

**RI State Conservation Committee  
17 Smith Avenue, Greenville, RI 02828  
949-1480**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 26, 2006**

**9:15 AM**

**Eric called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.**

**In attendance were:**

**Members – Eric Offenbergs-Governor’s Appointee, Paul Dolan-NRICD Appointee, Gregg Cassidy-DEM Representative and Ted Comerford-ERICD Appointee.**

**Tom Sandham and Danielle Minto-ERICD, Alicia Lehrer-SRICD, Gina DeMarco and Wendy Hoyle-NRICD.**

### **I. Minutes**

**Motion to accept the February 8th meeting minutes as presented.  
Paul/Gregg. Vote was unanimous.**

## **II. Financial Report**

**The financial report indicated present expenditures was distributed. The Committee discussed how they would like to use funds. They would like to see some of the funds used for FFOS outreach. It was suggested that the committee offer the districts a challenge grant. Each district would submit requests to the**

**State**

**Committee on a specific project; up to \$1,000 per district.**

**Motion was made to send out the letters to each district and the association to offer them the opportunity to request funds up to \$1,000 for a special project subject to review of the State Committee. Ted/Gregg Vote was unanimous.**

## **III. Reports**

### **a. Chair**

**Eric reported that there has been no resolution on the replacement for commission boards. A meeting will be set up between Kevin Flynn, DOA, Eric and District's chairs.**

### **b. Comments on District/Advisor Reports**

## **Districts**

**Each district submitted a written report prior to the meeting and highlighted a few items.**

## **Advisors**

**NRCS-Roylene distributed and highlighted a few items in NRCS's report on**

**their projects. USDA is looking for another location for their offices,**

**since 60 Quaker Lane is quite expensive. Southern District has been**

**offered space with USDA if they so wish.**

**DEM-Gregg reported that they are offering riparian buffer restoration grants;**

**RFP's will be on-line Monday.**

## **IV. Old Business**

### **a. Ag Land Preservation Project**

**There was no report.**

### **b. Assistance to DEM-Liz Stone**

**Liz Stone is DEM's legislative liaison. The State Committee would**

**like to be**

**kept up to date on what is going on in the legislature.**

## **V. New Business**

### **a. FFOS Update**

**The subcommittee reviewed a bill heard by the house on wording for**

**farm, forest and open space clarification. The subcommittee recommended that**

**wording be amended to: “and may determine the value of a house lot”.**

### **b. Legislative Day**

**The 3 districts will have displays at the State House on Wednesday, May 3rd.**

**A packet will be distributed to the legislators with information on the districts.**

**Eric has agreed to sign a cover letter on behalf of the State Committee.**

## **VI. Other**

**-The districts will participate in Ag Day on Wednesday, May 17th.**

**-Eric requested that the State Committee receive reports from**

**advisors that were not  
able to attend.**

**Motion made to adjourn at 10:05 am. Ted/Harriett Vote-unanimous.**