

# Northern RI Conservation District (NRICD) Board Meeting

## Minutes August 8, 2017

Present:

Executive Directors:

Marc Tremblay            Matt Tracy

Dick Went                Jean Lynch

Associate Director:    Paul Dolan

NRCS:

Phou Vongkhandy

Cassius Spears

Jermaine Jenkins

NRICD Staff:

Gina DeMarco            Molly Allard

Michelle Place          Kate Sayles          Naomi Andrews

ERICD

Mary Kate Kane

Snake Den Farmer: Jeroen & Kerriann Koeman

Meeting was called to order at 4:40 pm by Chairman Marc Tremblay

I. Minutes:

A. Motion by Dick/2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean to approve. With change of adding Matt Tracy to attendance roll. Also change amount of LASA grant to \$19,613.

II. Treasurers Report:

A. Motion by Jean/2<sup>nd</sup> by Dick to accept financial reports presented by Michelle. The Chairman asked that at the next meeting the fiscal year end budget vs. actual will be presented for year ending June 2017.

III. Old Business

A. Snake Den Farm –

1. LASA grant- was awarded to SDF in the amount of \$19,613. It will begin August of 2017.
2. The decision to extend the lease at SDF was put on hold.
3. Expansion project- DEM has approached us on taking over more land. A property meeting needs to be scheduled.
4. Mowing. Various solutions were discussed regarding who and costs of mowing the property as DEM will not do this.

B. Scituate Reservoir Watershed- Education Program

1. This years topic is "Forestry for the birds". Molly is working on assembling the poster packets
2. Raingardens- this is the final year for maintenance.
3. New grant with Groundworks- goal is to work with a middle school in Providence.

C. NRCS-

1. Outreach-
  - a. We are doing some outreach work for Southern District. Marc asked if the cost of workshops outweighs the participation. Matt suggested NE Food as a place to advertise.

2. EWP - A RFP had been put out for scope of work. Only 1 submitted bid. Motion by Marc/2<sup>nd</sup> Dick to approve the selection of sole bid of GRA Inc for the amount of \$63,653. Motion by Dick/2<sup>nd</sup> Jean for Marc to sign the approval of GRA as the contractor for EWP project.
3. Pawtuxet River Authority (PRA) was presented our proposal for them to be involved. They went to vote but have not heard result as of meeting.
4. CIG- Conservation Innovation Grant- closing out this manure and water quality grant by Sept 30.
5. Soil Health- Keving Omerod is working with Kate B on taking soil samples
6. Regional Forestry- no progress

#### IV. Reports

- A. Chair- no report
- B. RI State Conservation Committee- no report
- C. NRCS- Cassius presented report. He will be getting us the numbers needed broken down by town of NRCS numbers for our annual report. Phou thanked NRICD & staff for working as partners, especially with EWP.
- D. Envirothon-Place 38 out of 52 nationally. Place 10<sup>th</sup> in wildlife. Next year will be in Idaho.
- E. R C & D - Cooperative small forestry program with SK land trust on August 19 and September 23.
  1. There have been 7 applications for farm energy.
  2. CIG has been approved for "forestry for the birds"
- F. RIFCO- Summer twilight series will take place August 10
  1. Tom Sprout has developed a survey online for an economic impact study. Go to: [Ri.epr.org](http://Ri.epr.org) to fill out.
- G. RIACD- NE meeting August 13 in Burlington, Vermont, National meeting will be in Nashville, TN in January
  1. New engineering contract through the Southern District on feed lot management
- H. NACD- Summer meeting in DeMoines Iowa.
- I. District Manager- Mary Kate Kane is a new hire and time will be split between Northern and Eastern Districts.
  1. Testimonial letters are needed to provide to politicians to keep funding.

#### V. New Business:

- A. New engineering contract with the Pocasset Watershed. \$40,000 (\$2,500 indirect) Fuss & O'neil will finish the project.
- B. Copy Machine- researched lease vs. buy. Motion by Dick/2<sup>nd</sup> Jean to lease machine from Konica Minolta.
- C. Annual Dinner- with all entities again. November 11 at Varnum Armory. Michelle will reserve.
- D. RI Recycling tour- Board and staff educational tour will take place on August 23. Some DOT staff asked to join.

Adjourn: Motion by Dick/2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean