

Tioga County Agricultural Land Preservation Board

Meeting Minutes

Monday April 15, 2024

7 PM Tokishi Building

Call to Order: Chairman Karl Kroeck called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call: The roll call found six (6) members in attendance: Donald Norman, Karl Kroeck, Bill Plummer, Gayle Morrow, Sam Wilson, and Donna Cleveland for the board. Also in attendance: Deb Crawford; Administrator and Kaye Aumick; Planning Director.

Approval of Minutes: A copy of the October 2023 minutes was available for review. Motion by Don Norman to approve, second by Bill Plummer. Motion carried by roll call with 5 yes votes.

Public Comment: None

Nomination of Officers: Bill Plummer nominated Karl Kroeck for the Chairperson, with second by Don Norman. Motion carried by roll call vote with 6 yes votes. Sam Wilson nominated Don Norman for the vice-chair, with second by Bill Plummer. Motion carried by roll call vote with 5 yes votes and 1 abstain.

Old Business:

- Funding – Deb Crawford reviewed the funding spreadsheet for 2023/2024. Deb suggested funding allocations for the Hamilton and Powlison farms. These suggestions were accepted with a motion by Donna Cleveland and second by Bill Plummer. Motion carried by roll call vote with 6 yes votes.
- Farms in the Pipeline:
 - Cooper (2022) – Approved by the state on April 11, 2024.
 - Shuey (2022) – On the state board agenda for their June meeting.
 - Bowen (2022) – Closed on April 2, 2024.
 - Reese (2023) – Agreement of sale is signed.
 - Hamilton (2023) – Moving forward with the Agreement of sale.
 - Powlison (2023) – Moving forward with the Agreement of sale.

New Business:

- Tashner Wetland Mitigation and Stream Restoration Project – The project was discussed and it was decided that the board will wait to hear from the state before making a decision to approve or deny.
- 2024 Rankings – The rankings were reviewed with some discussion on the top 5 farms. Motion was made by Sam Wilson to accept the rankings, second by Bill Plummer. Motion carried by roll call vote with 6 yes votes. The rankings will now be sent to all applicants with a 30-day comment period open.

Other Business: Deb Crawford stated that Stephanie Zimmerman from the PA Department of Agriculture will be attending the May meeting. Her discussion will include: Conservation Plan issues, Federal Programs, and Farm Inspections.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2024 7:00 pm at the Tokishi Building

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Donna Cleveland, second by Bill Plummer at 7:46 pm. Motion carried by roll call with 6 yes votes.

Respectfully Submitted by Kaye Aumick.