

MINUTES
ORANGE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 22nd, 2026

The **MEETING** was **CALLED TO ORDER** by the Chairman at 9:06 AM. Directors J. Wright (remotely), P. DeBlock, B. Cheney (remotely), P. Ruskiewicz and G. Constable were present along with K. Sumner (SWCD), M. Held (SWCD), E. King (SWCD), and M. Martire (NRCS.)

Election of officers was moved to the first item on the agenda.

2026-1-1 Ruskiewicz made the motion to elect DeBlock Chairwoman, Wright seconded. All in favor

2026-1-2 Ruskiewicz nominated Constable for Vice Chairman, seconded by DeBlock. All in favor.

2026-1-3 DeBlock nominated Wright for Board Treasurer, seconded by Ruskiewicz. All in favor.

2026-1-4 Ruskiewicz nominated DeBlock for Assistant Treasurer, seconded by Constable. All in favor.

DeBlock thanked Wright for all his years of service as chairman. Sumner seconded.

2026-1-5 Ruskiewicz made a motion to approve December 2025 minutes, seconded by Constable. All in favor.

ACTIONS TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS Sumner mentioned that the Board approved by email \$500 payment made to the Town of Goshen for the Escrow deposit on Celery Avenue Ledge Lowering project permit review.

Correspondence

Sumner distributed the correspondence as indicated on the meeting agenda to the BOD.

Financial Reports

Sumner explained that the unobligated amount decreased from November's financial report.

2026-1-6 Constable made the motion, Ruskiewicz seconded the motion, to approve December's financial report. All in favor.

Bills to be Paid

Several of the payments this month are coming out of the AEM Round 18 Tier 4 budget. The grant ended in December and needs to be closed out by Feb '26. Some of these AEM T4 payments are additional payments to completed projects after re-allocation of funds from projects that were completed under budget.

2026-1-7 Ruskiewicz made the motion, Constable seconded, to approve the Bills to be Paid for January. All in favor.

Contract Status Report

Sumner was unable to get the contract status report in the mailing last Friday. Sumner cleaned it up for the start of the new year and removed old notes. It reflects a briefer report to start the year with. There was a flurry of financial and construction activity due to the AEM Round 18 contract running out. For more details on the CRF6: Soil health grant (focused on cover crop & residue management), Held has a detailed account as part of her report.

INTERAGENCY REPORTS

NRCS (Martire): Application deadline for 2026 has passed, there are 80 applications. They are receiving some information that CSP will be management practice-focused and EQIP will be focused on structural practices. They are focusing on meeting payment deadline for conservation stewardship project

There were no representatives from SWCC, CCE, FSA, or WCC present at the meeting.

Sumner suggested adding a line on the Agenda for Director reports. It was noted that DeBlock attended the AFPB meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

*Sumner, King, and Held emailed their written staff reports to the Board prior to the meeting for review.

M. Held (SWCD)-

Held provided the Board with a link in her report to the video to see the EM model.

All the planting equipment is back under storage.

For the CIG grant and roller crimper, Erik reported that CCE is ready to order. We have settled on 15 & ½ foot flex wing roller crimper model, for \$28,000. Held has sent Erik the invoice. Held listed four farms who are interested in using the roller crimper for either the District or CCE's program. The farmers planted their fall, 2025 cover crop fairly densely, which gives a better chance of good weed suppression after crimping.

LCSP payments were reviewed. Sumner field-checked Jados cover crop and found their plantings were sufficient. Current budget status would allow for increasing the acreage allocation per farm. A few farms exceeded more than 100 acres of cover crop planted. The budget was \$70k. Held removed the people who initially reached out, but then never followed up. Held provided the Board with the various hypothetical increases to the LCSP cover crop acre limit. Held asked the Board whether they wanted to increase the allocated acreage amount. DeBlock is not opposed to increasing the acreage allocation, but she is concerned that they will get used to the larger acreage amount. The District could emphasize that the District was able cover more acres this year but that may not be possible every year. An alternative to increasing the cap is banking remaining funds for the LCSP program for 2026. Held likes the idea of a 150 limit and there would be a modest excess of funds remaining.

2026-1-8 Wright made a motion to opt for the 150-acre limit for the LCSP, Cheney seconded. All in favor.

King will prepare the additional LCSP cover crop payments for next month.

