

HVADC Board Meeting
December 14, 2018
Ulster County Office Bldg.
Karen Bender Library – 6th Floor, Kingston, NY

Draft Minutes

HVADC

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Board Members Present: Dennis Doyle, Mark Doyle and March Gallagher

Board Members on phone: Ann Finnegan and Walter Garigliano

Staff Present: Todd Erling, Mary Ann Johnson

Meeting called to order at 9:06am.

Minutes: Mark asked if the board had reviewed the minutes. Walter offered a motion to accept and Ann provided the second. There was no additional discussion and all members voted in favor except for March who abstained.

Mark asked Todd to talk about financials and activities simultaneously because they are inter-related.

Todd started with financials – review of grants not received this year include USDA RBDG but have heard we are working on it in 2019. The ESD grant for the HV Food Hub will be rolling over into 2019. Todd noted we did not get the USDA Beginning Farmer Rancher grant.

Some income has increased vs. original budget through the IWW program and the Catskill food hub construction project. Todd explained financially the construction project administration was a net pass through and there is an offsetting expense.

Todd reviewed the expenses, basically on-target. HVADC is likely to end the year break-even or have a slight loss for 2018. Todd mentioned Novo has extended an application to apply for 2019 funding.

March noted the marketing budget is low and we should increase our social media presence. March explained we need to reach to the people we don't ordinarily touch. She felt we there should be more activity in 2019 and believes partners need to be linked. March noted regional funders' interest is farmland access for woman and minorities.

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March moved to accept financials, Dennis offered the second. There was no additional discussion and all members voted in favor.

Todd reviewed HR policy for SEP contribution for 2018 and presented the board with the information. March made the motion to approve and Walter offered a second. There was no additional discussion and all members voted in favor.

Farm Bill Update – programs valuable to the region include VAPG, FMPP and LFPP were handled separately in previous bill. In the 2018 bill, they are umbrella under called LAMP in order to receive mandatory funding in the event of a CR. HVADC was awarded funding through the LFPP. Walter mentioned the REAP set aside was also included. HVADC has a good relationship with Vermont and has been able to work together. TE explained REAP zone applications will continue, but outside REAP it is very competitive and Walter noted it is expensive to administer.

The board was provided a copy of a draft 2018 Activities Report. Todd also highlighted some major activities in the 2018 report.

Walter noted our new congressman will to seek appointment on the Ag Committee. Dennis noted new state senator Jen Metzger will be Senate Ag chair. Eric noted from NYS Farm Bureau perspective it could be a tough year for ag funding statewide.

Mark noted there has been a lot to manage. Todd mentioned AFT grant we applied for regarding transition to farmland for new farmers. He also mentioned FeedHV metrics and how well we are doing. Stats are in the activities report.

Mark mentioned the DPW Farm Bureau put in for an award for FeedHV community action/education and won the statewide award.

Todd noted Tuesday is the CFA awards.

March mentioned she is starting a HV Food systems coalition – first meeting in March, chaired by Sharon Leader and Sara Salam (Dutchess Outreach).

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35.