

Meeting Minutes July 9, 2024 Zoom Meeting

Executive Committee Members

Caitlin Stewart, President Jessica Armstrong, Vice President Joann Burke, Secretary Katy Kemmeren, Treasurer Alice Halloran, Member at Large

Partners and Guests

Megan Webster, Ontario County SWCD Hailey Feusner, Chemung County SWCD Velynda Parker, Steuben County SWCD Jennifer Kelly, Chenango County SWCD Jevonnah Foster, St. Lawrence County SWCD

Division Representatives

Rebecca Campbell, Division I Jason Cuddeback, Division II Carla Yaw, Division III Lydia Brinkley, Division IV Maren Stoddard, Division V Nicholas Klemczak, Division VI Travis Ferry, Division VII

Absent

Olivia Cunningham, Division VIII Bethany Bzduch, SWCC Blake Glover, NRCS Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD



Minutes

- **I.** Call to order President Stewart called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- **II.** Introduction Conducted.
- III. Reading and approval of May 30-31, 2024 The minutes were provided in advance of the meeting for review and appended to the minutes.
 - A motion was made by Cuddeback, seconded by Armstrong to approve the May meeting minutes. Carried.
- **IV. Treasurer's report** Kemmeren shared her report for May and July, appended to the minutes. She mentioned that NRCS has an outstanding bill for the Water Quality Symposium for \$29,000 that is past due because of some problems with paperwork.

Armstrong stated that the by-laws it states there is a charge of \$50 for not paying by March 1^s. Stewart suggested for the 2025 Water Quality Symposium to charge any person who registered but fails to make payment by March 1st to be charged a \$50 late fee.

- A motion was made by Stoddard, seconded by Brinkley to approve the May and July Treasurer's Report. Carried.
- V. NCDEA 2024 dues Stewart stated that Kemmeren received an invoice for \$200 for dues. Stewart asked Parker to provide information on what the association does with the dues. Velynda stated that dues help pay for the webinar, which all district employees across the United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands can participate in. It helps run the monthly board meetings by paying for the Zoom platform used. The awards that they give out at the National Conservation District Association annual conference every year. It supports its website with all the information and updates any of our policies that the National Employees Association has. The website is well-used and managed. Stewart thanked Parker for her explanation.
- VI. Partnership, Division Representatives, and Committee Questions Campbell stated she received an email from a technician in Division I regarding an online soil class that was shared with everyone back in March. It was going to be hosted by Daniel Ufnar who is an NRCS State Soil Scientist. He was looking for ten people to enroll in a nighttime soils class. This technician reached out to Daniel several times but has not heard back from him. He was wondering if anything had come through about this. Stewart stated she remembered the conversation but had not heard anything since. She looked in her inbox but did not see any further correspondence. She will follow up with him.

VII. CDEA Standing Committees

- a. **Frank Bratt Scholarship** Campbell emailed her report in advance of the meeting for review, appended to the minutes. She stated she received two applications for this round.
 - A motion was made by Brinkley, seconded by Stoddard to approve the Frank Bratt Memorial Scholarship applications for \$585: Kristin White, \$170 and Jacob Keary, \$395. Carried.
- b. Water Quality Symposium Armstrong reported she received a request for proposals from three hotels and gave a summary of each hotel. Discussion ensued.
 - A motion was made by Yaw, seconded by Campbell to accept the Rochester Hyatt proposal for the 2025 Water Quality Symposium. Armstrong refrained. Carried.
- c. Conservation Skills Workshop Stewart stated that Tom Eskildsen inquired if

someone could assist with registration for the Conservation Skills Workshop. Chastity Miller has overseen registration for many years but has moved on to a new position with SWCC. The registration form is on Google Drive. Stewart stated she and Katie WhitKovits are already handling hotel accommodation. Armstrong volunteered Payton to handle registration. Stewart asked Cuddeback to let Eskildsen know that he does have CDEA support, and we are trying hard to work with him to make this year's event a success.