CRF6 Cover Crop update - some acreage from Jason Touw was revoked from NRCS payment. We picked up what we could from CRF 6. Sumner noted the required sign offs necessary for the payments to be covered by NYS funds from CRF6. Held noted that the District may need to cover some of the residue management payments. Sumner noted that the District can switch cover crop payments to Residue Management to cover the costs, since the practices are addressing the same resource concern. The residue management payments totaled around \$7,000. The amount of payment not spent, would be returned to the State as an unspent fund. Sign offs- NRCS & Travis Ferry are working on the cover crop sign offs which are progressing well. Held would like to close out the CRF 6 grant before March, even though it ends at the end of April. Held attended the webinar for Ag NPS Rnd 31. The CNMP is finished for Jessy Raap and the planner will be sending the plan soon. Raap paid the planner and the District reimbursed him for a portion of

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that payment. \$3,921.25 is the total reimbursement to Raap. Sumner noted that the District planned on paying the bill with the AEM staff time, but decided against it since the staff time reporting for the planner would be cumbersome and all the staff time allocation was easily earned by District staff well before the end of the contract period.

Tier 1s were completed for AEM Round 19 and some stream corridor management plans are being updated. Two requests for funding were noted - Sunnyside Farm & Jukas Stables. Sunnyside Farm is an animal sanctuary in Warwick. They have not been responsive to Held for progressing their funding request. Sunnyside wants a Heavy Use Area Protection project for her cows.

Held is signed up for 3 more CCA tests in February.

The District received the license plates for the new truck with help from Ruskiewicz.

Held is going to talk to her doctor about staying until March.

E. King (SWCD)-

King referred the Board to her written report.

Sumner (SWCD)

The Bastek easement (Wallkill Bench Phase 4 North) closing took place, we made two payments, for 2025 & 2026. We won't have any more payments until 2027, unless they want to accelerate the payments, which is a possibility with the payment agreement. Sumner recommends allocating more funds to the DFS from 2026 Part C funds.

Celery Avenue Ledge Lowering Project - There are some ongoing delays to the Project, including permitting from the Town of Goshen. Sumner reminded the town that they collected consulting reviews in 2015 for the same project and never issued a finding. He asked them to provide something in writing that they planned to return a finding if we forwarded payments for their consultants to review the permit request. No response to this request was received. The work plan is under review at the DOS and our contact still thinks it will be April or May for the approved contract. Sumner is using the contractor procurement procedures used with Ag & Markets. DOS contact indicated that if a signed contract existed with construction contractor before the start date of DOS-SWCD grant contract, we would not be subject to DOS requirements such as MWBE. Attorney Richard Hoyt is reviewing a draft request for proposals Sumner prepared, which Sumner wants to distribute ASAP so a contractor selection could potentially be approved by the Board at our February meeting. Sumner will provide the RFP to DOS once it is finalized. Sumner would like to make the Celery Ledge Lowering project one of our AEM Round 19 Tier 4 Implementation projects. This will help to ensure that we have ample funding for costs that exceed the DOS grant. If receiving AEM funding, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee Procurement requirements will be followed. Sumner wants to reconfirm with Shuback that he will be the project's sponsor. Should things fall in place, it would potentially allow for construction this winter or summer 2026.

Agricultural Project Funding – We use an open application process, but periodically put something out to shake the bushes. We did so recently, with a deadline of Feb 1 so that applications could be considered for near-term funding opportunities. Recent posting did not seem to generate new applications. We already had about a dozen farms interested, but some may not qualify due to funding criteria, or due to lack of confirmation from the applicant that they are ready to proceed. A Preliminary estimate of \$800k in applications was noted. Near term opportunities that are driving current project reviews are AEM Rnd 19 (\$300k in this 3-year contract) – we have until May 1 to allocate these funds, and AgNPS grants round 31 – applications due in April. We will have more projects than the Rnd 19 budget allows.

We will need to have a internal review and ranking process after Feb 1st as to which projects will be viable for AEM Rnd 19 or competitive funding (Ag NPS Rnd 31.) We are still waiting on award announcements from CRF Rnd 9- where we requested funding for Raap Pack Barn and Pine Island Turf Nursery Irrigation Water Management.

Revision of the Walkkill Maintenance Agreement- Warwick has taken the necessary actions which Sumner forwarded to Joe Mahoney. Sumner has been in communication with Wawayanda, but there is confusion about the proposed amendment. No word from Town of Goshen or the Town of Minisink. Sumner expressed frustration with trying to determine the Fund balance from OC DPW, and in general with attempting to progress the pending Amendment.

Sumner did reconnaissance for the River maintenance program with our regular contractor on 1/15. In addition to flagging typical maintenance points like trees in the River, severe bank erosion sites threatening the Project access road were noted. Addressing these sites would involve substantial expense. Access to the River near Celery Avenue is difficult, due to need to navigate through residential properties on the Celery Avenue side. On the other side of the river there is no clear maintenance road and there are ditches with no culvert crossings. After walking the section that runs parallel to Onion Ave to Celery Ledge site, it was determined that adding four new culverts would allow for accessing the River from the Onion Avenue side. This would also provide alternate access route to the ledge project site. The shortest route to the site would require approval from two landowners to traverse. Sumner does not see Gantz – one of the landowners - having a problem with the proposed access route, which would allow them access to the river. Sumner wants to be respectful to the landowners, even where a formal easement is already in place. Sumner will write to Gantz to apprise him of the proposed culvert work, and will send a copy of the letter to Brian Ford who has rented the land in case he has any input. Sumner received a quote from the contractor in the amount of \$15k. to install the four needed culverts. This work was discussed and determined to be within the current parameters of the Maintenance Agreement. Sumner will notify the contractor that the work can be scheduled.

Ag NPS Rnd 27- Sumner did not want to do a second time extension on this grant, but decided to request a one-year time extension. In particular, the District has invested time and money into two secondary fuel containment projects in this grant, which included significant engineering consultant fees. Given the current weather conditions, Sumner is concerned that the projects will not be finished by the current March 1st deadline. Sumner needs recommitment letters from the participants with remaining work to provide to the NYSSWCC at their February meeting. In addition to the two fuel storage projects, Winslow Therapeutic has some additional Project work whose completion would be facilitated by the time extension, as would the Soudant barnyard project.

Miller Farm Easement Violations - The Town of Montgomery is giving the landowner until the end of January to respond to the Town's Violation letter. DeBlock asked for a complete listing of the protected farms in Orange County at the Ag Farmland Board so that the District and others can help monitor potential violations. Sumner predicts that DeBlock will need to ask for this again at the Feb meeting for AFPB. Sumner feels it is an appropriate job for the Planning Department.

Farmland Protection - It was noted at the AFPB that the County is providing the Land Trust with \$150k annually for work on farmland PDR's.

Sumner pitched the idea of a joint PDR application from the County Ag Board & the District for the O'Dell farm since OCLT has indicated it won't be able to work on the O'Dell project this year, but Alan Sorensen said that the County would likely not be able to help with a project benefiting an individual unless it was preceded by some kind of request for proposals. There is still an issue of friction between the Land Trust staff and the O'Dell's. Sumner noted that the application process is very time consuming, but if the County was willing to work with the District then Sumner would be willing to work on it. Sumner also noted at the AFPB that he thinks landowner inquiries about PDR on farmland should initially go to the Ag Board unless the Town is going to sponsor the application. Sumner feels that

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the Ag Board is better suited to screen these applications than the Land Trust. Marie Ullrich stated at the AFPB meeting that the Ag Board tried to do this several times and it never worked. Neither Ruskiewicz nor Wright can recall the AFPB ever trying to perform this role. Sumner is hoping that Paula will contribute to more succinct discussions at the AFPB meetings. Sumner reviewed the AFPB enabling legislation, and found that the Soil and Water Chairman can appoint an employee of the Conservation District to go in their stead and vote on matters.

Sumner reviewed the current status of the current NYS FPIG program round and found that only one project was listed for the Mid-Hudson region, with \$6 million available.

NYSA&M has a standard farmland easement that is not required to be used, but which is considered to be farm-friendly. Sumner suggested that use of this easement should be given more attention for Orange County projects as opposed to other templates that are not necessarily designed to be farm-friendly.

Martire mentioned that the USDA has Agricultural Land Easement program, which requires that the application still needs to go through Land Trust or Town, which is a new priority of Secretary Rollins. The federal money could go towards easements.

Soil Group Worksheet Charges - In February '25 the Board discussed the SGW charges. At that time, Sumner provided a calculation on staff time cost per SGW. By motion the fee was increased to \$100 starting March 1st 2025 and then increased to \$125 come January 1st 2026. The Board advised that the District staff use discretion of cost amount for those applications from farmers that make their primary income comes from farming. Sumner suggested adding a question to our SGW information sheet asking if the applicant makes their primary income from farming. Held expressed concern that the people may not be honest when it comes to answering the question. Sumner suggested that we reserve the right to request further documentation regarding the farm. Sumner drafted the following ****Are you going to be qualifying with the town assessor on your own income or a rental agreement?**** Held asked whether they could merge both the question and the check box. DeBlock reiterated that the District will do more clarification on the SGW form. This could get tricky, since we believe that many applicants think they will apply as the owner-operator and so could avoid paying the SGW preparation fee, then do not meet the assessor's requirements for owner-operator. By this time, it would be difficult to recoup the SGW preparation fee.

2026 Budget - Sumner made some tweaks to the 2026 Budget that was originally prepared in June, 2025 - before our budget paperwork was due to be submitted to Orange County. Sumner would like the revised Budget to be formally approved by the Board. The main changes were switching \$450,000 from County Appropriation Request to State Revenue per discussion at County Executive Budget Hearing, and updates to Salary Expense based on Salary Table adjustments approved by the Board in December, 2025.

