

NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235 – Telephone (518) 457-3738

STATE COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 10, 2007
Delaware County SWCD Offices
Walton, NY

Present: D. Hill, J. Dickinson B. Aman, D. Stein, Voting Members; R. Kaplewicz, Director; M. Latham, Assistant Director; J. Rusnica, Ag. and Markets; N. Lawler, C. Frasier, L. Travis, L. Prezorski, B. Steinmuller, R. Lewis, SWCC Staff; J. Tauzel, NYSFB; M. Grennan, NRCS; L. Telega, Cornell; P. Cerosaletti, CCE; L. Taylor, Putnam Co. SWCD; K. Breitenfeld, Orange Co. SWCD; L. Sager, Columbia Co. SWCD; R. Weidenbach, Delaware Co. SWCD; J. Carmichael, NYSCDEA; G. Bell, B. Rogers, NYACD; P. Kaczmarczyk, DOH; M. Pollock, Support@webcasting.com

Call to Order:

D. Hill called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Introductions made.

Review and Approval of Minutes

B. Aman moved to approve the October minutes after a revision to the last sentence under State Aid to Districts Rule; seconded by D. Stein. Motion passed; carried.

Correspondence

Reports & Newsletters

"Core Report" – Official newspaper of the New York Apple Association, Vol. 15, Issue 5; November 2007

USDA Economic Research Service, Economic Information Bulletin Number 31 –October 2007

"Rural Futures" – News of Interest about Rural New York; November/December 2007

New York State Federation of Lake Associations Inc. (NYSFOLA); October 2007

"Bay Journal" – October 2007

"Bay Journal" – November 2007

Wyoming County SWCD newsletter – October 2007

Tompkins County SWCD newsletter – October 2007, Volume 13, Issue 4

CDEA News – November 2007

"The Lake Reporter" – Canandaigua Lake Watershed Alliance Newsletter, October 2007, Volume 5, Issue 4

NYSERDA, "Industrial Process & Product Innovation Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 1190"

Agricultural NPS Abatement & Control Grant Program
December 10, 2007 State Committee Meeting

STATUS OF ROUNDS 1-13

Of 458 contracts, 156 are active, 3 are pending and 284 are complete 15 contracts have been cancelled during the life of the program.

Regarding the 3 pending contracts, one is a Round VII project in Cayuga County (Spruce Haven Farms). D. Stein moved to require two letters of commitment regarding this project be received by January 31, 2008 or the funding (Bond Act) will be rescinded. One letter of commitment will be from the landowner, the second letter of commitment by the construction company; seconded by B. Aman. Motion passed carried.

Round 14

In response to the RFP issued on September 12th, we received 85 proposals totaling nearly \$25 million in EPF requests. The new policy on critical flaws stated that applicants had 10 business days to submit information that was determined to be missing. If the missing information was received the proposal would receive a 5 point reduction penalty to the final aggregated score. As a result of the initial eligibility review, nine proposals were determined to be incomplete. All Districts responded to the request for information well in advance of the deadline. One other proposal included farms that apparently did not meet the planning requirements as stated in the RFP. Four out of eight farms did not have a Tier 3 plan complete before the deadline. In accordance with the RFP, those four farms were not eligible to participate. With advice from the Department's Counsel, references to those four farms were removed and the proposal was forwarded to the rankers for consideration.

Review Schedule:

- Pre-Review Teleconference meeting held on **Tuesday, November 27th at 10:00 am**
- Proposal scores will be due on **Friday, December 21st**
- Post review meeting on **Tuesday, January 8th at 10:00 am**
- State Committee Meeting on **Tuesday, January 15th at 10:00 am**

Amendments for SWCC Consideration

1. Cayuga SWCD – Manure Management Systems in Cayuga and Tompkins County – Round 10 – C700744

Request 1: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason 1: additional time needed to complete project due to landowner changes

Request 2: change of landowners resulting in a loss of one

Reason 2: landowners voluntarily withdrew

Request 3: change of BMPs

Reason 3: original contract called for the completion of two composting systems, new farmer is requesting to install a satellite manure storage system

Previous amendments: 1 time extension

D. Stein moved to deny approval of the three requests due to significant change in scope and reduction in the number of farms; seconded by B. Aman. Motion passed carried.

2. Albany SWCD – Basic Creek Watershed Reservoir Watershed AEM Tier IIIB Planning – Round 9 – C700700

Request: time extension from 2/28/07 to 01/31/08

Reason: CNMPs were in possession of State Committee for review during the period leading up to the grant deadline. Extension is requested to allow for correction of reviewed plan.

Previous amendment: 2 time extensions

C. Frasier, Region 5 AEA, recommends approval stating that the bulk of work is complete and extension is needed to complete paperwork.