VIII. CDEA Activities

- a. **2024** Committees and Appointments Stewart sent out the list in advance of the meeting. She thanked Brinkley for reviewing the list thoroughly. Kelly Emerick emailed in updates for the sediment and erosion control committee. Parker asked for clarification for the NCDEA and NACD as she and Jeff Parker are the representatives. Stewart made all the corrections plus some formatting. Envirothon Committee as per by-laws, the committee runs from September 1st to August 31st so this portion should be omitted until we see who applies to be on the committee.
 - A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Brinkley to approve the 2024 Committees and Appointments with the omission of Envirothon Committee. Carried.
- b. **4-Hour Fund Application** Stewart reported she received an application from Ontario County SWCD for an Agricultural BMP Course for \$8,500 for in-person training.
 - A motion was made by Brinkley, seconded by Klemczak to approve the 4-Hour Online Funds Application for Agricultural BMP Course for \$8,500. Carried.
- c. Camp Sagamore lodging contract Stewart reported that Stoddard has been working hard to organize our September CDEA meeting. We had cost savings this month because we are meeting virtually, and Stoddard reached out to beautiful Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake in Hamilton County. The contract comes in at \$3,240 which includes meeting space, rooms, and meals.
 - A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Brinkley to approve the Camp Sagamore lodging contract for \$3,240. Stewart abstained. Carried.
- d. **CDEA Apparel** Stewart reported that Burke reminded her that she had taken this last year, and she had not done anything with it. Now with two new board members, she would like to delegate this out. Campbell offered to take this on and will draft up some ideas and send them out.

- **IX. Other** Halloran asked if she should continue to keep track of the 4-Hour tracking form. Stewart stated yes and asked if Halloran could add to the reporting form a place where Districts could put names of people, hours they worked and tasks they performed.
- **X.** Correspondence None
- XI. Next Meeting September 11-12, 2024, at Camp Sagamore 1105 Sagamore Rd Raquette Lake, NY
- XII. Adjournment
 - A motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Stoddard to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 am. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Burke

Joann Burke

NYSCDEA

ACCOUNT		2024 Budget	1	2024 Actu	al Income and	Expenses
	Inco	ome	Expense	lnco		Expense
		4HR \$ *			4 HR \$*	
Fertilizer Tablets	\$8,000.00		\$7,300.00	\$5,520.00		\$5,568.1
Training Sessions:						
Admin/Mgt Conf	\$4,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$20,000.00			
Conservation Skills Workshop	\$20,000.00	\$11,400.00	\$31,400.00			\$58.1
Water Quality Symposium	\$100,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$165,304.00	\$105,090.47	\$270,394.4
WQS Resource Fair	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00	\$2,788.83		
4-Hour Online Course		\$221,313.20	\$84,000.00		\$225,043.68	
4HR Admin (Monroe County)			\$29,313.20			\$15,456.70
4HR Approved Trainings		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00			\$8,625.8
NYS ESCCP	\$8,500.00		\$12,000.00	\$16,371.80		\$8,275.54
Trainings			\$0.00			
Leadership Conference	\$0.00		\$0.00			
Audit, Taxes & Legal Fees			\$10,000.00			\$4,650.00
Donations:						
Envirothon Scholarship			\$2,500.00			
Donations-Other-EEF						
Executive Board			\$25,000.00			\$1,912.55
Promo Merchandise			\$5,000.00			
Insurance			\$3,600.00			\$3,148.15
Promo/Website		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00			\$6,576.25
National Association of Conservation						
Districts Annual Meeting (NACD)- 2			\$10,000.00			\$2,083.64
CDEA BM & Rep					_	
National Association of Conservation						
Districts Northeast Meeting (NACD-			\$6,000.00			
NE)- 2 CDEA BM & Rep		1)				
National Conservation District						
Employees Association Dues	l l		\$400.00			\$200.00
(NCDEA)						
Newsletter			\$4,500.00			\$4,500.00
Fundraiser Activities						
Sunshine Fund			\$200.00			\$340.5
Office Supplies			\$6,000.00			\$3,521.79
Ronny Raindrop TM			\$12,000.00			
Division l			\$2,500.00			
Division II			\$2,500.00			
Division III			\$2,500.00			
Division IV			\$2,500.00			
Division V			\$2,500.00			
Division VI			\$2,500.00			\$310.20
Division VII			\$2,500.00			
Division VIII			\$2,500.00			
TOTALS	\$143,000.00	\$368,713.20	\$511,713.20	\$189,984.63	\$330,134.15	\$335,621.95
Self Sustaining Accounts	Inc	ome	Expense	Income		Expense
Fish Challenge	\$300.00		\$300.00			\$ 322.95
Frank Bratt	\$6,000.00		\$6,000.00			\$ 1,995.00
NYS Envirothon	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00			\$ 46,481.25
2024 NCF Envirothon	\$544,500.00		\$544,500.00	\$ 279,427.99		\$ 67,813.29
Envirothon Scholarships	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00			\$ -
NYS Fair/EFD/NYS Farm Show	\$6,600.00		\$6,600.00	\$ 10,976.25		\$ 7,527.97
Golf Tournament	\$3,500.00		\$3,500.00			\$
Skeet Shoot Tournament	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	\$ -		\$
SSA Totals	\$613,400.00		\$613,400.00	\$ 329,486.36		\$ 124,140.46
Grand Total	\$756,400.00	\$368,713.20	\$1,125,113.20	\$519,470.99	\$330,134.15	\$459,762.41

