

ONTARIO COUNTY
Agricultural Enhancement Board
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES: MAY 1, 2018
Acting Chairman Fred Lightfoote

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Fred Lightfoot
Erin Bullock
Jason Weykman
Katie Cappiello – for SWCD Megan Webster
Maria Rudzinski – for OCPD Tom Harvey
Robert McCarthy
Tim Davis, CCE
Robin Johnson, OCRPT
Elizabeth Newbold

Staff:

Marie Anselm, CCE

Guest:

Doug Finch, Canandaigua Town Manager

Call to Order: Chairman Lightfoote called the Agricultural Enhancement Board (AEB) meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes:

March 23, 2018 meeting minutes were not complete.

Update on Board Nominations

M. Anselm reported that Ben Lowe, farmer who operates a tree nursery in Bristol with distribution facility in Naples, accepted the nomination to the AEB. M. Rudzinski will prepare the necessary information and resolution for the OC Board of Supervisors for consideration at their June meeting.

Sup. Lightfoote had not been able to talk to John Zimmerman, farmer from the Town of Gorham, regarding serving on the Board. As was noted at the last meeting, should Mr. Zimmerman decline, the next candidate will be Frank Fessner, farmer with beef operation in Town of E. Bloomfield, followed by Sam Casella, farmer in Town of Canandaigua.

Consideration of NYS Farmland Protection Implementation Grant Applications (FPIG)

NOTE: Board member Elizabeth Newbold left the room for this agenda item since she represents the Finger Lakes Land Trust who will be submitting the Stryker Farm FPIG application.

There are two FPIG applications for farms in the Town of Canandaigua and one for a farm with land in both the Towns of Canandaigua and Hopewell.

The Town of Canandaigua will submit applications for the 56 acre Bucher farmland parcel located at 2666 Cooley Rd. and the 186 acre Keith Purdy farm parcel located at 1850 Sand Hill Rd. The Finger Lakes Land Trust will submit an application for four parcels totaling approximately 465 acres of the Stryker (Kim-Mar) farm in the town of Canandaigua and additional acreage in the Town of Hopewell. (The Town of Hopewell will take formal action to recommend approval of the application at their May town board meeting.)

Mr. Doug Finch, Canandaigua Town Manager, gave a detailed presentation on the Town's Purchase of Development Rights Program, how farms are evaluated and ranked, and a description of each of the three proposed FPIG farms which is attached to the minutes.

Board Action:

Motion regarding the Town of Canandaigua FPIG applications for the Purdy Farm and the Bucher Farm – The AEB recommends approval of the application and finds that it is consistent with the priority areas for protection identified in

the 2018 Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Plan. **Made by:** M. Rudzinski **Seconded:** R. Johnson. Motion carried.

Board Action:

Motion regarding the Finger Lakes Land Trust FPIG application for the Stryker Farm (Kim-Mar) in the Towns of Canandaigua and Hopewell - The AEB recommends approval of the application and finds that it is consistent with the priority areas for protection identified in the 2018 Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Plan. This recommendation is subject to the approval of the Town of Hopewell's positive action on the FPIG application. **Made by:** Bob McCarthy. **Seconded:** M. Anselm. **Motion carried.**

(E. Newbold was not in the room and therefore did not participate in the discussion or vote on any of the applications.

Agricultural Enhancement Plan (AEP) Implementation

Note: E. Newbold rejoined the Board meeting.

The Board began discussion of the role and membership of the plan implementation team that is called for in the AEP. A number of ideas were discussed. Due to the length of the meeting insufficient time was available for adequate discussion. A special board meeting will be held on June 19th to discuss the implementation team.

AEP \$15,000 Implementation Funds for FY 2018

M. Rudzinski said that there is an accumulated amount of \$15,000 allocated by the Board of Supervisors to undertake projects to implement the plan. She noted that the funds had to be spent or under contract by December 31, 2018 or they would revert back to the County. The Board said it will discuss this at the June 19th meeting.

Consideration of adding the Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board as a stakeholder in the public involvement plan for the Application of Circular EnerG, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article 10 of the Public Service Law for Waste-to-Energy facility in Romulus, NY

M. Rudzinski explained that the OC Board of Supervisors is considering a resolution that contains comments on the draft Public Involvement Plan to the State Board of Electric Generation Siting and the Environment for a facility in Romulus. Because of potential concern related air quality impacts on agricultural land, the AEB could request to be added as a stakeholder in the public involvement plan. The draft resolution was provided to the AEB.

Board Action:

Motion: Because of the AEB's concern regarding potential impacts on agricultural land from the Circular EnerG proposed project, the supports a request to be included as a Stakeholder in the Public Involvement Plan for the Article 10 Application. **Made by:** M. Anselm **Seconded:** J. Weykman. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Rudzinski, Senior Planner