

District Manager's Report – Corrina Aldrich – 06/12/2015

Grants

Round 17: Bob will give update on bid process for Horton's, and update on Lenny Austen. Planning to file for an extension.

Round 18:

Trinkle Farm: Corresponding with AES and working with Lori to get the engineering payments for grants straightened out. Lori looked through what we have on our end from AES and they have not sent us recent billing information for year 2015. All we have is up to December of 2014, and they have not shown where they have credited the last two checks we sent them. So we are waiting for more current information from AES before we can determine if we can pay them anymore from the grant out of what was allocated. Trinkle's still owe them a fairly large amount of money so they are not willing to do anything further.

Brotherhood Farm: Calf Pad certified by Jason at AES in December; As-Built surveys are in the office for this BMP and payments were made to Houser's for this practice. Korb's did go back and do the required seeding and mulching, and Barry said he received some payment from Houser's and would bring in a copy of the check. We have not seen it yet. Dave L poured roll curbs; Ben can clarify on this. We should be able to make an engineering payment to AES on this project for the manure storage and calf pad.

Round 19: Bob will report on progress on this grant.

Round 20:

Red Top Farm has completed one component of the manure storage. Aaron Weiss is working on the drawings for the as-built on it now, he will be sending them and invoices shortly. The design plans from Aaron Weiss for the "covered barnyard" are in the office now. We have a few questions already. These will need to be reviewed with the engineer. Ken Thomas was in with bids that were submitted for his project, and also brought in receipts. After some miscommunications with Aaron we made an engineering payment for the first component completed on Ken's project (the small waster transfer system), and we made payment to Ken on a portion of this component as well. I received a phone call on 6-5-15 from Chad Sievers noting that as a part of the consent order against him Ken was required to have closed the waste storage at the Diplock Facility by June 1 of this year, and as far as he knew it had not been done yet. I told him we were not aware of this deadline and would check into the timeline in our plan of work documents to see if it corresponded. Chad did say that the contents of the consent order may not have been conveyed to the district. I asked if his CAFO planner Mike Contessa was aware of the timeline and Chad stated that Ken had apparently not been paying Mike Contessa recently *so.....*

Round 21: We have heard that due to issues with being able to remove information from the Grants Gateway the reviewing committee has been slowed up a little so the timeline for the Round 21 is looking like this, the ranking list is proposed to come out late July early August and the contracts will potentially be generated in December 2015 or January 2016. Sounds like the timeline is still the same; we contacted our applicants and let them know this information. No new information on this front.

AEM: Annual Action Plan submitted and accepted, 2015 to 2020 Strategic Plan Submitted May 4th and receipt confirmed by Greg Albrecht have not heard any feedback on it as of this time. Annual reports due in July.

Tree and Shrub Program: Finally got rid of the rest of the trees; Ben suggested we put the remainder on Craig's list as some other districts have done and this generated a few more sales. Maybe a good idea to plan to do in conjunction with the sale dates next year.

Fish Program: We had 19 customers for fish this year plus on person who was late for the Saratoga County pickup time. The totals for fish were 420 largemouth bass, 225 channel catfish, 150 rainbow trout, 3500 fathead minnows, and 15 grass carp.

Municipal Assistance: White Creek Watershed Meeting at DPW; site visit with Rick Hobus Dresden DPW for Pike Brook bridge replacement permit assistance; site visit with Stan Mattison and Cossayuna Lake Association for culvert replacement permit assistance and erosion and sediment control questions on East Lake Road.

Landowner Assistance: Working on stream permits for various landowners.

No Till Drills: Deliveries and pickups from farmers while Bob was on vacation. The Haybuster had a breakdown involving the dolly wheel on the front, parts have been ordered and the drill should be up and running the beginning of next week we hope. They have both been quite busy and interest and use is continuing later into the planting season.

Meetings Attended: Mettawee River/Granville residents meeting; CWICNY; RC&D conference call; RCPP prioritization meeting; Cossayuna Lake Association meeting.

Manager's Meeting in Ray Brook: Biggest change we heard about was the due dates of the Annual Plan of Work. Historically due in Albany by April 1st, when our calendar year starts on January 1st this does not make sense, so the State Committee will look into changing the timeline in Performance Measures and look at a due date of November 1, 2015 to the State Committee for the 2016 Annual Plan of Work. Other topics included large scale manure spills, Climate Resilient Farming Program, Invasive Species regulations and the districts' tree and shrub sales, Job Approval Authority. Agenda included in your binder.

Hired Megan McWhorter as a Summer intern; she is a student in Environmental Science at UNH and will be working on two main projects for the district - Roadside Erosion Assessments for the Upper Hudson WQIP grant, and the CWICNY DOS grant for Subwatershed Assessments and Prioritization. This will help the district greatly in getting this work done for these grants. The district will be reimbursed for her time on these projects through the grants. Megan will be working from June 1 to August 14th. We will get her out for some other activities in the field as well. A copy of Megan's resume is your binder as well.

Upcoming:

CWICNY and Essex County 50th Anniversary Celebration, 6-18

RC&D conference call, 6-23

WAVE Training Ballston Spa, 6-26

Adirondack Lakes Alliance July 28th at Paul Smith's; we can be reimbursed for attending this through the CWICNY DOS Grant - Megan and I would like to register for this event

I have charged Ben with following Hoosick River Watershed Associations activities and attending a few of the smaller watershed meetings within the watershed so we can be in touch with them and get a relationship started to benefit both of those organizations as well as the Upper Hudson Coalition.

Game of Logging Trainings scheduled for October with ASA registrations starting this spring. Had a discussion with Janet Britt of some possible locations for holding the trainings; she and I came up with a list of folks to contact and have started reaching out to them.