^{*} money coming from 4HR Savings

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet

As of July 8, 2024

	Jul 8, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	2,000.56
NYS Envirothon-Savings 4HR Online Sed & Erosion	579,220.78
2024 NCF Envirothon Checking	129,533.46
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING	F 400 00
Frank Bratt	5,123.03 10,352.25
NCF General NYSCDEA Funds	72,233.71
Admin Conference	4,261.25
Conservation Skills	25,163.72
Golf Tournament	4,429.43
Leadership Conference	2,463.13
NYSESCC Program	19,752.89 24,272.54
NYS Envirothon NYS Fair	7,461.51
Resource Training Checking	4,200.28
Sunshine Fund	493.67
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING	180,207.41
Envirothon Scholarship Savings	17,199.57
Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings	37,767.79
Resource Training Savings	27,075.81
Total Checking/Savings	973,005.38
Accounts Receivable Accounts Receivable	84,134.99
Total Accounts Receivable	84,134.99
Other Current Assets Undeposited Funds	139,942.80
Total Other Current Assets	139,942.80
Total Current Assets	1,197,083.17
	1,197,083.17
TOTAL ASSETS	1,197,003.17
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities Current Liabilities	
Accounts Pavable	
Accounts Payable	3,187.23
Total Accounts Payable	3,187.23
Total Current Liabilities	3,187.23
Total Liabilities	3,187.23
Equity	
Retained Earnings	909,143.68
Net Income	284,752.26
Total Equity	1,193,895.94
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,197,083.17
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January 1 through July 8, 2024

	Jan 1 - Jul 8, 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income Fert, Tablets	5,520.00
Training Sessions Income	·
Water Quality Symposium Gun Raffle	3,000.00
WQS Registration	162,304.00
Total Water Quality Symposium	165,304.00
4-Hour Online Class	225,043.68
NYSESCC Program	16,371.80
WQS Resource Training Resource Training Interest	1.34
WQS Resource Training - Other	2,787.49
Total WQS Resource Training	2,788.83
Total Training Sessions Income	409,508.31
Self Sustaining Programs	
2024 NCF Envirothon, New York Fishing Challenge-Income	279,427.99 250.00
Frank Bratt Scholarship	250.00
Interest-Frank Bratt	2.27
Frank Bratt Int & Donations	5,120.76
Total Frank Bratt Scholarship	5,123.03
NYS Envirothon-Income	0.04
Interest Registration	25,800.00
Guest Registration & Housing	3,025.00
Reimbursements/Misc Merchandise Sale	0.00 131.25
Donation	4,420.00
NYS Envirothon-Income - Other	31.79
Total NYS Envirothon-Income	33,408.08
Envirothon Scholarship Income Envirothon Scholarhsip-Interest	1.01
Total Envirothon Scholarship Income	1.01
State Fair	10,976.25
Golf Tournament Income	300.00
Total Self Sustaining Programs	329,486.36
Total Income	744,514.67
Gross Profit	744,514.67
Expense Fertilizer Tablets	5,568.11
Training Sessions Expenses	,
4 HR Approved Trainings	8,625.87
Online 4 Hour Course	
Software	7,140.00 7,328.30
Admin Costs Cell Phone	988.40
Total Online 4 Hour Course	15,456.70
NYSESCC Program	8,275.54
Conservation Skills Workshop	58.17

