCF-Envirothon NY:** The 2024 NCF-Envirothon committee is looking at potential testing/training sites. Funding is a concern because the buses for the event will be between \$60,000-\$65,000. Jennifer Books, NCF-Envirothon Executive Director will be attending the 2022 NYS Envirothon in May. Jennifer will be meeting with the 2024 NYS committee and touring the college.

**VI. Old Business:** Nothing to discuss at this time.

**VII. New Business:** NYACD summer meeting. Sam wants the board to consider having Blanche setup a summer meeting in June.

**VIII. Adjournment:**

- A motion made by Bruce Dolph and second by Tom Ryan to adjourn the meeting. Carried.  
**#4/27/2022 = E**

Next meeting date is Wednesday, May 18, 2022, by Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

*Blanche L. Hurlbutt*

NYACD Executive Director April 28, 2022

**April Motions Meeting:**

**#4/27/2022 = A Approval March Minutes**

**#4/27/2022 = B Approval March Finances**

**#4/27/2022 = C Approval March payment**

**#4/27/2022 = D Approval Sam Casella attend NACD Summer meeting**

**#4/27/2022 = E Approval Adjourn**