2026-1-9 On a motion by Ruskiewicz, seconded by Constable, the Revised 2026 Budget was approved, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of policies

Sumner realized that the Provisions of Employment is vague on the comp time policy. Sumner is suggesting that comp time is not allowable to be carried over into the next year, but instead be used closer to when it was accrued. The current Provisions of Employment indicate that earning comp time should be discussed with the District Manager. Sumner does not think that the District staff should lose their comp time that they accrued from previous years because of the vagueness in the current policy on this point. Held commented that she is not in favor of not carrying over comp time since it is accrued hour by hour, compared to annual/sick leave. DeBlock noted that comp time should be requested ahead of time and be approved. DeBlock suggested that you use it within 30 days or it is lost. Cheney commented that it could become a bookkeeping nightmare to carry it over.

2026-1-10 DeBlock made a motion to change the Provisions of Employment policy to indicate that comp time is to be used within 30 days and needs to be prior approved, seconded by Constable. All in favor.

Sumner distributed the 2025 District staff annual leave summaries. Sumner noted that the auditors ask to see them. They track potential financial obligations that the District needs to be aware of.

AgNPS Round 27 Contract Time Extension – was discussed earlier in the meeting.

2026-1-11 On a motion by Ruskiewicz, seconded by Constable, Resolution No.: agnps-2026-1 Requesting a time extension for New York State Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (ANPSACP) Round 27 contract was approved, all in favor.

Potential New Hire – Sumner met with Kristen Brown, who previously worked for the District from 2007 to 2015, regarding a possible part-time position working for the District again. She would like to work Tuesday – Thursday, 20 hours, a week. This would be an hourly arrangement, not salaried. There are specifics, such as work scope and wage, that he needs to clarify before an offer to hire is made. Sumner feels that this may be done fairly easily, especially since there are open District Technician positions on the District’s roster with the County. Sumner does not know how the District Technician test would work in this scenario or if a test is even needed.

We did not budget for an additional position this year, but Sumner feels we could accommodate it with the understanding that the funds would essentially be taken from unobligated sources such as the Part C fund. Less money would be available for direct project costs, but other benefits can be expected to accrue from having additional staff resources. Kristen still has her CCA certification which could allow the District to request more staff time money in future AEM contracts. This appointment will need to be reevaluated once the budgetary concerns are reviewed more closely. Wright asked Sumner whether he has considered benefits for Kristen. He believes that she will have to enroll in State retirement, but does not think the District will provide health insurance. There are compost and residue management projects/practices that are currently in limbo largely because of our current lack of a CCA-certified staff person, so these could be assigned to Kristen. The District would need to make it clear that this would be a provisional appointment. Sumner feels that the District has some discretion on setting an hourly wage.

2026-1-12 Ruskiewicz made a motion, seconded by Wright, to authorize Sumner to negotiate a salary and hiring of Kristen Brown as a part time provisional employee. All in favor.

Next meeting date: February 17th.

ADJOURNMENT

2026-1-13 Ruskiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:01 AM, seconded by Constable. All in favor.

Minutes Prepared By:

Kevin Sumner, Conservation District Manager
Emily King, Secretary to the Board

January, 2026

Wallkill Flood Projects –

Floodplain Bench

Bastek (Phase 4 North) Easement closing was completed on 12/29/25 at Hill-n-Dale Abstractors in Goshen. Two of five planned ‘installment’ payments were made at the closing (2025 and 2026 payments). Seller has the option of requesting accelerated payment schedule, so we need to be prepared for this possibility. I suggest adding to the Bastek Easement Dedicated Fund once we receive our 2026 ‘Part C’ funding.

Celery Avenue ledge lowering project – DOS is processing the Work Plan, they are still indicating contract may not be in place until April or May. I have formally asked Rich Hoyt to assist me in oversight of the Project and Grant. Regarding procurement procedures for construction contractor, DOS says if construction contract is in place before contract, we will not be subject to MWBE requirements. I propose that we include this project as one of our AEM 19 Tier projects, and determine what amount of AEM funding to allocate Shuback Farms has previously agreed to be the ‘farm sponsor’ of the project. We would then proceed to follow NYSSWCC Procurement procedures in selecting a construction contractor. I have prepared draft ‘RFP’ materials and provided them to Hoyt for review. Once that review is completed, I will provide them to DOS to ensure they are fully aware of how we are approaching selection of contractor. If possible, I would like to set the RFP dates to allow for Board review and approval of contractor selection at February Board meeting.