January 1 through July 8, 2024

	Jan 1 - Jul 8, 24
wqs	
Speaker Fees	3,607.62
Gun Raffle	1,252.37
WQS Coupon for Districts Hospitality Suite	63,190.00 601.73
Hotel & Food	194,353.58
WQS Entertainment	1,719.00
Credit Card Service Fees	675.55
Awards	1,906.93
WQS Refund All Expenses	190.00 2,897.69
Total WQS	270,394.47
Total Training Sessions Expenses	302,810.75
Taxes & Audit Review	4,650.00
Executive Board Expense Motel & Meals	1,912.55
Total Executive Board Expense	1,912.55
Insurance	
Directors & Officers Policy Commercial Package	1,402.00 1,746.15
Total Insurance	3,148.15
Promotion	6,576.25
NACD-Annual Meeting	2,083.64
NCDEA	200.00
Newsletter Sunshine Fund	4,500.00 340.51
Office Supplies/Postage	3,521.79
Division Expenses	,
Division VI	310.20
Total Division Expenses	310.20
Self Sustaining Program Expense	
2024 NCF Envirothon, New York Fishing Challenge-Expense	67,813.29 322.95
Frank Bratt Scholarship Expense	1,995.00
Envirothon-NYS Expenses	,
Trailer Expense	52.25
Rooms	12,849.50
Meals	
Pre-Event Breakfast Meals - Other	340.20
	18,939.69
Total Meals	19,279.89
Shirts,Water Bottles,Backpacks Shirts-Committee & Winning Team	7,717.00
Total Shirts, Water Bottles, Backpacks	7,717.00
Testing Site Expense	
Golf Cart	963.00
Supplies EMT	766.80 225.00
Snacks	407.50
Total Testing Site Expense	2,362.30
Awards	1,297.98
Educational/Advisor Activities	420.00
Envirothon Office Expense	202.33

January 1 through July 8, 2024

	Jan 1 - Jul 8, 24	
National Event Team Registration	2,300.00	
Total National Event	2,300.00	
Total Envirothon-NYS Expenses	46,4	81.25
State Fair New York State Farm Show Promo Item	2,561.11 4,966.86	
Total State Fair	7,5	27.97
Total Self Sustaining Program Expense		124,140.46
Total Expense		459,762.41
Net Ordinary Income		284,752.26
Net Income		284,752.26

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet

As of May 30, 2024

	May 30, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings NYS Envirothon-Savings	2,000.56
4HR Online Sed & Erosion	460,138.33
2024 NCF Envirothon Checking	132,059.34
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING	744.71
NCF 4HR Training Support	1,500.00
General NYSCDEA Funds	73,827.87
Admin Conference	4,261.25
Conservation Skills	25,221.89
Golf Tournament	4,429.43
Leadership Conference	2,463.13
NYSESCC Program	19,752.89 52,578.94
NYS Envirothon NYS Fair	12,908.37
Resource Training Checking	4,200.28
Sunshine Fund	764.10
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING	202,652.86
Envirothon Scholarship Savings	17,199.57
Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings	38,017.79
Resource Training Savings	27,075.81
Total Checking/Savings	879,144.26
Accounts Receivable Accounts Receivable	61,010.00
Total Accounts Receivable	61,010.00
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	84,580.58
Total Other Current Assets	84,580.58
Total Current Assets	1,024,734.84
TOTAL ASSETS	1,024,734.84
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable Accounts Payable	308.47
Total Accounts Payable	308.47
Total Current Liabilities	308.47
Total Liabilities	308.47
Equity	
Retained Earnings	909,143.68
Net Income	115,282.69
Total Equity	1,024,426.37
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,024,734.84
TOTAL LIADILITIES & EQUITY	

