

# **Southern Rhode Island Conservation District**

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

**Master Gardner's Field House, East Farm, Kingston, RI**

**March 29, 2010**

**4:00 pm**

**Present: Directors Clarkson Collins, Harriett Powell, Harvey Buford; District Manager Doug McGovern; John Richard, NRCS; Ramona LeBlanc, RI State Conservation Committee.**

**I. Chairman Clarkson Collins called the meeting to order at 4:15.**

### **II. Minutes**

**A motion was made to accept the March 1, 2010 minutes as presented: Harriet/Harvey: unanimous.**

### **III. Reports**

**A. A. Treasurer's Report: Most recent reconciliation report was distributed.**

**A motion was made to accept the report as presented: Harriet/Harvey: unanimous.**

**B. District Manager: Doug represented SRICD at North Kingstown's**

**Spirit Day on March 20. He also attended the Land/Water Summit at URI and has participated in two CIG workshops with two more upcoming. A meeting will be scheduled between Doug, Clark and Jim Turek to discuss the VAIL fish passage project and SRICD's role.**

**C. Chair: Claire will begin to monitor spring, dry-weather stormwater flows in the Narragansett Phase II project. She will also conduct a wetlands survey at Canochet Farm. Clarke suggested Doug meet with Claire and Michael DeLuca, Narragansett Planning Director.**

**D. NRCS: Conservationist report was distributed. Staff focus has been on getting applications signed by April 1. Deadline for Organic Initiative is April 2. John hopes to get RIACD signature on VAIL agreement this week. NRCS is without a hydraulic engineer and will be looking to fill that vacancy. An increase in the number of aquaculture agreements was noted.**

**E. SCC: A meeting is scheduled for April 1. Grants are being sought for Board development, strategic planning and a PR strategy.**

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### **A. Consolidation Progress**

**A new phone line has been installed at the Greenville office and Quick Book files have been updated on Ramona's computer. Online banking has not been established.**

## **B. Board Elections/Appointments**

**Nomination papers for four of the five seats have been submitted. Three directors will be appointed by the SCC and the remaining two seats will be filled by election at a date to be determined.**

## **C. Work Opportunities**

- 1. CIG: Discussed previously; funding will be slightly less than anticipated.**
- 2. USDA Grant: Grant application is in process and is expected to be for \$750,000.00.**
- 3. CCPI/NRCS: There is no funding to states for this program.**
- 4. NOAA Dam Contract: Discussed previously.**
- 5. Other: John will keep SRICD posted about possible project at Gilbert Stuart Museum that would be similar to the one at VAIL.**

## **D. Business Plan Meeting**

**Plans put on hold until after the SCC meeting in light of possible funding for strategic/business plan.**

## **V. New Business**

**1. Website: Updates have begun. Clark would like to have new Board photo posted. Board would like to use website to show SRICD as a resource for farmers, with an offer for a free consultation. John would be willing to conduct training for Board/staff about NRCS programs.**

**Items presented at meeting to be filed with minutes: January 25, 2010 minutes, NRCS RFP for CCPI, NRCS updates report, NRCS Conservationist report, and financial statements.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:55**

**Next meeting April 26, 2010, 4 pm.**