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**Northern Rhode Island Conservation District**

**17 Smith Avenue - Greenville, RI 02828 - Phone (401) 949-1480 - Fax  
(401) 949-4436**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**November 4, 2009**

**7:00 PM**

**Paul called the meeting to order at 7:00.**

**In attendance were:**

**Directors: Paul Dolan, Dick Went, Eugene Pepper, Louie Vinagro;**

**Associate Director: Keith Rogers, Ed Baker.**

**Staff: Gina DeMarco, Ramona LeBlanc. NRCS: Justin Tuthill. .**

**Absent were:**

**Director: Norm Hammond; Associate Director: Marc Tremblay.**

**I. Minutes**

**A motion was made to accept the minutes from the October 7, 2009**

**meeting: Gene/Dick, unanimous.**

## **II. Financial Reports**

**A motion was made to acknowledge receipt the October financial statements: Dick/Gene, unanimous.**

## **III. Old Business**

**A. SWREP: Scituate High School's Environmental Science class has requested assistance and will receive forest management certification instruction. The class would like to create a path from the high school to the athletic fields and the Rockland Road/Rte 6 intersection.**

**The Wetlands packets for the poster contest have been distributed to teachers, The 2010 calendars have been mailed.**

**B. Lake Invasives Agreement: ESS has presented a draft of the plan for Bowdish Lake but the Smith and Sayles plan is not finished. The Bowdish plan is being reviewed by NRCS and DEM. DEM will be asked to extend the current contract until 1/31/09 to allow adequate time to hold meetings for stakeholders.**

**C. Outreach Agreement: Billboards are scheduled to be displayed beginning 11/30 in 3 locations.**

**D. Ag Inventory: Coventry is almost finished and will be followed by Johnston and then East Greenwich.**

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## **IV. Reports**

**A. SCC:** After a meeting on another matter, several Board members from SRICD and NRICD were able to discuss the reorganization with Eric Offenbergl and the consensus was that the Districts would like to centralize administration but keep other staff members employed by the Districts. Also a Human Resources subcommittee was proposed to be comprised of a representative from each District. Recognizing that the reorganization will be an on-going process, a review will be conducted at each SCC meeting and of email voting will be discussed for any item that needs a decision quickly.

**B. NRCS:** Summary reports distributed.

**C. R C & D:** Surveys collected in preparation for a new five year plan are being reviewed to incorporate clientele suggestions.

**D. RIFCO:** The Annual Meeting will be on 11/21 at 6 pm at the West Greenwich Elks Lodge. A woodland owners' workshop will be conducted over several Saturdays in January and February at the Hope Barn.

**E. RIACD:** A meeting with EPA and RIDEM Water Resources was held to discuss ways that the Conservation Districts can help these agencies use available funds to implement programs. Items discussed were: 319 grants, soil erosions issues, stormwater strategies and low impact development.

Dick attended a workshop titled "Follow the Water" and brought to the Board's attention that the Water Resource Board has funding

available for education and outreach. Gina will initiate contact with Ken Burke to pursue grant possibilities for the District.

F. RIRLA: Annual Dinner is on 11/7. The processing plant the association is using is operating to its full capacity and is planning an expansion at the Westerly facility. RIACD members have processed almost twice as much meat this year over last but cannot produce more until the plant is able to process it.

G. Envirothon: A grant in the amount of \$5000 was received from RIDEM/Forestry.

A motion was made to donate \$500.00 to the RI Envirothon: Dick/Gene: unanimous.

## V. Elections

Ballots were cast and Eugene Pepper was re-elected. The slate will remain the same:

Paul Dolan, Chair; Eugene Pepper, Vice-Chair; Norman Hammond, Treasurer; Richard Went and Louis Vinagro, Directors.

## VI. New Business

A. Seedling Sale: Compost bins and compost tea sources will be investigated and considered for inclusion in the 2010 Seedling Sale.

B. Farmers Market: The idea of a year round market as well as the need for a certified kitchen was discussed. Louie will discuss needs with other farmers and develop a vision of what they would like to see

**established in the area. Gene is willing to bring ideas/plans to RI DEM/Ag to be considered for funding.**

**A motion to adjourn was made at 8:50: Dick/Gene, unanimous.**