January 1 through May 30, 2024

	Jan 1 - May 30, 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	5,520.00
Fert. Tablets Training Sessions Income	5,520.00
Water Quality Symposium	
Gun Raffle	3,000.00
WQS Registration	162,304.00
Total Water Quality Symposium	165,304.00
4-Hour Online Class	175,021.72
NYSESCC Program	16,371.80
WQS Resource Training	
Resource Training Interest	1.34
WQS Resource Training - Other	2,787.49
Total WQS Resource Training	2,788.83
Total Training Sessions Income	359,486.35
Self Sustaining Programs	
2024 NCF Envirothon, New York	101,765.20
Fishing Challenge-Income	250.00
Frank Bratt Scholarship Interest-Frank Bratt	2.27
Frank Bratt Int & Donations	5,010.09
Total Frank Bratt Scholarship	5.012.36
NYS Envirothon-Income	3,0
Interest	0.04
Registration	22,200.00
Guest Registration & Housing	995.00
Reimbursements/Misc	0.00 131.25
Merchandise Sale Donation	2,920.00
Total NYS Envirothon-Income	26,246.29
Envirothon Scholarship Income Envirothon Scholarhsip-Interest	1.01
Total Envirothon Scholarship Income	1.01
State Fair	10,576.25
Total Self Sustaining Programs	143,851.11
Total Income	508,857.46
Gross Profit	508,857.46
Expense	
Fertilizer Tablets	5,568.11
Training Sessions Expenses 4 HR Approved Trainings	1,856.36
Online 4 Hour Course	
Software	6,470.00
Admin Costs	7,328.30
Cell Phone	988.40
Total Online 4 Hour Course	14,786.70
NYSESCC Program WQS	8,275.54
Speaker Fees	3,607.62
Gun Raffle	1,252.37
WQS Coupon for Districts	63,190.00
Hospitality Suite	601.73

January 1 through May 30, 2024

	Jan 1 - May 30, 24
Hotel & Food	194,353.58
WQS Entertainment	1,719.00
Credit Card Service Fees	675.55
Awards	1,792.61
WQS Refund	190.00
All Expenses	2,897.69
Total WQS	270,280.15
Total Training Sessions Expenses	295,198.75
Executive Board Expense Motel & Meals	1,868.29
Total Executive Board Expense	1,868.29
Insurance	
Directors & Officers Policy Commercial Package	1,402.00 1,746.15
Total Insurance	3,148.15
Promotion	6,576.25
NACD-Annual Meeting	2,083.64
Newsletter	4,500.00
Sunshine Fund	70.08
Office Supplies/Postage	3,521.79
Division Expenses Division VI	310.20
Total Division Expenses	310.20
Self Sustaining Program Expense	
2024 NCF Envirothon, New York	63,287.53
Fishing Challenge-Expense	322.95
Frank Bratt Scholarship Expense	2,245.00
Envirothon-NYS Expenses	50.05
Trailer Expense Testing Site Expense	52.25
Golf Cart	963.00
Supplies	766.80
Snacks	34.99
Total Testing Site Expense	1,764.79
Awards	1,297.98
Envirothon Office Expense	63.58
Total Envirothon-NYS Expenses	3,178.60
State Fair New York State Farm Show	1,581.11
Total State Fair	1,581.11
Total Self Sustaining Program Expense	70,615.19
Total Expense	393,460.45
Net Ordinary Income	115,397.01
Net Income	115,397.01

Frank Bratt Memorial Scholarship Report July 3rd, 2024

- ➤ Deadlines: March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, December 1st
- > Active Frank Bratt Scholarships:

Name	Award Date	Amount	Course
Nate Woodworth	October 2022	500.00	Stream Simulation for
			Aquatic Passage
Alex Marks	December 2023	250.00	Deer Steward I
Shawn Murphy	December 2023	325.00	Woodbadge Leadership
			Training
Tyler Parr	March 2024	\$250.00	Game of Logging 1 & 2

- Received two applications to-date for the June 1st deadline totaling \$565.00 of a possible \$1,500.00. Therefore, if the applicants are award, \$935.00 will roll over into the next round.
- Available funds for the rest of 2024 are \$4,500.00, before the June Rounds are awarded

Each round of the Frank Bratt Scholarship is a minimum of \$1,500. Unspent funds of a previous round can be rolled over into the next round to reach the annual limit of \$6,000. Here is a summary of each round that was funded.

March 2024	June 2024	September 2024	December 2024
\$1,500.00	TBD - \$565.00		

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rebecca Campbell
Division I Representative



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide ongoing programs and services to conserve, enhance, and protect soil and water resources in communities.

