

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

November 18, 2015

NOT APPROVED

Committee Members Present: K. Graves, D. Fanton, T. O'Grady, N. Ungermann, C. Crandall
(Absent: A. McGraw)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Bliven, H. Budinger, S. Burt, P. Curran, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, L. Edwards, L. Gooch-Christman, L. Gridley, S. Grusendorf, G. Hanchett, D. Healy, K. Hooker, L. Hunsberger, C. Jessup, C. Knapp, K. LaForge, J. Luckey, D. Pullen, B. Riehle, D. Root, T. Ross, R. Scott, R. Sobeck-Lynch, S. Torrey

Media Present: B. Quinn, *Wellsville Daily Reporter*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Resource Management Committee Chairman Karl Graves.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried to approve the Resource Management Committee minutes of October 21, 2015.

County Historian

Legislator Graves stated County Historian Craig Braack was unable to attend the meeting because he was giving a presentation to the Red Hat Ladies in Wellsville.

Soil & Water Conservation

Monthly Report

Executive Director Scott Torrey stated he was finishing projects. He met with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in Hume to look at the flooding issues on Rush Creek. He noted the meeting was positive, and it looks like they will allow them to work on the gravel bars to give the stream more capacity. Legislator Fanton asked who was going to take the gravel out. Mr. Torrey responded possibly the Department of Public Works and some of the local towns. Chairman Crandall asked if they were going to go all the way to the river. Mr. Torrey stated right now they are going to work around the bridge where they are having flooding issues. There was some discussion about Rush Creek and Rushford Lake. Mr. Torrey clarified it is Rush Creek in Fillmore that comes down from Short Tract, not the Rush Creek that goes into Rushford Lake.

Mr. Torrey said they are continuing the timber harvest on the C. Horner and Weir lots. He said they have begun the contracting process of getting the funds from Round 21 of the Ag Non-Point Source Grant Program. He said several farms would like to begin construction in the spring. Mr. Torrey said the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board have started the process of reviewing and updating the Farmland Protection Plan. Legislator Ungermann asked about the status of the permit for Cuba Lake. Mr. Torrey stated he believes they were submitted a week or two ago. Mr. Torrey included pictures in his monthly report showing a pack barn since Legislator Ungermann asked about it at a previous meeting. Mr. Torrey noted the pictures are from the Bainbridge Farm in West Almond, New York.

Mr. Torrey reported the Ag District #1 review and update has been completed. The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board met on November 13, 2015, and approved the

update. Mr. Torrey requested a resolution to hold a public hearing on December 14, 2015. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Ungermann, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried. **Prepare Resolution** (Resolution to come off the Floor at the November 23 Board meeting.)

Youth Bureau

Monthly Report

Director Linda Edwards stated she didn't have much to report. She is busy, and is working on billing. She stated she is waiting on two agencies to submit their paperwork. Legislator Graves asked how much she is waiting for. Ms. Edwards stated it is about \$6,000 to \$7,000. Legislator Ungermann asked what the Rural Youth Justice Team does. Ms. Edwards stated it is working with Probation, other youth serving agencies, and criminal justice agencies to reduce placements of juveniles. She represents the Youth Bureau on this team, and they work on the front end of keeping individuals out of probation, jail, and placement. She added it is a team approach to address issues before they get to more serious levels. Legislator Ungermann also asked about the Police Department and Sheriff's Office Halloween crackdown patrol. Ms. Edwards said it was a Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) patrol. She receives grant money from the State to do crackdowns around specific holiday times. They had a patrol the night before Halloween, which resulted in one arrest. Legislator Graves commented it is an important patrol. Legislator Healy asked if there were any accidents. Ms. Edwards stated she was not aware of any during the Halloween patrol. Ms. Edwards said the next patrol will be the Wednesday night before Thanksgiving.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Monthly Report Executive Director Laura Hunsberger

