



Annual Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2021
1:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Sam Casella, Pres. Scott Ryan, 2nd V. Pres.
Rob Carpenter, 1st V. Pres. Bruce Dolph, Member @Lg.
Tom Ryan, Secretary/Treas. Maureen Leupold, Div. II
James Brick, Div. I Ernie Swift, Div. IV
Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr.

Absent:

Dan Farrand, Past Pres.
Frank Thomas, Div. V

Vacant: Div. III, VI, VII, VIII

Guests/Partners:

Partners: Dustin Lewis, NYSCDEA', Blake Glover, NRCS State Con. (by Zoom), NRCS, Brian Steinmuller, Ass't Dir. Ag & Mkts.

Guests: None present

Call to Order: Sam Casella, Pres. Called the meeting to order 1:05 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introduction of Delegates:

Blanche Hurlbutt, Ex. Dr. welcomed everyone to the event and thanked everyone for attending the annual meeting.

Blanche gave roll call and there was a quorum.

II. Secretary's Report/Approval of Minutes: Tom Ryan presented the 2020 annual meeting minutes, which were in the packet for attendees to review.

- Motion by Rob Carpenter second by Jim Brick to approve the 2020 annual minutes as written. **Carried #10/20/2021 = A**

III. Treasurer's Report:

Tom reported and reviewed the 2021 income/expense reports for the past year. Tom reviewed and reported on the 2022 budget.

- Motion by Ernie Swift second by Scott Ryan to approve the 2021 financial reports as written. **Carried #10/20/2021 = B**

IV. Board Reports:

NYACD President Report:

Sam welcomed everyone for attending and supporting NYACD. Sam expressed his appreciation to Blanche Hurlbutt for reaching out to Districts and sharing NYACD information. Sam feels this is how come NYACD assessments have increased. Sam wants to meet with Districts and share what NACD does as well.

Sam expressed his thanks to Dustin Lewis, CDEA President and Blake Glover, NRCS State Conservationist. Sam stated they both are great to work with and he has enjoyed his trips with Blake. Sam appreciates the relationships and looks forward to working together in the future.

Executive Director Report:

Blanche reported has continued to work to keep NYACD Board, Directors, and Districts informed with monthly Director letters.

Blanche reported that she attended the NACD Executive Director meeting in North Carolina and shared the topics and tour North Carolina provided. Programs were shared by many, and they were impressed with New York and where we are at with projects and programs.

Blanche updated the attendees on the Stream C bill where it's at and the hopes it is not move forward.

Legislative Days for 2022 will be March 1, 202.

Blanche reported that the NYACD website includes district newsletters, job availability, and NYACD information

Blanche expressed her thanks and appreciation to the NYACD for allowing her to serve them for another year

V. Partners Reports:

NYACDEA' Report:

Dustin Lewis, CDEA President reported that it has been an interesting year with Covid and all the issues that came with that.

Dustin shared his thanks and appreciation to Cortland Co. SWCD for all they did and have done to make Conservation Sills possible.

Dustin reported that the Water Quality Symposium will be virtual again this year. It will be over a two-week period with a “banquet” event. The CDEA wanted to make it possible for folks to be able to attend, by having fewer lessons a day and spread over a period of days. Dustin reported that Caitlin Stewart was able to work with the hotel and have the CDEA contract with the Double Tree in Syracuse pushed back to 2023 for a face-to-face event.

Dustin reported on the 4-hour online Sediment & Erosion training sessions enrollment was up and felt it was due to Covid. This training session has been a great success and has proven to really be working well. CDEA is working on a policy to properly expend the funds earned from this training program.

Dustin reported that the CDEA Board is working on a Strategy plan for long term and short-term goals.

Dustin reported on the 4-Way Partnership meeting and how the partners are working on Recruitment and Retention plans to encourage folks to become an employee of districts.

Dustin stated the CDEA Board have standardized their meetings on the fourth Wednesday in odd months. The next CDEA meeting will be moved up a week to November 17, 2021, to be held in the Buffalo area.

Dustin expressed his thanks and appreciation to NYACD for inviting him to this meeting.

NRCS Report:

Blake Glover, USDA NRCS State Conservationist expressed his thanks to Sam and the Board for allowing him to attend the annual meeting by Zoom.

Blake shared a couple of slides with the group. One of the slides showcased his employees. NRCS did a weekly Employee Spotlight each week and he wanted to express his thanks and appreciation to the NRCS employees through-out New York for all they do and did this past year.

Blake in the second slide show the FY 2021 Partner Report. Blake highlighted a couple of programs one being the 2019 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) with \$1 million

dollars of funds that with hard work and a push in 2020 to have those funds increased to \$3 mil.

