

**SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE**  
**MCCARTY, LAPIN, FARWELL, KENNEDY, BROCKWAY**  
**January 15, 2020**

**Also Present: Lonnie O'Bryan and Rick Homan of Casella Waste Systems, Amy Wyant of Otsego County Conservation Association**

**SOLID WASTE—KAREN SULLIVAN**

Karen Sullivan requested approval of the December 12, 2019 Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee meeting minutes. Representative Farwell motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,059. Absent: 348—Lapin. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested approval to sign the annual support agreement with the Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District in the amount of \$173,250 to provide related services for 2020, budget line 8730-4680. Representative Kennedy motioned to sign the annual support agreement. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,059. Absent: 348—Lapin. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested the following budget modification:

- Increase 8160-4900 Contracts, \$27,159
- Increase 0000-3910, \$27,159

Representative Kennedy motioned to approve the budget transfer as listed above. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,059. Absent: 348—Lapin. Motion carried.

Representative Lapin and Amy Wyant, Executive Director of Otsego County Conservation District, entered during the above discussion.

**OTSEGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT—JORDAN CLEMENTS**

Jordan Clements, District Manager, gave the following program updates, including but not limited to:

- Lobby Day in Albany: March 3 – 4, 2020, invited legislators to attend; Mr. Clements said that a few Soil & Water projects will be highlighted in the program pamphlet
- Ag Non-Point Source Grant: Round 26, applications due in March, the District will likely submit six (6) applications for various projects
- Climate Resiliency Grant: working on two (2) applications

- Upper Susquehanna Coalition: one (1) application filed in the first round for a manure storage system, potentially 3-4 applicants in round 2 for a grazing system, waiting for RFP to come out
- 2020 Tree & Scrub Program: orders due by April 1, 2020, pick-up date April 24—25, 2020
- Environthon: April 29, 2020 at Colonial Ridge Golf Course, two (2) teams of five (5) students participating for a chance to participate at the NYS level. Sponsorship opportunities available and donations accepted, please contact Soil & Water at 607-547-8337.
- Mr. Clements is working on 2019 year-end reporting due February 1, 2020
- the Cover Crop & Soil Health Program, which is typically held in the spring, has been moved to the fall, and will be held around the same time as the Farm Tour in October; Mr. Clements is seeking speakers to present
- the Water Quality Symposium is scheduled for March at the Doubletree by Hilton in Syracuse, NY
- Check out the Soil & Water website and social media for updates

Rick Homan of Casella Waste Systems entered during the above discussion.

Representative Lapin and Mr. Clements discussed the watershed physical assessment project, including but not limited, to data entry phase is almost complete and the next steps include a write-up.

### **SOLID WASTE (cont'd)—KAREN SULLIVAN**

Karen Sullivan reviewed the following reports:

- Solid Waste Totals—2,684.04 tons of solid waste collected in December (down 216 tons from last year), \$1,293.32 credit to the County
- Recycling Costs for Otsego County—342.69 tons collected in December at an average cost of \$153.64 per ton (down 11.02 tons from last December), total cost for recycling including labor in December is \$52,651.32
- Mattress collection for December 2019: 128 mattresses; 2019 year-end total was 2,313 mattresses (up 331 from last year)

Karen Sullivan said there is a delay in reporting the Solid Waste expenditures for the month of December caused by the County's transition to new financial software.

Lonnie O'Bryan, of Casella Waste Systems, inquired whether or not there has been any movement in the NYS legislature with regard to incorporating a deposit on wine and liquor bottles into the Bottle Bill to incentivize recycling the items. Karen Sullivan said not yet, one challenge is that redemption machines cannot accept the variously shaped liquor and wine bottles.

Karen Sullivan reported the glass recyclables voluntarily separated at the Northern Transfer Station were successfully transferred to Andela Products and Ms. Sullivan will follow up to see how the program is working.

Karen Sullivan distributed and reviewed the current draft copy of the letter expressing the Committee's concerns to the NYS legislature regarding the option for counties to implement a 5¢ user fee on paper bags as part of the NYS Bag Waste Reduction Act. The Committee was in consensus that the letter as currently drafted captures the majority of their concerns. Representative McCarty motioned to accept the letter as drafted and send it to the NYS legislature. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan and the Committee discussed the recently allocated funding from NYS for census outreach programs, including but not limited to, the funding will likely come in the form of reimbursements, and will cover the cost of program refreshments and/or advertisements. Ms. Sullivan said she is still in the planning phase and to please contact her office with ideas or information. Representative Kennedy said Hartwick, in District 5, is historically under counted by the census and invited Ms. Sullivan to present at the upcoming Town meeting on January 25, 2020. Ms. Sullivan said she would attend.

Karen Sullivan reported the CFA application to fund a connection from the Montgomery County landfill to the waste water treatment plant was unsuccessful.

Karen Sullivan, prior to the meeting, emailed a media release from the New York Product Stewardship Council regarding a new law that creates a statewide paint recycling program, set to take effect in 2021, and will include drop-off locations throughout the state for consumers to recycle their unwanted paint, stains, and varnishes.

Karen Sullivan reported that five (5) schools are participating in this year's film plastic recycling challenge and the winner will be announced on Earth Day.

Karen Sullivan said she would try to schedule next month's Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board meeting at the same time the Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee meeting at the Meadows to facilitate the review of petitions to add land to existing certified agricultural districts.

Representative Brockway and the Committee discussed a proposed solar array in the Laurens area.

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee scheduled their next regular meeting date for Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at the Meadows and adjourned.