2024 Committees & Appointments

Division Representative Responsibilities			
Division	Responsibility	Representative	
I	Coordinates the Frank Bratt Memorial Scholarship.	Rebecca Campbell, Wyoming County SWCD	
II	Assists with New York State Fair, CDEA Historical Archives.	Jason Cuddeback, Cayuga County SWCD	
III	Coordinates the Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction with Division VI.	Carla Yaw, Lewis County SWCD	
IV	Coordinates the Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction with Division III.	Lydia Brinkley Tioga County SWCD	
V	New Employees / Years of Service - track new employees, years of service, and promotions for recognition at the annual meeting. Coordinates marketing for Ronny Raindrop®.	Maren Stoddard, Warren County SWCD	
VI	Fertilizer tablet sales, organize the Hospitality Suite at the Water Quality Symposium.	Nicholas Klemczak Schenectady County SWCD	
VII	Water Quality Symposium Awards Banquet and Sunshine Fund.	Travis Ferry, Ulster County SWCD	
VIII	Water Quality Symposium Awards Banquet.	Olivia Calandra Nassau County SWCD	

Standing Committees			
Committee	Description	Chairperson	
State Fair/ Empire Farm Days	This committee will plan and organize the Association's exhibit at the NYS Fair. Responsibilities include developing a theme/design, preparing a budget, and organizing employee assistance with the construction and supervision of the exhibit.	Kristin White, Monroe County SWCD	
Training	This committee is responsible for working with the NYSSWCC and other cooperating agencies to develop a training agenda for the annual training session and to address additional training needs as directed by the Executive Board.	Jessica Armstrong, Oneida County SWCD	
Legislative	This committee will work actively to develop and implement a legislative agenda to benefit the SWCDs statewide. The committee will work closely with the Executive Director of NYACD and other groups as necessary and appropriate. The committee may receive additional direction from the President or the Executive Board.	Mark Burger, Onondaga County SWCD	
Envirothon	This committee consists of SWCD employees and members from a multitude of cooperating agencies. The committee operates as a subcommittee of the Association and has a detailed and specific set of guidelines via which it administers the NYS Envirothon. These guidelines are included in the NYSCDEA policy book.	Katy Kemmeren, Chenango County SWCD	
Nominating	This committee nominates and carries out elections of the regular officers of the Association. The immediate past President of the Employees' Association will serve as chairperson.	Dustin Lewis, Saratoga County SWCD	
NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program Administrator	The purpose of this certificate program is to establish and maintain a process to identify and recognize individuals who are capable of developing, designing, inspecting and maintaining erosion and sediment control plans on projects that disturb soils in New York State. The development and oversight of these plans will be executed in accordance with the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control and the New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination	Jessica Verrigni, Schuyler County SWCD	

	System (SPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity. See NYSESCCP Policy and Procedures for more information.	
NYS	The Steering Committee is comprised of	Kelly Emerick,
Erosion and	Jessica Verrigni, Tim Clark, Matt Giannetta,	Monroe County SWCD
Sediment	Dave Gasper, and PJ Emerick, and includes 2	Jim Lieberum,
Control	CDEA representatives to be appointed	Warren County SWCD
Certificate	annually.	-
Program	•	
Steering		
Committee		

