

SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
MCCARTY, KENNEDY, KOUTNIK, LAPIN, FARWELL
March 15, 2019

PLANNING/SOLID WASTE –KAREN SULLIVAN/TAMMIE HARRIS

Karen Sullivan requested approval to accept the low bid of \$37,000 from Better Densifyer for bid document #OTS-004-19 for a Cold Compaction densyifer. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested approval to hold the Household Hazardous Waste Days for 2019 on September 6th and 7th. Representative Kennedy moved for approval. Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan noted they will be looking at adding cell phone collection to this year's event.

Jordan Clements, District Manager for Soil & Water was unable to attend today's meeting so Karen Sullivan reviewed his monthly report discussing the following including but not limited to:

- Ag Non-Point Source Grant: Otsego County Buffer Project II-designs for buffer for the farms are complete and planting will take place later in the Spring
- Lower Wharton Creek Buffer Project: forest buffer will be planted on stream found on the surrounding property
- Upper Schenevus Watershed Buffer Project: will commence later this Spring, 2/3 of the project is completed
- Putting together plan for Round 25, RFP coming out this month
- Climate Resiliency Grant: was due on 2/26, working on 2 applicants
- Upper Susquehanna Coalition: NRCS Funds, submitted 2 applications in the second round of RCPP Program
- NYSDEC AIS Grant: teaming with OCCA to provide an emergency response team to invasive species and try to eradicate them within existing forested buffers
- Ag & Farmland Protection Committee: moving forward with monthly meetings
- Ag Plastic: working on trying to secure a buyer for plastic- working with Montgomery County to try and team up with their buyer- need to get a market before collection can begin again- Jeff O'Handley from OCCA will follow up with farmers to let them know
- 4 hour Erosion and Sediment Control Class: had 40 participants, this class is offered every other year
- Cover crop and Soil Health Class- will be held on Wednesday, April 16th, 2019 from 10:00-2:30 p.m. at SUNY Oneonta, no charge

- 2019 Tree & Shrub Program/Fish Program: currently accepting orders, order forms available at the office and online, orders accepted until 4/1
- Leatherstocking Envirothon: will be held on 4/24/19 from 8:00-2:00 p.m. at Gilbert Lake State Park, volunteers are needed
- Legislative Days-Jordan Clements, Meg Kennedy, Michele Farwell, and Ashley Young (Conservation Program Aid) met with 8 assemblyman and assemblywomen and Senators to discuss issues facing Soil and Water Conservation Districts- noted it was worthwhile and helped meet performance goals

Karen Sullivan presented and reviewed the following reports:

-Solid Waste Totals—2,235 tons of solid waste collected in February, \$1,050.36 credit to the County

-Recycling Costs for Otsego County—333.81 tons collected in February, a charge from Casella in the amount of \$25,859.86 and \$11,930.05 revenue from recycling charge to commercial haulers, total costs of recycling including labor for February is \$29,388.80

-Karen Sullivan stated that 186.85 tons of recycling went to Sierra Processing and 146.96 tons went to Taylor/Southern Tier Recyclers noting that Sierra charges \$70 per ton and Taylor charges \$40.

-Mattress collection for February 2019 was 100 mattresses

-E-Waste Collection for February 2019- 1 pick up, total costs for e-waste this year is \$8,294.51

Karen Sullivan stated that publicity has helped with the cleanliness of the recycling, they have spoke with local businesses, and they have put stickers on material that is not acceptable.

Karen Sullivan stated that the Planner Trainee position has been posted and that position will continue with recycling outreach.

Leslie Orzetti, OCCA stated that she spoke with Andela and they will be taking the glass collected from Earth Festival but are not sure about anymore collection as they have limited space.

Karen Sullivan distributed Jim Barber, Ag Implementation Specialist's monthly report and discussed the following including but not limited to: Source Otsego App, NY Grown and Certified Food Safety Grants, Pinehurst Farm, Local Food System roundtable, and the Otsego Co. Energy Taskforce.

Representative Farwell stated that Agricultural Micro enterprise Grants need to think about and focus on dairy farms transitioning and diversifying their farms noting that the Farm Restore program is helping farmers now but not helping them transition their farms.

Representative Lapin noted that Cornell Cooperative Extension has a lack of funding for their dairy and field crop team and this is something that needs to stay in place. Representative McCarty stated that we will need to discuss this with Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on Ag Farmland Protection Grant- Otsego Land Trust- Tracy Farm noting that the Tracy farm did not qualify for the grant as the farm is already not operating so it could not be considered transitional. Karen Sullivan stated that another farm is being considered for the grant.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the February 21st meeting with Cherry Valley noting that they spoke with their Board regarding clean recycling and distributed flyers.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the status of the recycling densifier grant with the ReUse store noting that it should be up and running by the end of May.

Tammie Harris gave an update on the High Ridge Wind Turbine Project in Guilford, NY including but not limited to:

- they have submitted preliminary scoping documents for 30 wind turbines on a 28,000 acre area which is a large portion of the Town
- Town is looking into intervenor funding
- Public engagement plan
- Close to Otsego County(near Mt. Upton)- could have visual impacts
- Town of Guilford has only subdivision regulations
- Karen Sullivan stated she will contact the Town to get an update

Karen Sullivan discussed the next steps for the Climate Smart Communities Program noting that a CSC Coordinator and a CSC Task Force need to be created.

Karen Sullivan discussed the Nature Conservancy Carbon Credit program noting that this is a good program to offset costs, help with recovery time, and Joe Sweeney from Soil and Water is the lead on this and will report to the Public Works Committee.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on her visit to Albany regarding the bottle bill extension noting that the bill is detrimental in the way it is written and will kill recycling in the Counties, glass is not included in the bill and should be, it was an interesting day, very informative and structured.

Karen Sullivan stated that Jordan Clements, Otsego County Soil and Water is interested in holding a county wide tire collection. The committee discussed the following including but not limited to:

- burden on farmers to get rid of them (costly)
- farmers are no longer able to use tires to cover silage unless they are cut
- it is \$220 per ton to get rid of tires
- past tire collection was expensive
- look into purchasing a tire shredder to make mulch/use in roads

Karen provided 2 useful links:

www.climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us-2018

<https://www.wamc.org/post/where-will-your-plastic-trash-go-now-china-doesn't-want-it>

Leslie Orzetti gave an update on the Plastic Bag recycling competition in the local schools noting that 1200 lbs of plastic has been collected in 9 schools, the contest ends 4/1, but OCCA is urging schools to continue this effort, winners will be announced at Earth Festival and stated it may be a good idea to have the winning school give a presentation at the full Board meeting on May 1st.

Representative Koutnik left the meeting

Leslie Orzetti stated that there will be an Otsego County Environmental Summit held on March 29th, 2019 at SUNY Oneonta.

Tammie Harris gave a summary on the Septic System Replacement Program including this year's awards, noting there will be funds remaining for next year. Tammie Harris stated that they have reached out to the DEC regarding no admin costs to administer this program as well as expanding the program to Canadarago Lake.

Leslie Orzetti discussed attending Lobby Day in Washington D.C. regarding the Choose Clean Water Coalition noting she met with Congressman Delgado to talk about our issues here in rural NY including funding for this area. Leslie Orzetti stated she will be meeting with Congressman Delgado in his Oneonta office as well.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned until Tuesday, April 16th at 9:00 a.m. at the Meadows Building.