

**Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District**

**2490 Main Road - Tiverton, RI 02878 - Phone (401) 830-5763**

**ERICD Board Meeting**

**September 14, 2010**

**7:00 PM**

**Chairman Walter Elwell called the meeting to order at 7:07.**

**Present were: Directors Walter Elwell, Richard Hart, Suzanne Hourihan and Ron Mucci; Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee. Melissa Hayden, NRCS.**

**I. Minutes**

**The minutes of August 1, 2010 meeting were declared accepted as written.**

**II. Reports**

**A. Treasurer's: Bank reconciliation report and a budget year to date report were presented and a motion was made to accept them as presented: Dick/Ron, unanimous.**

**B. Chair: Walter attended Ferolbink Farm presentation on 9/13. Various State officials as well as the Under-Secretary of Agriculture were in attendance. Information from Allens Pond was discussed**

later in meeting. Walter also attended a meeting of the Jamestown Grange in which farm viability was discussed.

**C. Directors:**

**Dick Hart:** Dick was contacted by Jim Lawson at DEM regarding geese abatement project and possibility of continuing trials for cover crops.

**Ron Mucci:** Spoke to Skip Paul about cost of Annual Dinner and need to set ticket prices.

**Suzanne:** Nothing to report.

**D. Telephone Calls:** Nothing to report.

**E. Office Use:** Office continues to be use by partners.

**F: NRCS:** Summary report distributed. Conservationist report will be distributed in future.

**G. SCC:** An FFOS workshop for tax assessors will be held on September 30th.

An agreement with NRCS for Geese Abatement is being developed. It will focus on the Eastern District and the SCC will administer an education and outreach plan to educate farmers, municipal officials, landowners about abatement protocol. EQIP funding will be available for farmers to implement some recommended practices.

**III. Old Business**

**A. Aquaculture:** Nothing new to report. Item to be removed from agenda

**B. DIRT/FRESH: One will be selected for a fall viewing.**

**C. EWP: Nothing new to report. Item will be removed from agenda.**

**D. Annual Dinner Meeting**

**1. Awards: A secret ballot was taken to vote for Conservationist of the Year award. Watson Farm was selected. Walter thanked Melissa for arranging tours of several are farms.**

**2. Entertainment: A motion was made to select Lauren Miller-Donnelly to present a program from topics she suggested at the Annual Dinner: Suzanne/Ron: unanimous.**

**3. Ticket Price: A motion was made to charge \$15.00 per ticket for the Dinner: Suzanne/ Ron, unanimous.**

**Publicity will be handled by Walter. Invitations will be mailed 3 weeks before event.**

**E. Hiring Part-time District Manager: If geese abatement agreement is signed, there will be a need to have staff if ERICD is to participate in program.**

**IV. New Business**

**A. Bills: Bills from Cox Communications, National Grid were approved for payment.**

**B. A motion was made to place an ad on Craig's List for and ag tech/conservation position. Resumes will be reviewed and possibly interviews conducted in anticipation of the geese abatement agreement. The motion was made by Suzanne, seconded by Ron and passed unanimously.**

## **V. Other**

**Nothing discussed.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.**

**Next meeting date October 12, 7:00 pm.**