We have submitted an escrow deposit of \$500 to the Town of Goshen for review of Floodplain Development Permit application. See ‘correspondence outgoing from District’ for background of how we arrived at making this deposit.

Carbon Farming Project – Still waiting on final payment of \$4,268.32 on Southway project.

AEM Round 18 – We are in the process of closing out this contract that ended 12/31/2025. Close out materials are due to NYSSWCC by 2/27. I am focused on the seven construction projects funded through this contract. I have re-allocated some funds from projects that came in under budget to projects that went over budget. The payments associated with this re-allocation are on the Bills for this month, see numbers 3,4 and 5. There is still one project that has not submitted any bills. Mary is point on other aspects of AEM 18 close out.

AEM Round 19 – This will be a three-year contract, unlike 18 which was two years. The total amount of the contract is \$599,500, with \$300,000 allocated to projects/farm payments and the remainder allocated to staff time and other testing expenses. We have submitted a Claim for Payment for 25% of the staff time portion of the contract. We have until May to decide which farm projects we want to include for construction project funding. See suggestion under Celery Avenue project update.

CRF Round 7 - We wanted to close out the Shuback irrigation grant and collect the 10% funding hold back. But because we estimated 600 acres would be included in the Irrigation Water Management Plan associated with the grant and the equipment purchased through the grant was only used on 150 acres, State Committee wants us to wait until more acreage can be certified before we close the grant out.

Revision of Walkkill Maintenance Agreement –I am continuing to follow up with the four towns in effort to get the necessary signatures and resolutions to the County Attorney’s office. This is proving to be frustrating. As far as I know, only one town – Warwick – has completed an appropriate resolution and signed Agreement Amendment. We still do not know the balance in the Fund after initially asking for it from DPW in November, 2025, nor do we know if partners will make their full payment for 2026 or if their invoice will be reduced according to the procedures in place before the pending second amendment.

AgNPS Round 27 -

Contractor has been selected for both Wieboldt and Soudant Secondary Containment Fuel Storage projects. These projects need to be completed before March 1, so it is getting a little dicey, especially since there is some concrete work that needs to be completed.

Soudant – Construction continuing on barnyard project, estimated 75% complete. Weather has hampered completion. This project also needs to be completed by 3/1.

Winslow –. There has been some construction activity on their remaining projects, and some expense statements submitted.

Troy Vellenga funding will get returned to NYS.

Contract end date – March, 2026. A second time extension request is in progress.

AgNPS Round 29 –. No activity to report

Equipment Planning

Skoufis Equipment Funding –Contacted OCFB president, who initiated the equipment funding request, to update him on stalled contract. He indicated that he will follow up with Skoufis’ office.

Miller Farm Easement Violations

Town has retained a litigator, and has given violator until end of Jan to submit mitigation plan

Other Items

All staff working on end of year reports due to NYSSWCC and Comptroller’s office by 2/15.

Emily and I had a 2+ hour conference with our insurance agent to go over policy details. On item identified was the current limits we have on employee practices claims (\$10,00/incident). He will provide a proposal for increasing these limits.

O’Dell PDR – Is on the AFPB Agenda for 1/21/26. I would like to continue discussion of SWCD role in promoting an application for this Project in 2026.

Emily King

Secretary to the Board Update

1/20/26

With the arrival of the new year, my attention has been focused on completing the various annual reports, etc. I completed and submitted the 1099 forms and have mailed them to the recipients. I updated my Excel workbook which outlines the steps I took, and the payments made to the various farmers and professionals. My to do list includes preparing the W-2s for District employees, submitting the 4th Quarter 941 & NYS-1 reports, 2025 Annual Treasurer's Report, and Part A report. I have full faith in my ability to complete these assignments in a timely manner.

I have received a few phone calls regarding soil group worksheets, collected the needed information, and shared it with Mary to assist her in the process. I listened in with Kevin on the call with David from Sidle Insurance regarding our various policies.

Also, I updated the 2026 payroll sheets and salary table after receiving approval from the Board to do so at December's meeting. These updates were reviewed and approved by Kevin. I emailed the District's 2026 payroll sheet, as well as the updated appointing authority form to Shannon Morgan at the County's Department of Human Resources. I supplied the needed information, submitted, and paid the District's NYS Statutory Disability & Paid Family Leave to Shelterpoint.

Furthermore, I emailed Gina at the Department of Public Works with questions regarding the District's Wallkill Maintenance account on 12/5. I asked her what the current balance of the account is. It was not until 1/5/26 that I got a response from her supervisor, Melinda, who wrote, "*Normally the fund balance is calculated at the beginning of the year from our Finance Department after the Audit has been completed. Were you sent the fund balance from the beginning of 2025? I know there was some confusion as this is something I don't calculate.*" I searched through my past emails and found that in May '25 they told me the as of 12/31/24 there was \$47,192.59 in the account. I shared this information with Melinda on 1/5/26, but have not received a response.

