

SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
McCARTY, KENNEDY, KOUTNIK, LAPIN, FARWELL
August 20, 2018

Also Present: Board Chair Bliss

PACE –AMY WYANT, ALLEN RUFFLES, ANDREW CRISMAN

Amy Wyant, Clean Energy Coordinator of Mohawk Valley Economic Development District along with those present discussed the following related to Pace financing:

- Educational process through the Treasurers office
- August 10th conference call with Energize NY
- Explanation of underwriting process
- Effect of the tax cap
- Defining suggested modifications
- Next step share a draft of the agreement with the full Board, bring back to SWEC for approval

AG IMPLEMENTATION SPECIALIST –SHANNON KIRCH and CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION –DON SMYERS

Shannon Kirch distributed and discussed the Otsego County Ag Farmland Protection Plan 2018 Program Report and answered questions regarding the following including but not limited to:

- Farm Source Thrive Otsego campaign
- Regional farmers market in Oneonta
- Succession planning for farmers
- Farm-to-school programming at Riverside Elementary

Don Smyers asked for the County to continue to fund the Ag Implementation Specialist at the same level and have any currently unused funds from the position roll over into next year.

SOIL & WATER DISTRICT –JORDAN CLEMENTS

Jordan Clements, District Manager of Soil and Water gave a presentation including the following information:

- List of items tasked with under district law
- Remediation of erosion and leaching
- Where work is performed/who it is performed by
- Agricultural Environmental Management
- Conservation Planning
- (1) Prescribed Grazing Education Event—9/17/18

- (1) Cover Crop & Soil Health Educational Event—10/9/18
- Farm Tour—10/12/18
- List of Ag Non-Point Source Grants applied for and received over the past several years
- Hydroseeding—Municipal Flood Projects—Culverts Sizing/Permits/Grants
- Butternut Watershed Assessment: information, investigation, implement, integrate
- Otsego County Forest Lands –accomplishments to date
- Otsego County Buffers—7 planted/27 acres planted
- Envirothon event
- Stream Maintenance Program including Stream Ranking based on guidelines from the EPA
- Plans for the future

Jordan Clements reviewed the 2019 Soil and Water budget. After discussion of the requested appropriation and how it would be spent, Representative Kennedy moved for approval that the County allocate \$170,000 to the Soil & Water District. Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Board Chair Bliss exited the meeting.

The committee discussed the stream program. Representative Koutnik moved for approval to allocate \$165,000 to the stream program for the purchase of equipment contingent on working out an agreement with the County Highway Department to provide an operator. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 1,826; Noes: 375- McCarty. Motion carried.

Representative McCarty declared a break.

The committee reconvened.

PLANNING/SOLID WASTE –KAREN SULLIVAN

Karen Sullivan reviewed the Environmental Assessment Form Parts I and II for the Otsego County Ag. District 1 and Consolidation of Districts 2, 3, 4 and 8 into District 1 project. The project is classified as a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) section 617.5. The Otsego County Solid Waste Committee, as lead agency under SEQRA has reviewed the recommendations of the Agriculture Farm Preservation Board and has declared the project to have no significant environmental impacts. Therefore, Representative Farwell moved for approval to issue a Negative Declaration under SEQRA Part 617.5(19). Seconded, Kennedy. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan gave the following updates:

- Floor and tip wall repair at OTS
- Household Hazardous Waste collection—September 7th and 8th
- Comments due by the end of the week regarding the Solid Waste and Recycling drafted RFP

Karen Sullivan presented and reviewed the following reports:

-Recycling Costs for Otsego County—349.12 tons collected in July, a charge from Casella in the amount of \$22,692.80 and \$15,598.55 collected in revenue from recycling charge to commercial haulers

The committee discussed drafting a resolution requesting State action to relieve recycling mandates to be discussed further at the October SWEC meeting.

-Mattress Recycling Costs—2 pick-ups in July, 234 mattresses shipped, the program continues to pay for itself

-2018 E-Waste Totals—total amount invoiced year to date \$22,954.84 (includes CRTs/TVs, broken items charge, CCEs, Non-CCEs and batteries) Karen Sullivan stated there will be an electronic collection at the HHW event in September.

-Solid Waste Totals 2016-2018—3605.75 tons of solid waste collected in July, credit from Casella in the amount of \$4,533.04, the total cost for the year thus far is \$13,948.29

Representative Kennedy left the meeting.

Karen Sullivan reviewed the 2019 Solid Waste budget including several ways to reduce the County share and possible funding to add a Planner Trainee position. Representative Lapin moved for approval to authorize Karen Sullivan to submit an application to the DEC for a Planner Trainee (Recycling Coordinator). Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 1,574; Absent: 627-Kennedy. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan discussed drafting a resolution to the State regarding diverting trucks transporting compressed natural gas to Interstate Highways. The committee discussed environmental and safety concerns and which committee should sponsor the resolution.

Karen Sullivan displayed photos from the Susquehanna River clean-up sponsored by the Lions Club resulting in a disposal cost of \$196 to be reimbursed through grant funds.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned until Thursday, September 13th at 9:00 a.m. at the Meadows Building.