

**SENECA TRAIL RC&D
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2006
MINUTES**

President, Frederick Sinclair, called the business meeting of the Seneca Trail RC&D Council to order at 10:10 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2006.

Participants included:

- Allegany County – Cavagna, Parmenter, Sinclair, Ungerman
- Cattaraugus County –
- Chautauqua County – Brown
- Livingston County –
- Wyoming County – Dominesey, McKurth
- Seneca Nation of Indians –
- District Staff –
- NRCS Staff – Kurtis, Snyder
- Interested Parties –

The Council lacked a quorum. Information will be mailed to absentee members and a voice vote taken for final approval of motions made.

MINUTES – Motion made by Norm Ungerman to approve the October 12, 2006 minutes. **Seconded** by Earl Dominesey. **Carried.**

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Fred reported that the last two months has required a few signatures on reports and contracts with grant sources. Notable is the switch of the Dry Hydrant evaluation member item to DEC for administration and the Cathy Young Member Item for the coordination of watershed planning and evaluation in the Conewango Creek Watershed.

Fred has contacted his counterparts in Wyoming, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties and requested that they spur on interest among their membership to assume leadership roles with the Council. This is the last meeting in which Fred will be presiding and at the annual meeting new leadership will be in place.

Fred hopes that the Council continues to capitalize on the abundance which surrounds it in the form of community needs and resources to meet those needs. We have come a long way in the orchestration of balancing the two.

TREASURER’S REPORT – The Treasurer’s report was presented as prepared by R.A. Mercer. **Motion** made by Greg McKurth to accept the Treasurer’s Report pending an audit. **Seconded** by Tom Parmenter. **Carried.** **Motion** made by Greg McKurth to pay bills totaling \$2,200.89. **Seconded** by Norm Ungerman. **Carried.**

ALLEGANY COUNTY REPORT – The Allegany County RC&D Committee has not met recently. However, Fred reported that the county is involved in 2 major river projects along with a \$3 million pre-digester project. Fred also reported that he is now the Alleg. Co. SWCD Executive Director and Joe Orosz is now the Alleg. Co. SWCD Field Director. The next meeting will be announced. No written report available.

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY REPORT – The Cattaraugus County RC&D Committee met on Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. Allen Ormond has been appointed as the Alternate. He is very interested in RC&D. The Committee reviewed the structure of RC&D and JoAnn gave a crash course in Council Member orientation. No written report available.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY REPORT – The Chautauqua County RC&D Committee met on Monday, November 6, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. A written report was presented. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2007. Report attached.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY REPORT –No written report available.

WYOMING COUNTY REPORT – The Wyoming County RC&D Committee met on Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be announced. Report attached.

COORDINATOR’S REPORT – Re-Tread Tire Logs Project (Cattaraugus County): JoAnn presented a copy of a news release stating that Re-Tread Products Inc. has partnered with Glynn Geotechnical in an effort to develop value-added products derived from waste tires. An application for \$200,000 in grants for a feasibility study of the Tire Log had been approved from NYS Department of Economic Development.

2006 Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (Area wide): Bids for completing Grazing Plans, producers meetings and follow-up plan reviews are due back to the RC&D Council by December 13. One Bid was received.

Meetings/ Other Activities: Attend all employees meeting in Owego. RC&D staff met with Dennis DeWeese, Assistant State Conservationist. There has been a 30% decrease in program funding in New York State. NRCS is not filling the Coordinator’s position in Black River/St. Lawrence. 70% of the Coordinator’s time will be used in RC&D and the remaining 30% will be used on the Farm Bill. In the future the Council may be asked to reimburse NRCS for services such as space rental, phone and electric. JoAnn will look up the price we are currently paying for space per sq. ft.

OLD BUSINESS –The Council received copies of the approved the Code of Conduct for their handbook.

The Long Range Plan will be tabled until the February meeting.

At this time there was much discussion on the Conewango Creek Project and the Conewango Creek RWA Project. Fred encouraged the council to keep an eye on the EPA funding that is coming available in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS – **Motion** made by Larry Brown to close-out the Centaur Stride and the Grazing Systems Practice Project Measures and transfer any remaining funds to the general account. **Seconded** by Earl Dominesey. **Carried.**

A Nominating Committee consisting of Fred Sinclair, Norm Ungerma, Earl Dominesey and Larry Brown brought forth the following nominations: Greg McKurth - President; Colleen Cavagna - Vice-President, Larry Brown - Secretary/Treasurer; and Jim Ellis -