NYSLRS distributed a mandatory informational video pertaining to the newly released Accrued Payments and Leave Credits page. I watched this video which explains the changes to the steps necessary when submitting an employee's final report prior to retirement. I filled out the acknowledgement survey which notified NYSLRS that the District completed the required activity.

Lastly, I prepared the profit and loss report for December via QBO and added the 2025 budget. I updated the online bank accounts to reflect the total listed on December's Dedicated Fund Summary. I began tracking the District's cash contribution from the District to farm projects in closer detail on the DFS as well. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Best,

Emily

OCSWCD Technician Update

Mary C. Held

1/16/2026

Intro:

Happy New Year!

Still pregnant. Still on track for a due date March 17th-ish.

- Em2 (base model) of EmRiver Portable Stream Table
 - o <https://youtu.be/Q42i9yNbwHI?si=NHuvwwgQ-QfdQAWI>

Equipment:

Kevin retrieved 2022 no-till seeder from Lombardo

All equipment in storage with O'Dell, awaiting service for 2026 planting season. Ronnie won't be back until April.

CIG Grant R/C:

Going back and forth with I&J. Total cost for flex-wing 15.5' R/C is \$28,000. Forwarded invoice to Erik.

Project Roller Crimper Plan for 2026:

Jason Touw (CIG)

- Farm 2680 tract 8843 Field 1 (rye)
- Farm 1360 tract 7407 Field 45 (rye)

Alex Ronne

- Farm 1433 tract 791 field 3 (rye)

Phil Johnson

- Farm 2864 tract 8752 field 6 (rye)

Mike O'Dell (CIG and SWCD R/C)

- Spray Only:
 - o Tract 755 field 25
 - o Tract 755 field 9
 - o Tract 9606 field 16 (half)
 - o CRANBERRY HOLLOW, ~3.65 ac
- Crimping:
 - o Tract 9606 field 16 (half), 17, 18, 30, 31

LCSP:

Please see bills to be paid for 2026 Payments on CC planted in Fall 2025.

- Jados payment: 100 ac, \$7,000.00

- Mike O'Dell Payment: 100, \$7,000

Please see below LCSP spreadsheets for more information. We have toyed in the past with the idea of upping the CC acreage limit after allocation. I have noted which farms have reported more than the allocated CC acreages and what their potential cost to us and their impact on the LCSP budget would be.

2025-2026 Cover Crop Paid and Potential Spending

updated farm requests - removed those who have not been in contact since sept/oct 2025	Req	ss/ ms	total	100 ac allocation *paid OR TBP JAN'26	cost	125 ac alloc	cost
Mike O'Dell*	190	ss	\$ 13,300.00	100	\$ 7,000.00	125	\$ 8,750.00
Mark Hoyt	50	ss	\$ 3,500.00	47.91	\$ 3,353.70	47.91	\$ 3,353.70
Alex Ronne	5.63	ss	\$ 394.10	5.63	\$ 394.10	5.63	\$ 394.10
Alex Ronne	24.11	m/s	\$ 2,049.35	24.11	\$ 2,049.35	24.11	\$ 2,049.35
Gary Glowascewski*	275	ss	\$ 19,250.00	100	\$ 7,000.00	125	\$ 8,750.00
Chuck Rowe*	200	ss	\$ 17,000.00	100	\$ 7,000.00	125	\$ 8,750.00
Tom Minkus*	100	ss	\$ 7,000.00	100	\$ 7,000.00	125	\$ 8,750.00
George Vellenga	30	ss	\$ 2,100.00	29.32	\$ 2,052.40	29.32	\$ 2,052.40
John King	5	ss	\$ 350.00	2.75	\$ 192.50	2.75	\$ 192.50
Joe Jados*	100	ss	\$ 7,000.00	100	\$ 7,000.00	125	\$ 8,750.00
totals			\$ 71,943.45		\$ 43,042.05		\$ 51,792.05

updated farm requests - removed those who have not been in contact since sept/oct 2025
Mike O'Dell*
Mark Hoyt
Alex Ronne
Alex Ronne
Gary Glowascewski*
Chuck Rowe*
Tom Minkus*
George Vellenga
John King
Joe Jados*

