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**Southern Rhode Island Conservation District**

10 High Street, Suite I-8 - Wakefield, RI 02879 - Phone (401) 284-1885 - Fax (401) 284-1889 - <http://sricd.org>

**Southern Rhode Island Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**Minutes of September 11, 2006**

**Present:** Board Members: Pat Lenihan, Chair; Steve DelPozzo, Treasurer; Harriet Powell, Secretary; Clark Collins. Associate Members: Kelly Fox; Harvey Buford. Staff: Alicia Lehrer, District Manager; Patty Tanalski, Kris Stuart. NRCS Personnel: Roylene Rides At The Door, State Conservationist; Mike Kenyon, District Conservationist.

**The meeting was called to order at 5:55.** There were no additions to the agenda.

**Minutes:** Minutes for July 10, 2006. Clark made the motion to approve, Harriet seconded and the motion carried.

**Financial Reports:** Report on financial consultant meeting. Initial discussion dealt with Blue Wave and Executive Service Corp. Dick Rosa from ESC made some suggestions for future strategic planning for the District. A marketing meeting is set up with him for Sept. 28.

**Funding proposals:** District has cooperated on and submitted 8 grant proposals through the Narragansett Bay Watershed Restoration Fund and 319 program (2 separate pools of money). The proposals address pollution in Crooked Brook, Point Judith Pond, preventing pollution from Sunset Farm in Narragansett, purchasing a vacuum truck to assist with maintaining storm water systems in Narragansett, purchasing equipment to make compost tea for use in public athletic fields in Narragansett, Saw Mill Pond/Sand Hill Brook pollution prevention, for the Stanley Bostitch plan to move the Canada geese from its property, and to design erosion control BMPs for the West Warwick River Walk. Total grant funds requested are in excess of \$1.6 million. SRICD will have to hire more staff if several grants are approved.

**Financial Consultant Meeting;** Steve reported that he had met with Mitch of Blue Wave (see handout entitled, Southern Rhode Island Conservation District, accompanying these minutes). Conclusion: District not charging enough for what providing. New costs have not been added to what charged. Will begin new process, no guarantee it will work, but should improve situation. Mitch gave us clues as to how much to charge for work and for overhead, and said that we should recalculate every year. At the next meeting will look at how to track jobs to see if making enough to maintain the organization. Plan to spend a lot of time at the November meeting getting to understand how SRICD is being run and how jobs should be telling us whether we are on track or not. Grant money can be difficult. Current grant applications will not make SRICD the grantee with the monetary challenges that presents, SRICD will be a contractor with none of the headaches accompanying being a grantee. A step forward



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### **Reports:**

**Conservationist Report:** Roylene Rides At The Door. NRCS still not sure if moving or staying at Quaker Lane, but in any case, there will be a reorganization of space. Mike Kenyon and Mike Merrill have been approved as District Conservationists, each overseeing 1/2 of state. Roylene will supervise them and former oversight position will not be filled. Approach will be conservation by watershed. There is money available if go to watershed approach. Mike and Mike will have conservation teams of technical and field staff with the state divided by watersheds. Intention is for RINRCS to meet all goals for the first time, with a performance bonus for each goal met, and not send any money back to Federal Government because goals not reached. Vicky Drew of NRCS has accepted a job with NRCS in Vermont.

**RIACD:** No report.

**RC&D:** Current projects include Rhody Warm, the RI Coverts project, reforestation Narragansett Indian Tribe land, the Stream Continuity Program, and RC&D grant for Forest Stewardship training. On November 15, Cathy Sparks of DEM is hosting an event celebrating 100 years of Forestry.

**RIRDC:** Planning for Villages forum on October 27 with Land Use 2025's Kevin Flynn, and Gerry helping Friends of Allan Madison House to raise money for site at Quonset Point for a Master Plan.

**State Technical Committee Topics:** Deer fencing. Invasives. Rejuvenation of old fields. Stream Continuity program and passage for brook trout up the Wood Pawcatuck. Farm Viability and Management Practices. Atrazine in Bailey's Brook. Phosphorus in Saugatucket. Monitoring BMPS on Cottrell Farm storage structures.

**NRCS Security Requirements:** Security requirements for using NRCS computers too overarching for Patty Tanalski. She is not signing and will not be able to use Federal Government computers. Still can use SRICD computers and do job, so all will be fine.

**SRICD moves to Wakefield on October 8.**

**Events/Outreach:** Greenshare at URI on September 16. SRICD not attending this year. FFA Convention, SRICD making donation. Southern District in Trust for Public Land publication with Duck Cove with quote from Kris and picture of resident, Gidget Loomis.

### **Short Program Updates:**

**Phase II Narragansett:** Town is proposing changes to its ordinances to minimize the impact of development on surrounding waters. SRICD proposes sending a letter in support of the proposed changes to Narragansett Town Council President. Clark made the motion to approve and Harriet seconded.



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**The 2006 Annual Dinner:** Planning for dinner on Thursday, October 26 at 6:30 to 9:00 PM at Exeter Grange completed. Local foodstuff will be served. Awards: Legislators of the year – Mike Lenihan and Bob Watson; Community of the Year – West Greenwich; Conservation Educator of the Year – Scott Millar; Conservation Farmer of the Year – Harry Records of Harry Here Farm. Speaker Lisa Tewksbury of URI Natural Resources, re: Purple Loosestrife Control.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:20.**

**Respectfully submitted: Harriet Powell, SRICD Board Secretary.**