

Schuyler County Soil and Water Conservation District
Monthly Meeting of Directors
August 27, 2025
6:00 PM.
2400 Meads Hill Road Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Attending:

James Howell – Chair
Rick Reisinger - Treasurer
Jessica Skinner – Member
Gary Gaige - Member

Jerry Verrigni – District Manager
Jessica Verrigni – Stormwater Program Technician

1. **Meeting called to order** by James Howell @ 6:03 PM
2. **Pledge**
3. **Minutes of August 27th Meeting:** *Gary Gaige motioned to approve the August 27th minutes as mailed. Seconded by Rick Reisinger. All in favor. Motion carried.*
4. **Treasurer's Report July:** *Rick Reisinger motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jessica Skinner. All in favor. Motion carried.*
5. **Vouchers July:** *Rick Reisinger motioned to approve the list of bills as presented. Seconded by Gary Gaige. All in favor. Motion carried.*
6. **Old Business:**
 - A. **WQIP Grant Town of Montour Salt Storage** – Jerry explained the bid packages where put together and sent out to 16 contractors for the project. Bids are due back on September 19th. The project will likely be completed in 2026.
 - B. **CRF Round 8 Cover and Flare-** Jessica V. explained to the group that the state found funding to cover the federal money of the contract. All funds previously awarded are now there for the project. The contract from the state came just two days after the announcement. All signatures and paperwork on our end were completed and sent back to AGMKTS.
7. **New Business:**
 - A. **County Road 22 -**

Jerry explained that in August of 2024 the District was asked by Senator Omaras Office to look into trees falling on a property on CR 22 in the Town of Orange. Jerry and Jessica went to the site and explained to the landowner that the District is not a tree removal service. The landowner obtained the property in 2023 and put up a pole barn right next to a drainageway. Several trees near the drainage way lean toward the pole barn. However Jerry did state a tree fell from state land further down the drainage way and was causing erosion. So Jerry told the landowner in 2025 they would remove the tree and stabilize the bank. The landowner agreed. Jerry reached out to say we would be there in a couple weeks to do the job as stated. The landowner immediately responded with what about the trees by our pole barn, when are you going to move the telephone pole. Jerry explained as stated in 2024 this is not work

that can be done by the Soil and Water Conservation District. Jerry explained to the landowner that he is misunderstanding what is to be done and what cant be done. Jerry stated a landowner release to work on the property is used in all construction work we do and it will state clearly what will and wont be done. The landowner received this agreement, took it to his lawyers and decided to not sign it. Therefor no work will be done on the property.

B. 2026 Annual Budget–

Jerry explained that he has presented this draft budget to the County.

Rick Reisinger made a motion to approve the budget as submitted seconded by Gary Gaige. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

8. Executive Session – At 6:40 pm Jim Howell moved the meeting into executive session. At 6:55 pm Jim Howell moved the meeting out of executive session

Jessica Skinner made the motion to approve the 2026 salaries as submitted. Gary Gaige seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Stormwater Technician Report – Jessica V. –Her report is in the packet and will be on file with the book of minutes

10. District Manager Report -Jerry V. – Jerry's Report was sent out with the packet and will be on file with the Book of Minutes.

11. Adjournment -Motion to adjourn at 7:04pm by Gary Gaige and seconded by James Howell

Respectfully submitted by:

James Howell, Chair

Jerry Verrigni – District Manager