150 ac alloc	cost	175 ac alloc	cost
150	\$ 10,500.00	175	\$ 12,250.00
47.91	\$ 3,353.70	47.91	\$ 3,353.70
5.63	\$ 394.10	5.63	\$ 394.10
24.11	\$ 2,049.35	24.11	\$ 2,049.35
150	\$ 10,500.00	175	\$ 12,250.00
150	\$ 10,500.00	175	\$ 12,250.00
150	\$ 10,500.00	175	\$ 12,250.00
29.32	\$ 2,052.40	29.32	\$ 2,052.40
2.75	\$ 192.50	2.75	\$ 192.50
150	\$ 10,500.00	150	\$ 10,500.00
totals	\$ 60,542.05		\$ 67,542.05

Paid:

Allocated budget:		\$ 70,000.00
spent		\$ 43,042.05
remaining		\$ 26,957.95

Scenarios if we increase the budget:

125 cap

Additional Acreage	125 cap	paid	Acres This Payment	amt reimbursable
Mike O'Dell	125	100	25	\$ 1,750.00
Gary Glowaczewski	125	100	25	\$ 1,750.00
Chuck Rowe	125	100	25	\$ 1,750.00
Tom Minkus	125	100	25	\$ 1,750.00
Joe & Lou Jados	125	100	25	\$ 1,750.00
Potential Additional Money spent				\$ 8,750.00

Allocated budget:		\$ 70,000.00
spent +	125 cap	\$ 51,792.05
remaining		\$ 18,207.95

150 cap

Additional Acreage	150	paid	Acres This Payment	amt reimbursable
Mike O'Dell	150	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Gary Glowaczewski	150	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Chuck Rowe	150	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Tom Minkus	150	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Joe & Lou Jados	150	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Potential Additional Money Spent				\$ 17,500.00

Allocated budget:		\$ 70,000.00
spent +	150 cap	\$ 60,542.05
remaining		\$ 9,457.95

175 cap

Additional Acreage	175	paid	Acres This Payment	amt reimbursable
Mike O'Dell	175	100	75	\$ 5,250.00
Gary Glowaczewski	175	100	75	\$ 5,250.00
Chuck Rowe	175	100	75	\$ 5,250.00
Tom Minkus	175	100	75	\$ 5,250.00
Joe & Lou Jados	175	100	50	\$ 3,500.00
Potential Additional Money Spent				\$ 24,500.00

Allocated budget:		\$ 70,000.00
spent +	175 cap	\$ 67,542.05
remaining		\$ 2,457.95

Paid Cost Breakdown per Month Until This Point:

Planted	allocated		acres planted	date	amt reimbursible
Mark Hoyt	50	ss	24.64	10/2/2025	\$ 1,724.80
Tom Minkus	100	ss	100	10/2/2025	\$ 7,000.00
George Vellenga	30	ss	29.32	10/2/2025	\$ 2,052.40
Chuck Rowe	100	ss	100	9/25/2025	\$ 7,000.00
Gary Glowaczewski (R&G)	100	ss	100	10/10/2025	\$ 7,000.00
total planted Oct 2025 payments					\$ 24,777.20

Planted since 10/20	allocated		acres planted	date	amt reimbursible
Mark Hoyt	50	ss	23.27	after 10/20	\$ 1,628.90
total planted Nov 2025 payments					\$ 1,628.90

Reported since Nov board meeting	allocated		acres planted	date	amt reimbursible
Alex Ronne	100	ms	29.74	11/1/2025	\$ 2,443.45
John King	5	ss	2.75	10/8/2025	\$ 192.50
total Dec 2025 payments					\$ 2,635.95

Reported since Dec	Allocated	acres planted	date	amt reimbursible
Mike O'Dell	100	185	10/15-11/19	\$ 7,000.00
Joe & Lou Jados	100	100	9/15/-9/20	\$ 7,000.00
Total Jan 2026 Payment				\$ 14,000.00

CRF Update:

Round 6:

Please see updated spreadsheet of CRF6 allocated funding versus paid and remaining. Note only change since last month is payment of Jason Touw CC.

CRF6 ALLOCATED FUNDS vs. Paid and remaining

Red indicates a negative balance in CRF6 allowed budget, we are proposing to cover these costs in the 2025 LCSP budget

	Practice	State Allocated	paid 2022	paid 2023	paid 2024	paid 2025	Paid 2026	Total	Remaining
Alex Kocot	cover crop	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 11,963.70	\$ 8,260.00	\$ 10,441.15			\$ 30,664.85	\$11,335
	Reduced tillage	\$ 3,300.00						\$ -	\$3,300
4	Soil Health assessment	\$ 460.00		\$ 460.00				\$ 460.00	\$0
Jason Touw	cover crop	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,469.30	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 2,933.70	\$ 695.80	\$ 584.50	\$ 7,363.30	(\$3,163)
	reduced tillage	\$ 1,320.00		\$ 516.66				\$ 516.66	\$803
2	soil health assessment	\$ 230.00			\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00		\$ 520.00	(\$290)
Philip Johnson	cover crop	\$ 31,500.00		\$ 10,150.00	\$ 4,538.80	\$ 1,206.80		\$ 15,895.60	\$15,604
	reduced	\$ 9,900.00			\$ 4,615.82			\$ 4,615.82	\$5,284
4	soil health assessment	\$ 460.00		\$ 260.00		\$ 260.00		\$ 520.00	(\$60)