Other Committees			
Committee	Description	Members	
Conservation Skills Workshop	The Conservation Skills Workshop is a collaboration between the NYS Conservation District Employee's Association, NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The goals of this workshop are to offer field-based training sessions to conservation professionals operating in New York State.	Chair: Tom Eskildsen, Yates County SWCD Members: Stacy Russell, Cortland County SWCD; Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County SWCD; Jessica Armstrong, Oneida County SWCD; swcd.org); Jacob Kelly, Wyoming County SWCD; Jason Cuddeback, Cayuga County SWCD; Jon Negley, Tompkins County SWCD; Kristin Ballou, Franklin County SWCD, Corrina Aldrich, Washington County SWCD, Greg Albrecht; SWCC, PJ Emerick, SWCC; Ronald Bush, SWCC; Brendan Jordan, SWCC; Tim Clark, SWCC; Paula Bagley, NRCS; and Valerie Podolec, NRCS	
Water Quality Symposium	Each year in March, CDEA jointly sponsors the annual training session with the SWCC and NRCS. The 4 day session offers training that covers topic related to conservation education, administration, water quality management, natural resource planning, forestry, agriculture, non-agriculture, and technical assistance.	Chair: Jessica Armstrong, Oneida County SWCD; Agriculture Track Chair: Troy Bishopp, Madison County SWCD Members: Greg Albrecht, SWCC; Ron Bush, SWCC, Jason Cuddeback, Cayuga County SWCD; Tonnie Sauca, Albany County SWCD; Nikole Watts, Chemung County SWCD Clerk / Admin Chair: Diana Thorn, Ontario County SWCD Members: Daniel Zimmerman, Otsego County SWCD; Sean Rooney, Nassau County SWCD Education Track Chair: Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County SWCD Members: Danielle Singer, Tioga County SWCD; Nikole Watts, Chemung County SWCD; Jessica Armstrong, Oneida County SWCD	

		Non-Agriculture Track Chair: Tim Schneider, Cayuga County SWCD Members: Nick Rowell, Warren County SWCD; Jessica Armstrong, Oneida County SWCD; Joseph Bodnarchuk, Erie County SWCD; Sean Rooney, Nassau County SWCD; Lydia Brinkley, Upper Susquehanna Coalition Forestry Track Chair: Kristn Ballou, Franklin County SWCD Members: Lydia Brinkley, Upper Susquehanna Coalition; Tonnie Sauca,
		Albany County SWCD; Allie Holmes, NRCS; Teresa Link, Onondaga County SWCD
		Bethany Bzduch, Victor DiGiacomo, PJ Emerick, Scott Fickbohm, Ryan Cunningham, Ben Luskin, Tim Clark, Lauren Prezorski, Jennifer Clifford, Ron Bush
		NRCS Partners Blake Glover, Dennis Deweese, Ed Henry, Paula Bagley
Administrative Conference	This conference provides specific and pertinent information and training for SWCD administrative staff. It also serves as a forum to initiate discussion on mutual problems and concerns among Districts.	Chair: Dustin Lewis, Saratoga County SWCD Jennifer Kelly, Laura Bestehorn, Wendy Walsh, Katy, Kemmeren, Diana Thorn, Melissa Rutter
Leadership Institute	Held every 4 years, the Leadership Institute is held to cultivate personal development and improve leadership skills. The next event will be held in 2027.	Committee to include participants of the 2023 event.
Civil Service	This committee works with the New York State Department of Civil Service to discuss and find	Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County SWCD, Dustin Lewis, Saratoga County SWCD

	solutions for challenges SWCDs	
	experience with Civil Service.	
Management Development Certification Program Committee	For certification in the Management Development Certification Program, District staff take a minimum of 6 course hours in each competency area, including Communication and Interpersonal Skills, Leading and Motivating Others, Planning and Administering Systems and Processes, Organizational Knowledge and Strategy, Self- Management Skills, and Strategic Innovation Skills. The CDEA Member-At-Large manages the program and files with the support of the Administrative Management Committee.	Chair: Alice Halloran, Essex County SWCD
Recruitment and Retention Committee	This committee works with NYACD and NRCS to promote recruitment and retention. Activities include attending job fairs.	Chair: Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County SWCD Members: Katie WhitKovits, Hamilton County SWCD; Troy Bishopp, Madison County SWCD
Publications and Promotions Committee	Oversees NYS CDEA News and promotional activities.	Chair: Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County SWCD
Sunshine Fund Committee	Oversees sending celebratory or condolence flowers and cards.	Chair: Travis Ferry
NYS DEC Endorsed 4- Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Online Training	This training is for SWCD staff who help farmers, foresters, municipalities, and landowners with erosion and sediment control issues. Registration is at no cost to SWCD employees. Learn how to and understand why it is important to implement erosion and sediment control practices correctly. Currently, Monroe County SWCD holds the contract to perform services relating to this program.	Ulster County SWCD Kristin White, Monroe County SWCD
CDEA Golf Tournament	This annual event is open to all members of the 4-Way Partnership. This is the perfect tournament for the avid golfer or	Chair: Doug Kierst, Cayuga County SWCD Member: Russell Smith, Cortland County SWCD