Agriculture and Natural Resource Issue Leader Lynn Bliven reported upcoming program dates for their winter programs. She stated there will be a Southern Tier Crop Congress in January. This program offers Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) pesticide and Certified Crop Advisor credits. Ms. Bliven stated the Penn York Ag Expo in February will be a joint program. This program will focus on soil health and cover crops. Ms. Bliven also mentioned the Second Annual Growing Produce for Auction Markets on February 3, 2015. She noted thirty-two to thirty-four Allegany County Farms participated in the Centerville Auction this year. The program will focus on packaging, pricing a product, and food safety. Chairman Crandall asked about the Centerville project, and how many of the farms are Amish and non-Amish. Ms. Bliven said the auction is run by the Amish, but the selling and purchasing is open to anyone. She says she works with seven English farms out of a total of thirty-eight farms on her list; the rest are Amish farms. She mentioned a majority of the purchasing is done by non-Amish owned road-side stands. She also reported three retail markets purchase from them on a regular basis. Legislator Decker asked if local retail such as Giant and the market in Fillmore are buying from this market. Ms. Bliven believes some markets participate, and noted there is interest. She added larger retailers want to ensure the farms are certified, and have a food safety plan in place.

Ms. Bliven talked about the Beef Producers meeting in February. It will discuss health programs, changes in antibiotic use, and veterinarian relationships. There will be a rural landowner workshop in March focusing on forestry. It will emphasize agricultural businesses. Legislator Ungermann asked about the Agri-Forestry. Ms. Bliven discussed the benefits of maple syrup, mushroom production, and woods-cultivated products. The woods-cultivated products have higher value. Legislator Ungermann commented as much as they want to do this

and promote this, there are other people who are trying to squash it. He said some towns are posting roads all year round, so anyone over eight tons can't use them. It causes a problem of getting the product to the market. Legislator Ungermann stated his understanding is Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) money is to bring a road up to State specification. He noted half an inch of oil and stone on a road is not up to State specifications. He said it is a double edge sword. They are trying to get people to be profitable and earn a living, and they have others who want to knock it down. Ms. Bliven stated she understands that, and they are trying to educate consumers and residents about the value of agriculture. They are working on developing a brochure, updating the Farmland Protection Plan, and updating the Right-to-Farm Law.

Ms. Bliven stated they are working with Alfred for a grazing program in the summer for a three-day conference. Ms. Bliven said she is also working with them on disease management plots, where local research will be done in our County by two faculty members. Legislator Ungermann asked if Ms. Bliven received his message from the last meeting. She replied she did.

Executive Director Laura Hunsberger stated she would distribute the *Extension Connection* to all of the Legislators. She stated 4-H has fourteen new clubs starting in conjunction with the twenty-first century afterschool programs with ACCORD. Ms. Hunsberger said they also have twenty-seven new 4-H members in addition to the new clubs. Ms. Hunsberger highlighted the Horse-less Horse Program in the *Extension Connection*. Ms. Hunsberger stated they are dealing with their housing situation.

Attorney/Client Session

The Committee entered attorney/client session at 1:23 p.m. on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Chairman Crandall, and carried. The Committee exited attorney/client session at 1:38 on a motion by Legislator O'Grady, seconded by Legislator Ungermann, and carried.

Hazard Mitigation

County Planner Kier Dirlam represented the Hazard Mitigation Team, and gave an update on the request for proposal. The Hazard Mitigation Plan was originally approved in 2011. Emergency Management and Fire Director Jeff Luckey applied for a grant, and received \$90,000 to update the plan. In September they received a quote from a company that they were hoping to piggyback on with Warren County. After looking at the Proposal, they realized Warren County had asked for more things than what they were asking. So, the Hazard Mitigation team will have to put out their own request for proposal. As a result, there has been a delay. The Team wants to ensure they are doing it right, and not jeopardizing the funds. He thinks they may have something to approve at the next meeting, so the Team can move the project forward.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Scott, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators