

SENECA COUNTY AGRICULTURE ENHANCEMENT BOARD

Minutes

3/5/08

- **Call To Order:** Called to order @ 7:10 pm
- **Members Present:** Shawn Bossard, Keith Tidball, Doug Freier, Chris Tarr, Patsy Amidon, Julie Thompson, Harriet Haynes, David Behm, Mike Dennis, Greg Wadhams, Judy Wright, and Duane Reigal
- **Previous Meeting Minutes:** Patsy moved to approve, with typo repairs, Julie seconded – approved.
- **Special Guests:**
 - David Behm of NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets attended the meeting to discuss PDR applications, how the Ag Enhancement Board fits in, and the process.
 - Duane Riegal, from the Town of Fayette talked about a right to farm law that they want to pass at the town level. Duane was charged with putting together a committee to help resolve farm/neighbor conflicts. Was also charged with coming up with a committee to review PDR grants. Duane feels that one committee would serve. Needs 5 members, two of which would be an ag enhancement board member, living in the town of Fayette, and an Extension/SWCD director or one of their designees. Discussion ensued related to the overall issue of PDR screening and management overall. Comment made by Judy with AFT that the Town of Fayette should be commended for considering these issues. The motion was made that the Ag Enhancement Board supports the Town of Fayette's ag advisory committee, and would appoint an AEB person, from the Town of Fayette, if available, as needed. Motion seconded by Patsy. Approved.
- **Old Business:**
 - PDR screening – discussion moved to setting up three workshops – one in each ag district – for towns, offering to screen PDR applications for the towns. A letter/packet of information will be sent first. A meeting would include basic education on ag district law, PDR's, and differences between ag districts, ag zoning, and ag assessments. Audiences include farmers, town board members, and town planning board members. Will coordinate meeting dates with the awarding of the grants – usually before Christmas.
 - Seneca Falls water line project – discussed the final NOI – will adhere to last meeting motion, sending town a letter. Shawn will draft a letter. Harriet will scan the impact statement
- **New Business:**
 - Lead agency – Harriet moved that the Ag Enhancement Board become the lead agency on the recertification on the North and Central

agricultural districts and we make a negative declaration and authorize the Chair to sign the proper forms. Keith seconded. Approved.

- Chris is now a new member – Greg and Keith renewed.
- **Adjourn** – Shawn moved to adjourn – Keith seconded – adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Bossard
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Seneca County