

**SENECA TRAIL RC&D  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 17, 2007  
MINUTES**

President, Gregory McKurth, called the regular business meeting of the Seneca Trail RC&D Council to order at 10:10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2007.

Participants included:

Allegany County – Cavagna, Parmenter, Ungerman  
Cattaraugus County – Ellis, Klein, Krause, Ormond  
Chautauqua County – Brown  
Livingston County –  
Wyoming County – Dominesey, Gozelski, McKurth  
Seneca Nation of Indians –  
District Staff –  
NRCS Staff – Kurtis, Snyder  
Interested Parties –

A quorum was present.

**MINUTES – Motion** made by Joe Gozelski to approve the February 8, 2007 minutes. **Seconded** by Jim Ellis. **Carried.**

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** – Greg commented that he is becoming familiar with all current RC&D project measures as well as determining the needs for future assistance needed by all of our member counties. He is making direct contact with all member counties as well as the Seneca Nation. Greg reviewed the Timber Bridge Project with JoAnn. Discussed project status with Rick LeFeber, Catt. Local Dev. Corp. and worked with JoAnn to submit permit applications to NYS DEC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Greg submitted letters concerning the proposed RC&D budget cuts from the 2008 federal budget to Senators Clinton and Schumer, and Congressman Reynolds. Met with Congressman Reynolds’ aid to discuss the impact of these cuts to the Council. Potential State-wide projects include: Renewable Energy Projects (including methane digesters, ethanol production, wind energy); Assisting farms in the trading & selling of carbon credits; Watershed Protection Programs/Watershed Planning; New York Market Maker (providing marketing tools for agricultural producers); Development of livestock processing businesses; and Utilizing the New York Farmland Viability Institute.

Greg attended the NY Federation of RC&D’s Annual Meeting on March 21/22 at the White Eagle Conference Center in Hamilton, NY.

Greg encouraged the Council to begin to develop additional Council-wide projects such as value added dairy/maple processing, carbon savings via existing methane digesters, dry hydrant insurance savings to member counties, etc. He is encouraging each county to develop a presentation(s) for each member county to highlight the benefits of RC&D.

Greg noted that next year will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Council – We need to start planning now!

He also spoke with the Liv. Co. Board of Supervisors in regards to Council appointments. This issue will be addressed at their next meeting.

**Motion** made by Joe Gozelski to appoint Greg McKurth as representative to the NY Federation, Mid-Atlantic Assoc., and National Assoc. of RC&D's. **Seconded** by Norm Ungerman. **Carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – The Treasurer's report was presented as prepared by R.A. Mercer. **Motion** made by Vern Klein to accept the Treasurer's Report pending an audit. **Seconded** by Joe Gozelski. **Carried.** **Motion** made by Jim Ellis to pay bills totaling \$7,290.29. **Seconded** by Earl Dominesey. **Carried.**

**ALLEGANY COUNTY REPORT** – The Allegany County RC&D Committee met on Tuesday, April 10, 2007. A written report was presented. Report attached.

**CATTARAUGUS COUNTY REPORT** – The Cattaraugus County RC&D Committee met on Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. A written report was presented. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 7, 2007 at 1:00 pm. Report attached.

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY REPORT** – The Chautauqua County RC&D Committee met on Monday, March 5, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. A written report was presented. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2007. Report attached.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY REPORT** – No written report available however, Greg has been in contact with Pete Kanouse and commented that Liv. Co. is looking for assistance in the promotion of Farm Markets and Alternative Ag. Products.

**WYOMING COUNTY REPORT** – The joint Wyoming County RC&D Committee/ Water Quality Committee meeting was held on Thursday, March 22, 2007 at 10:00 am. A written report was presented. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2007. Report attached.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT** – *Grassland Evaluation Contest – 2007* – Four teams have signed up. Contest April 30, 2007 at Big Flats Plant Materials Center. *Conewango Creek Watershed Coordinator/Curator* – Contract narratives have been sent to Albany. *Canadaway Creek Stream bank Restoration Project* – Applied to Great Lakes Commission for funding. *Schoellkopf Road Bank Stabilization Project* – Applied to Great Lakes Commission for funding. *Ag. Tourism Project* – Contracts have been signed and returned to Ag. & Markets.

**OLD BUSINESS** –The Council addressed the Long Range Plan. The survey has been sent to 250+ individuals as of this date. Lori is working on obtaining additional mailing lists from member counties. She will also contact NYLICA to see if we can obtain a listing of Land Improvement Contractors in the 5 county area. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 in Ellicottville to assess the results from the survey. County RC&D Committee Chairpersons should plan on attending or send a representative on their behalf. Lori will send a notice to each Chairperson in early May.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW PROJECT MEASURES** – The Carbon Trading in the Southern Tier: Cleaner and Greener Project Measure was presented for approval. Alleg. Co. is asking Council for

