

Introduced by Presiding Officer, on request of the County Executive

RESOLUTION NO. 331 -2017, ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (RCP) FY 2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$447,000 IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECLAIM OUR WATER AGRICULTURAL STEWARDSHIP IN THE PECONIC ESTUARY WATERSHED PROJECT, ADMINISTERED BY THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING, TO EXECUTE AWARD RELATED AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has awarded Suffolk County Federal funds under the RCP FY 2017, to be implemented by the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District ("the District"), the Department of Economic Development and Planning, the Department of Health Services, and its partners: American Farmland Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, Long Island Farm Bureau, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Peconic Estuary Program, and the United States Geological Survey; and

WHEREAS, the RCP FY 2017 will provide funds to the District to ensure the long-term viability of Long Island's prime agricultural soils which is fundamental to the long-term agricultural success on Long Island, and is defined as an objective in the 2015 Suffolk County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Agricultural Stewardship Plan accepted by the legislature in March 2016 recommended funding for staffing and the implementation of best management practices and cost-share dollars for implementation of agricultural best management practices; and

WHEREAS, this award has a start date of 1/1/2017 and ends on 12/31/2021 in which the County will receive award funding in the amount of \$447,000 for participation in the RCP FY 2017; and

WHEREAS, the District is recognized as the public agency authorized to draft and certify Nutrient Management Plans and associated practices but the District does not currently have staff certified to write Nutrient Management Plans and Integrated Pest Management Plans; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Civil Service/Human Resources has completed a review of the duties and responsibilities of such a position and has determined that a new title of Agronomist be created; and

WHEREAS, the RCP FY 2017 award included funding to cover the salary of an Agronomist in the District; and

WHEREAS, the funding accepted and appropriated in this resolution will be utilized to allow the District to contract for Technical Service Providers to produce Nutrient Management Plans and to train District staff on the preparation of Nutrient Management Plans for implementation at farms throughout Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County's Technical Assistance (TA) partner cost of \$298,000 will be achieved through the combined efforts of the District, the Department of Economic Development and Planning and the Department of Health Services. These in-kind efforts over the next 5-years will result in the following: written and certified nutrient and integrated pest management plans, improved conservation practices, successful coordination between all agencies, groundwater and surface water monitoring; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County's Financial Assistance (FA) partner cost of \$1,680,000 will be achieved through the District's ability to help farmers apply for Environmental Quality Incentive Program assistance with an associated in-kind match of \$180,000 spread over the 5-year life of the plan. The remaining FA cost of \$1,500,000 will be realized through the Department of Economic Development and Planning's, Suffolk County Farmland Preservation Program's prioritization of parcels in the Peconic Estuary watershed throughout the award period; and

WHEREAS, said funds have not been included in the 2017 Operating Budget; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the County Comptroller be, and is hereby authorized to accept \$447,000 and appropriate said award fund as follows:

RCPP FY 2017 - \$ 447,000

REVENUES:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Revenue Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
003	SWC	8731	4960	\$447,000

ORGANIZATIONS:

Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District

RCPP FY 2017

003-SWC-8731-\$447,000

1000-PERSONNEL SERVICES: \$257,696

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Type</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
003	SWC	DEG	8731	1110	0000	Interim Salaries	\$257,696

4000-CONTRACTUAL EXPENSES: \$47,000

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Type</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
003	SWC	DEG	8731	4560	0000	Fees for Services: Non-Employees	\$47,000

8000-EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: \$142,304

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Type</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
003	SWC	DEG	8731	8330	0000	Social Security	\$19,052
003	SWC	DEG	8731	8280	0000	Retirement	\$22,912
039	EMP	ODE	9060	8360	0000	Major Medical Claims	\$93,060
003	SWC	DEG	8731	8380	0000	Welfare Fund	\$7,280

Interfund Transfer
 Transfer to Employees Medical Health Plan
 003-IFT-E039
\$93,060

9000-INTERFUND TRANSFERS: \$93,060

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Type</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
003	SWC	DEG	8731	9550	0000	TR to FD 039 Self-Hlth Ins	\$93,060

and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that the following interfund revenues for Employee Medical Health Plan be accepted as follows:

REVENUES:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Revenue Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
039	IFT	E039	R003	\$93,060

and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Classification and Salary Plan is hereby mended as follows:

ADDITION TO CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY PLAN

<u>Spec. No.</u>	<u>JC</u>	<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>BU</u>
1283	C	Agronomist	20	02

and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, that nothing contained herein shall be construed as obligating or committing the County of Suffolk to continue the employment of the individual filling the position created by this resolution at the conclusion of the award funding that provided for such position; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the County Executive be, and is hereby authorized to execute the Award Agreement between Suffolk County and the NCRS in a form substantially similar to the Agreement attached hereto and to execute any and all necessary agreements to carry out the programs as outlined in the Award agreement; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED** that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5 (c) 20 and 27 of Title 6 of the New York Code of rules and Regulations (NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109 (2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing agency administration and management and the promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection. The Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this law.

DATED: May 16, 2017

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
 County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: May 31, 2017