B. Aman moved to approve the time extension; seconded by D. Stein. Motion passed carried.

Staff Approved Amendments

1. Madison SWCD – Susquehanna River Headwater Farm Planning and Prioritization – Round 10 – C700756

Request 1: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason 1: additional time needed to complete project deliverables

Request 2: change of landowners

Reason 2: three farms have voluntarily withdrew and new farms identified as a priority through the AEM process

Approved by L. Travis 11/27/07

2. Rensselaer SWCD – Partner V – Round 10 – C700764

Request 1: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason 1: additional time needed to complete project deliverables

Request 2: change in BMPs

Reason 2: same watershed and farmstead issues are being addressed with equal or increased benefits as the prescribed grazing and buffers will encompass a much greater area on the same home farm

Approved by C. Frasier 12/3/07

3. Delaware SWCD – Precision Feed Management to Reduce Nutrient Loading in the Susquehanna Basin – Round 9 – C700803

Request 1: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason 1: additional time needed to complete project deliverables to cover landowner change

Request 2: change of landowner

Reason 2: original farm went out of business, new farm identified as a priority through AEM

Approved by J. Schumacher 11/29/07

4. Broome SWCD – Dudley Creek and Eastern Broome Agricultural Implementation Project – Round 10 – C700743

Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason: additional time needed due to landowner changes and construction delay

Approved by J. Schumacher 11/26/07

5. Steuben SWCD – Chemung River Basin Prescribed Grazing – Phase 3 – Round 10 – C700766

Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08

Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables

Approved by T. Brace/B. Steinmuller 12/5/07

6. Steuben SWCD – Chemung River Basin Prescribed Grazing – Phase 4 – Round 11 – C700797
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/09
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables
Approved by T. Brace/B. Steinmuller 12/5/07
7. Ulster SWCD – Whole Farm Plan and Implementation – Greenwyck Farm – Round 10 – C700769
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 3/22/09
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables
Approved by L/ Prezorski/B. Steinmuller 11/26/07
8. Washington SWCD – Lake Champlain Halfway Creek Ag Waste Management – Round 10 – C700770
Request 1: time extension from 12/31/06 to 12/31/08
Reason 1: Additional time needed to complete project due to changing landowners
Request 2: change of landowner
Reason 2: original landowner retired, new landowner identified as a priority through AEM
Approved by S. Lanthier 11/23/07
9. Onondaga SWCD – Onondaga Lake Watershed AEM Implementation Project – Round 11 – C700788
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08
Reason: additional time needed due to past financial difficulties and construction delays that have *now been cleared up*
Approved by L. Travis 11/8/07
10. Ontario SWCD – Finger Lakes AEM Phase III Implementation Grant – Round 12 – C700821
Request 1: change landowner
Reason 1: original landowner voluntarily withdrew; new farm is need of similar practices
Request 2: change of BMPs
Reason 2: some BMPs will be the same while others will be changing
Approved by T. Brace/B. Steinmuller 12/7/07
11. Ulster SWCD - Whole Farm Planning – 16 Farms – Lower Esopus Creek Watershed (AEM Tier IIIc) – Round 11 – C700801
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 3/7/10
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables
Approved by L. Prezorski/B. Steinmuller 12/3/07
12. Orange SWCD – Wallkill River Farm Runoff Control – Round 10 – C700762
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables
Approved by L. Prezorski/B. Steinmuller 12/3/07
13. Orange SWCD – Moodna Creek Ag Waste Management – Round 11 – C700792
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables
Approved by L. Prezorski/B. Steinmuller 12/3/07
14. Orange SWCD – Wallkill River Farm Runoff Control – Round 11 – C700791
Request: time extension from 12/31/07 to 12/31/08
Reason: additional time needed to complete project deliverables

Approved by L. Prezorski/B. Steinmuller 12/3/07

15. Oneida SWCD – Oneida Lake Watershed BMP – Round 10 – C700757

Request 1: change landowner

Reason 1: Two landowners withdrew; two new replaced them

Request 2: change BMPs

Reason 2: some BMPs will be the same while others will be changing

Approved by L. Travis/B. Steinmuller 12/7/07

Precision Feed Management

Paul Cerosaletti, CCE Delaware County gave a powerpoint presentation on Precision Feed Management.

State Aid to Districts Rule

Correspondence

R. Kaplewicz read correspondence received from Columbia, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, Dutchess, New York City and Lewis County Soil & Water Conservation Districts and a letter from Divisions 7 and 8 regarding the Draft Performance Measure Evaluation Worksheet. There was an additional letter from Ulster County SWCD regarding same.

Each Performance Measure of the Draft Performance Measure Evaluation Worksheet was discussed. Some changes were made.

D. Stein moved to approve the Draft Performance Measure Evaluation Worksheet with the agreed upon changes; seconded by J. Dickinson and B. Aman. Motion passed carried.

The allocation of Part C monies for FY 06-07 and FY 07-08 was discussed.

B. Aman moved to approve allocation of Part C monies to the Performance Measure Evaluation Worksheet for FY 06-07 and FY 07-08 as follows – 5% for Performance Standard (1), 5% for Performance Standard (2), 45% for Performance Standard (3) and 45% for Performance Standard (4); seconded by J. Dickinson. Motion passed carried.

Other Reports – All

- M. Latham announced one annual plan of work to be approved for Niagara County.

D. Stein moved to approve the work plan; seconded by J. Dickinson and B. Aman. Motion passed and carried.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 15, 2008, Albany, New York at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

This web cast may be viewed in its entirety at:

<http://www.webcasting.com/soil-water/12.10.2007soil-water.html>