Robert Stap		cover crop	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 1,794.80	\$ 1,152.90		\$ 2,947.70	\$202	
		reduced tillage	\$ 990.00		\$ 854.48		\$ 854.48	\$136	
	2	soil health assessment	\$ 230.00		\$ 130.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 260.00	(\$30)	
Russell Smiley		cover crop	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 2,030.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,706.05	\$ 2,260.60	\$ 7,256.65	(\$4,107)
		reduced tillage	\$ 2,310.00		\$ 1,166.00	\$ 770.00	\$ 1,936.00	\$374	
	2	soil health assessment	\$ 230.00		\$ 260.00		\$ 260.00	(\$30)	
Keith Stewart		soil carbon amendment	\$ 2,445.00		\$ 54.30		\$ 54.30	\$2,391	
	2	soil health assessment	\$ 230.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 690.00	(\$460)	
	2	compost testing	\$ 80.00		\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 120.00	(\$40)
	4	basic soil nutrient testing	\$ 80.00		\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00	\$0	
Matthew Southway		soil carbon amendment	\$ 4,890.00				\$ -	\$4,890	
	2	soil health assessment	\$ 230.00	\$ 260.00		\$ 130.00	\$ 390.00	(\$160)	
	2	compost testing	\$ 80.00		\$ 40.00		\$ 40.00	\$40	
	4	basic soil nutrient testing	\$ 80.00		\$ 60.00		\$ 60.00	\$20	

pink highlight is yet to be accomplished

total **\$36,040**

Jan 2026 Payments:

Jason Touw – acreage ejected from USDA/NRCS contract, total bill to be paid this month is \$584.50

As of now, total remaining \$\$\$ unspent in CRF6 grant = **\$36,624**

In terms of sign-off, I had indication from Travis Ferry that what I was supplying for sign off was sufficient. After providing maps to NRCS, they have indicated at least one CC package I sent them was sufficient for sign off.

Contract end date: March 2026, trying to have close-out prepared for mid-Feb.

Round 9: No update. Jessy Raap and Chip Lain applications were submitted. I've been told to expect notifications about this grant in February. If Jessy Raap has not been funded through this grant round, we will submit through AGNPS.

AGNPS Update:

Round 27: Contract End Date: March 2026 (was extended)

- No update from technician, Kevin told me he was working on AGNPS extension

Round 29:

- No update from technician.

AEM Update:

Jessy Raap CNMP: Final CNMP was emailed to us this month. I have informed Jessy that he will be responsible for paying total bill of CNMP with reimbursement from our office.

The breakdown of responsibility goes:

Total Bill: \$5,802.50

- \$2,040.00: OCSWCD AEM
- \$1,881.25: OCSWCD 50% remaining
- \$1,881.25: J. Raap 50% remaining, total responsibility after reimbursement

Total Reimbursement of CNMP from OCSWCD to J. Raap this month: \$3,921.25

Round 18:

- Contract End Date: Dec 31st, 2025
- Contract Final Report Due: Feb 28th, 2026
 - o Closeout underway, I am primarily working on this and plan to have it finished by mid-Feb if not before.

Round 19:

- Tier 1s complete:
 - o Shinto Shrooms
 - o Sunny Side Farm has received Tier 1, waiting for them to fill out as they requested funding for HUA for animal sanctuary
- Tier 3s in progress:
 - o Alex Ronne – grazing plan
 - o Marc Suffern – grazing plan
 - o Juckas Stables – HUA/ grazing plan
 - o Shuback Farms – stream corridor management plan for Celery Ledge Proj
 - o PITN (Chip Lain) – irrigation plan
 - o
- Requests for Funding (Kevin indicated he wanted those due by Feb):
 - o Juckas Stables – HUA/Wash rack/ manure stockpiling
 - o Sunny Side Farm – HUA for livestock

CCA Testing

Passed CCA test sections:

- NE pest management
- NE soil and water management
- International soil management

Registered for Feb 2026:

- NE Regional nutrient management
- International nutrient management
- International pest management

Remaining CCA test sections if I pass these:

- NE regional crop management
- International crop management

Truck purchase

Thanks to Paul Ruszkiewicz, we got the plates taken care of. They came via mail 1/16/2026 and are ready to be put on the truck.