

**Northern Rhode Island Conservation District**

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## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, June 6, 2007**

**7:00 PM**

**Jean called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.**

**In attendance were:**

**Directors-Jean Lynch, Paul Dolan, Marc Tremblay and Norm  
Hammond – Associate director-Dick Went – NRCS-Mike Merrill –  
Staff-Gina DeMarco and Wendy Hoyle.**

**Absent were:**

**Director-Eugene Pepper – Associate Directors-Ed Baker and Cathryn  
MacDonald.**

**Wendy regrettably handed in her resignation to the board.**

## **I. Minutes**

**Motion was made to accept the May 2nd meeting minutes, Paul/Marc. Vote was unanimous.**

## **II. Treasurer's Report**

**The treasure's reports were distributed.**

**The CD matures on June 12th and it was decided that the district could make due**

**if they let \$10,000 roll over until September 12th. The interest would be taken out.**

**The board discussed putting an ad in the paper for the administrative assistant position.**

**Gina met with Eugene Pepper to review the possibility of a stormwater project for**

**in the Scituate Reservoir watershed. This involves testing for pesticides on the**

**tributaries, which has not been done in the past. Gina will be speaking to Rich about**

**this.**

**Motion was made that the board was in receipt of the treasurer's reports, Paul/Marc.**

**Vote was unanimous.**

### **III. Old Business**

#### **a. Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program**

**-The drinking water celebration went very well. 3 employees from NRCS were**

**able to come assist the district that day. The chief engineer attended and stayed**

**for quite a while see all the different activities. There were between 350-400**

**3rd and 4th graders taking part in the celebration activities.**

**-Gina has done about 10 elementary presentations in the last month.**

**-The poster contest winners for next year's calendar has been selected and the**

**first poster will go up the week of June 15th.**

**-Gina will be meeting with Rich tomorrow regarding the pesticide testing on**

**the tributaries.**

**-There might be the opportunity to do an inventory of small animal farms with the**

**assistance of NRCS. We are talking about doing this in Scituate Reservoir**

**watershed as a pilot project for the northern area. This would**

**include meeting**

**with these small farmers and providing them with valuable information.**

**-Marc attended the meeting with DEM regarding the stormwater implementation**

**project grant that the district received. We are waiting for the contract and**

**are not able to move on this until we hear from DEM.**

#### **b. NRICD Fund Raiser Follow-up**

**The district netted about \$600 from the fund raiser. The board discussed whether**

**this was something they would like to do again in the future.**

**They felt the**

**prizes were more than the district could afford to do and it was suggested that**

**if we did this again it should be a 50/50 raffle.**

**The board decided the they probably would not do a dance fund raiser again and**

**would be willing to look into other possibilities for the future.**

**It was all agreed that Jean did an excellent job of pulling the fund raiser together.**

#### **c. Pocasset River Project**

**Joe will be meeting with the engineer next week. They are still**

**waiting to hear**

**back from the City of Cranston. Mike will follow up with Jean next week.**

**d. CIG Program**

**Eric has signed the final agreement with NRCS. The 3 districts will be**

**following up with last year's recipients. There was only 1 applicant for this**

**year, so NRCS decided to put out the RFP again for 30 days to see if they**

**receive additional applications.**

**IV. Reports**

**a. Chair**

**Jean reported that because of her change in work schedule, she is not able to**

**continue being the legislative appointee at this time. She has not gotten the chance**

**to meet with Senator Whitehouse and the other congressional leaders and is**

**hoping someone will be willing to take this on for a time. If she can, she would**

**like to do this again in the future. The association has no meeting scheduled at**

**this time.**

**b. NRCS**

**Mike distributed the conservation report.**

**Mike came with several WHIP and EQIP applications to be signed by the board**

**WHIP:**

**-Fish Passage applications for Pawtucket Hydro and Power and Blackstone**

**Hydro.**

**-2nd for Stillhouse Cove. Applicant was Edgewood Water Association.**

**EQIP:**

**-Chris Coutu of Foster for pasture and nutrient management**

**-Vinnie Confreda of Cranston for erosion control**

**-Ray Polseno of Cranston for deer fencing and riparian buffers**

**-Robert Recchia of Johnston for regrading and waterway work.**

**-Pine View Farm of Scituate for outpost facility**

**-Jeffrey Spring of Glocester for a revised forestry plan**

**-Kevin Hopkins of Foster to implement a forestry plan**

**-Robert Rotondo of Foster to implement a forestry plan and early successional**

**habitat**

**-Paul Wright of Burrillville for a forest management plan**

**-Little Rhody Farm of Foster for a compost facility for chicken manure**

**-Geoff Gaebe of Burrillville for a forestry plan and early successional habitat**

**-Ron Vaz of Burrillville for plan in heavy use area**

**-Steve Bellucci of Foster for designs for heavy use area and waste storage**

**-Ray Cataldo of Glocester for drip irrigation on his orchard**

**A request came in to the district from a landowner in East Providence on**

**the Providence River. He is having issues with erosion and concerned about**

**a sea wall. The board asked if NRCS could assist him and Mike with check with**

**NRCS but feels this would not fall into any of their programs. It was suggested**

**that the landowner contact the Army Corps of Engineers and CRMC.**

### **c. Envirothon**

**The competition went well and everyone thought that Camp Yawgoo was**

**worked very well for the event. Wheeler came in 1st place, but have announced**

**that they are unable to go to nationals. Coventry came in 2nd**

**place and now has**

**the opportunity to go to nationals. There will be a wrap-up meeting next Tuesday,**

**June 12th at 10 at the Chopmist office.**

**The district took on some expenses for the Envirothon and the board agreed that**

**the district will absorb these costs.**

**d. RC&D**

**The council has not met recently and the NE meeting will be October 18th-20th**

**in Narragansett.**

**e. Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council**

**Jean went on the tours of the watershed and found it very educational.**

**They will be having a fundraising golf tournament. They are looking for**

**volunteers and Gina will email the board the information on the tournament.**

**f. RDC**

**There have been no meetings and they are co sponsoring the wood expo.**



**g. RIFCO**

**Marc distributed postcards for the wood expo. If the districts would like to**

**have a display the cost will be \$200. The district will put a link to the wood expo**

**on the website. RIFCO's summer session will be in early August.**

**h. District Manager**

**The North East Regional Meeting will be held August 5th – 8th in Mystic, CT.**

**Gina will email the board with the information.**

**Gina noted that Traditional Home magazine had an article on Cindy**

**Gianfrancesco's gardens. Cindy, a master gardener, has assisted the district with**

**the healthy landscape and living on a waterfront workshops. She also was**

**available at the seedling sale for questions.**

**Gina will be on vacation the last 2 weeks of June. When she returns she would**

**like to have a subcommittee for hiring a new employee.**

**V. New Business**

#### **a. NRCS Emergency Space**

**NRCS has allocated \$235/month for each district for NRCS employees to share**

**our office space for a short time in the event of an emergency.**

**We have filled out**

**the information needed for this and waiting to receive rent assistance.**

#### **VI. Other**

**Dunn and Bradstreet called saying that we did not complete our application. They**

**are looking to do a basic clearance that would cost the district \$299. The board**

**felt this is not needed and will not pursue this.**

**The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 5th. It was decided to go to Chester's**

**for the meeting for a good-bye dinner for Wendy. We will meet at 6:00.**

**Motion was made to adjourn at 9:15 pm, Paul/Norm. Vote was unanimous.**