	the golfer that plays once a year. Prizes and a 50/50 raffle are offered. Registration fees support CDEA programs.	
CDEA 5-Stand Tournament	Open to all members of the 4-Way Partnership, registration fees support CDEA programs.	Chair: Joann Burke, Madison County SWCD
CDEA Fish On! Challenge	Participation Fee is \$10.00 per person and each participant will receive a pocket tape measure with the NYSCDEA logo on it. Registration is available for NYSCDEA members only. Category winners are announced at the Water Quality Symposium Awards Banquet.	Chair: Katie WhitKovits, Hamilton County SWCD

New York State Envirothon Committee

Hands-on environmental education competition – testing knowledge and understanding of NYS natural resources

Name	Position	Affiliation	Voting or Non-voting Member
Blanche Hurlbutt	Advisory Member, Chairperson, Registration	NYACD	Voting
JoAnn Kurtis	Educator Professional Member, Vice Chair, Tests		Non-voting
Katy Kemmeren	CDEA Liaison, Treasurer, Snacks	Chenango County SWCD	Non-voting
Robert Shenk	Advisory Member, Testing Assistant, Grading		Voting
Allan Fagan	Site Coordinator	Wyoming County SWCD	Non-voting
Susan O'Dell- Pepe	Activities Coordinator	Suffolk County SWCD	Non-voting
Danielle Parker	Volunteer Coordinator	Schoharie County SWCD	Non-voting
Karl Strause	Oral Presentation	USDA/NRCS	Non-voting
Chastity Miller	Publicity & Photos	Franklin County SWCD	Non-voting
Ernie Swift		NYACD	Non-voting
Alice Halloran	Awards	Essex County SWCD	Non-voting
Marie Ross	Test Assistant Advisory Member	USDA/NRCS	Voting
Fred vonMechow	Advisory Member		Voting
Tony LuFan Ye	Advisory Member		Voting
Ryan Cunningham	Volunteer Assistant	NYS SWCC	Voting
Natalie Shudt	Registration Assistant, Advisory Member	USDA/NRCS	Voting
Victor DiGacomo	Oral Presentation Assistant	NYS SWCC	Non-voting
Scott Fickbohm		NYS Empire Society	Non-voting

Environmental Education Foundation

The mission of the EEF as a 501c3 not-for-profit organization is to provide financial assistance to educational programs that encourage conservation of the environment while raising environmental awareness in the minds of young people - the future stewards of our environment. One such effort is the NYS Envirothon

Name	Position	Affiliation
Mark Gaston	Chairperson	Erie County SWCD
George Sisco	Vice Chairperson	USDA / NRCS
Lisa Miller	Treasurer	Cayuga County SWCD
Chastity Miller	Secretary	Franklin County SWCD
JoAnn Kurtis	Member	USDA / NRCS
Erin Sommerville	Member	Dutchess County SWCD
Corrina Aldrich	Member	Washington County SWCD
Jevonnah Foster	Member	St. Lawrence County SWCD
JoAnn Burke	Member	Madison County SWCD
Katie WhitKovits	Member	Hamilton County SWCD

CDEA Advisory Appointments			
Committee	Chairperson / Facilitator	CDEA Representative	
New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee	Dale Stein, Chairman	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President; and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice President	
SWCC Technical Advisory Committee	Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President; and Jason Cuddeback, CDEA Division Representative	
SWCC Municipal Assistance Sub-Committee	Ryan Cunningham and PJ Emerick, Associate Environmental Analysts	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice President	
SWCC District Operations Manual Sub-Committee	Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President	
SWCC Special Programs Advisory Committee	Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Division Representatives	
Four-Way Partnership	NYACD: Blanche Hurlbutt; SWCC: Bethany Bethany Bzduch; NRCS: Blake Glover	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice President	
Invasive Species Advisory Committee	Kristopher Williams, Director	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President	
NYACD Annual Meeting	Blanche Hurlbutt Executive Director	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice President	
Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees	Vice President Velynda Parker	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice	
National Conservation District Employees Association	Regional Alternate Velynda Parker	Caitlin Stewart, CDEA President, and Jessica Armstrong, CDEA Vice	