Blake reported that they have been working on increasing the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP).

Blake reported the total obligations from FY20 of \$19,261,558 to FY21 \$26,315,833 making a +\$7,054,27 for 2021. This means there has been an increase in conservation on the ground and more NRCS staffing and looking forward to 2022.

Agriculture and Markets Report:

Brian Steinmuller, Assistant Director Agriculture & Markets expressed his thanks for being able to attend this year's meeting.

Brain reported that 2021 continues to be a challenge for districts, but they have impressed and has risen to these challenges.

Brain stated that the NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee 2020 annual report is available for attendees at the registration table.

Brain reported on the 2020 district accomplishments tree programs sold over 465,000 tree and shrub seedlings. District continued to work on protecting NY's forests. Districts manages 26,262 acres of forests. Developed 72 plans on 19,691 acres of privately owned forest. Districts \$2 million to manage invasive species and removed 6,082 tons of invasive species from waterways and public lands. There were 42 cleanup events of streambanks, parks, and community places, with 74,000 participants of virtual conservation tours, 450 virtual public board meetings, and 16,000 requests for assistance in water quality and land use management. Not to mention the many other projects that districts completed.

Brian reported, welcomed, and congratulated Scott Ryan, NYACD 2nd VP to the State Committee. The Governor appointed Scott to the State Committee as a voting member.

Brain reported that Pat Hooker retired in July and Kevin King replaced him as the Deputy Secretary of Food & Agriculture.

VI. Board Reports:

Committee Reports:

2021 Resolutions:

Rob Carpenter, NYACD 1st Vice President wanted to express his thanks and appreciation to Sam Casella for the great job his is doing for NYACD.

Rob called the 2021 resolutions to order. Rob reported there were no former resolutions presented in advance and called for any from the floor. There were no resolutions presented from the floor from the voting members. Rob called for the 2021 Resolutions to be closed.

Jim Brick discussed the upcoming Clen Air/Water propositions that are on the ballot with concerns as to how the one will relate to farmers.

By-Laws:

Rob reported there were no By-Laws changes presented or needed at this time.

Nominating Committee:

Divisions Positions:

Scott Ryan announced the NYACD Division Directors and requested if there were any changes and/or nominations for vacant Division Directors:

Division I	-	James Brick, Wyoming Co. SWCD
Division II	-	Maureen Leupold, Monroe Co. SWCD
Division III	-	Vacant
Division IV	-	Ernie Swift, Steuben Co. SWCD
Division V	-	Frank Thomas, Warren Co. SWCD
Division VI	-	Vacant
Division VII	-	Vacant
Division VIII	-	Vacant

Maureen Leupold made a nomination to make Rollin Pickering Division II assistant for Division II.

Bruce Dolph, Member @ Large stated that the present Board is working hard for you and doing a great job. Bruce stated the nominating committee is recommending that the 2021 slate of officers remain as is:

Sam Casella, President, Rob Carpenter, 1st Vice President, Scott Ryan, 2nd Vice President, Tom Ryan, Temporary Treasurer, Tom Ryan, Secretary, and Bruce Dolph, Member @ Large.

- A motion was made by Cortland SWCD Director second by Herkimer SWCD Director to move those nominations be closed and Secretary cast one ballot to select the 2021 nominating committee selection for the NYACD 2021 slate of officers. **Carried #10/20/2020 = C**

VII. Old Business –

No old business to discuss.

VIII. New Business:

Sam discussed the passing of Bill Peoples and how much his time with NYACD was appreciated and what a good guy he was to know and work with.

Sam expressed his thanks and appreciation to Velynda Parker for maintaining the books and working with Tom Ryan each month.

A discussion on the importance of filling the Division Representatives for the vacant divisions took place.

Sam expressed what a great job the NYS Envirothon team did this year by taking the NCF-Envirothon. Sam told about receiving a phone call from Tim Palmer the outgoing NACD President on what a great job New York is doing with the Envirothon and how well the NY team did in the competition. Sam went on to express the importance of the districts supporting this event especially when New York hosts the 2024 NCF-Envirothon.

IX. Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Scott Ryan second to adjourn the meeting. **Carried #10/20/2021 = D**

Meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

X. Next Meeting Zoom: Next monthly Zoom meeting date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Blanche L. Hurlbutt, Executive Director

December 2, 2021

Motions October 20, 2021, Meeting:

#10/20/2021 = A	Approval 2020 Annual Minutes
#10/20/2021 = B	Approval 2021 Treasurers Report
#10/20/2021 = C	Approval 2022 Officers
#10/20/2021 = D	Approval Adjourn