

# Empire Chapter – Soil and Water Conservation Society

Meeting Minutes – Council Conference Call

1PM – 3PM

April 17, 2013

Call-in Number: 605-475-6700 and Pass Code: 306-5726#

1) Welcome

- Council members present: Elaine, Scott, Cherie, Jess, Brad, Jan, Caitlin, and Lisa.
- Caitlin prepared the minutes.

## Administrative

2) Review/Approval of minutes from the March 12, 2013 Council Meeting

- Caitlin found a mistake regarding the budget, corrected it, and sent the revised minutes to Cherie.
  - A motion was brought by Brad to accept the minutes.
  - Elaine seconded.
  - The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

3) Treasurer's Report (L. Miller, J. Sargis, All)

- Discussion about the treasurer's report: the new budget was incorporated into the Treasurer's Report; 113 books sold since last meeting (does not include the 20 give to Don Lake for free); and membership dues are down so far this year.
  - A motion was brought by Elaine to accept the Treasurer's Report.
  - Brad seconded.
  - The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

4) Lisa's Invoice 13-04 (All)

- There were no objections to the approval of Lisa's invoice # 13-04 for [REDACTED].
  - A motion was brought by Jess to accept invoice 13-04 and pay Lisa [REDACTED].
  - Cherie seconded.
  - The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

5) 1 Year and 5 Year Strategic Plan (Aaron, All)

- Aaron was not present (did not cover).

6) Review of 2013 Budget

- The council did not review the budget during this meeting.

7) Announcement created by Elaine for Field Contractor's notebook

- Discussion about the announcement that Elaine emailed to council members: leave Lisa's phone number attached, add the other two publications that we sell to the list (NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual and New York Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control); decide who to send this announcement to (Stormwater employees at NRCS and SWCD offices); and

possibly send this announcement to current members of the Empire Chapter SWCS.

8) Summer meeting ideas/discussion

- Jan – Visit **Chobani** because this year there has been a yogurt summit.
- Heath – Visit **Alpina** or **Quaker Mueller** yogurt plants in Genesee County. Heath continued to explain that yogurt plants have to get rid of the whey and Chobani is currently shipping to farms in Genesee County. Farms must have a 360 permit under the registration part of a CAFO permit to take-in whey. There is also an **ethanol plant** in Orleans County that the SWCS could visit.
- Brad – We could visit **Perry's Ice Cream** plant in Akron, NY or **Yancey's Fancy Inc.**, a cheese plant in Corfu, NY.
- Cherie: Set a date for the summer tour and make an agenda. Do these facilities provide tours?

9) Topics for November Meeting

a) Send an email to all current members (did not decide on an agenda and key note speaker yet)

- Heath brought up the topic of *soil health* to be discussed and presented by a key note speaker at the November meeting.
- John Pedit as a speaker?
- Discussion about the possibility of having an NRCS training session on soil health or stormwater in the morning with the Empire Chapter SWCS November meeting after lunch.
- Cherie: when are NRCS stormwater trainings ? – locations, dates, topics, etc.

**Programmatic**

10) Payment Forms – not on the agenda but discussed at meeting

- Lisa emailed payment forms for the council to look at. An audit was done by the Environmental Education Foundation and they determined that additional forms were to be used each time something is coming out of the checking account. It is back-up documentation that the treasurer (Jess) has to sign when Lisa writes checks.
- A motion was brought by Elaine to accept the use of the payment forms when Lisa writes a check for the Empire Chapter SWCS.
- Scott seconded.
- The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

11) Next Council Meeting: May 15, 2013, 1-3 PM conference call

- A motion was brought by Cherie to adjourn the meeting.
- Elaine seconded.
- The motion was approved by unanimous consent.