

District Manager's Report – Corrina Aldrich – 03/23/2018

Round 17 - Site visits conducted and paperwork has been submitted and reviewed by Brian S. waiting to hear from Bethany on concurrence.

Round 18 - Ben is wrapping up some loose ends with bid paperwork from Dave Langenback; SW forms have been submitted for initial review by Brian Steinmuller.

Round 19 - Payment on Final Voucher came into accounts on March 5th and Final Payment made to Dave Swezey on March 6th.

Round 20 - We still need to do the final spring field follow-up and review with the farms before we can close it out, so probably in April/May. Waiting for winter to loosen its hold!

Round 21 - Have not received any response from Army Corp for permit; will email Brad Sherwood for follow-up to make sure we are okay with them to proceed with the River bank project this summer.

Round 22 - Payment processed; I am working on a Permit for Army Corp needed for the manure storage construction behind the barns which will be done next summer.

Round 23 - We received the 25% advance for projects on March 22nd - Ideal Dairy construction this summer?? Heritage Hill is working through the EQIP process and some questions on related practices in the CNMP.

Round 24 - Have started talking with farms and planners to discuss needs and figure strategy, RFP is on hold and has been rescheduled for release in March and potentially be due in June- **Still waiting on release of the RFP.**

Some items of importance - Geological considerations and review on NRCS funded projects and what change to the 313 standard means to us - and also due to the CAFO Waste Funding and various other pots of money that are available to do manure storage related practices, and reduce interval between the different RFP's the CAFO planners and Engineers are all straight out, therefore it is very important for farms to keep their bills paid and current, get on engineers work list early in order to have projects move forward in a timely manner. This is being felt across the whole state. Staff is currently strategizing for Round 24 and CAFO Waste Storage Funding Round 2, which we plan to pass on at this time, but feel that we have a couple farms that could be submitted for satellite storage consideration in Round 3 - Twin Brooks and Chambers Valley.

CAFO Waste Storage Funding - Waiting for the state contract process, we have two farms (Fullertons and McEachrons) who are very anxious to get started, and we have met with Deep Roots and Mike Contessa on moving forward with their project, hiring an engineer and other requirements they have for CAFO compliance.

State Funds - Part A reimbursement of \$60,000 has been sent out and we received word that we met our Part C performance measures standards **thank you to the directors** and are eligible for the full reimbursement for this coming year which is \$87,882 and change which we should be seeing in the not so distant future. Staff ideas that have been generated to spend this money on besides the Fort Edward IBA Habitat Management Proposal and continued sediment basin purchases for town and county projects.

AEM - Bob will report on.

RCPP/RCD - Quarterly report due 3/30/18.

RCPP/VT - Still working on eligibility and practice list with Heritage Hill Farm, we should have some extra funds available from Essex County.

Municipal Assistance - Working with several Town Highway Supervisors in the Champlain Watershed on RRAMP application forms to be submitted to CWICNY by April 6th - funds are eligible for planning and erosion control project implementation projects. Have also talked with Hartford and Fort Ann Fire Department about Dry Hydrant projects; potential assistance could be provided through Part C??

Landowner Assistance - Several pond site review requests in already and some water testing questions in regards to the PFOA's that have been discovered in the Kingsbury area.

Water Quality Symposium March 13-16th Annual Training -Attended several very good workshops, received my 10 year pin; Cory Nellis from Montgomery County was the Fred Croney Award Winner.

Attended the HAB summit in Ticonderoga on March 20th with John Dickinson and Kate Ziehm-very interesting and will likely have an impact on some of our funding in a positive way due to need to lessen nutrient loading in lakes for continued water quality. My supposition is we may need to demonstrate or stress that a project will reduce nutrient loads in a waterbody and therefore help reduce potential for HABS.

No-till drill discussion

Upcoming

3-27-2018 Water Quality Coordinating Committee meeting

3-29-18 Hudson River Citizens Advisory Group Meeting

3-30-2018 Meeting with Al Nolette and Chris Debolt from the county to continue conversation on our financials, budgeting and planning for the future

4-2-18 Poultney Mettawee Conservation District Annual Meeting at Green Mountain College

4-4 to 4-9 time off

4-29-18 Tree and Shrub Sale

5-2-2018 Envirothon