

**I. Chair Clarkson Collins called meeting to order at 4:13 pm.**

**Present: SRICD: Chair: Clarkson Collins; Directors, Harvey Buford, Carl Sawyer, Rudi Hempe; District Manager: J. Eric Scherer; NRCS: John Richard; RISCC: Jill Osgood.**

**II. Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 8/27/12 meeting with 3 corrections. The corrections were made and re-distributed. Harvey/Clark; unanimous.**

### **III. Reports**

**A. Treasurer's Report: A motion was made to accept the financial reports as presented. Rudi/Harvey; unanimous.**

**B. Chair: Nothing new to report.**

**C. District Manager: J. Eric Scherer:**

**1. Eric distributed a draft of the Agenda for the Annual Dinner. Please send edits, changes and suggestions to Eric by week's end so it can be finalized and invitations mailed. The venue will be at the Matunuck Oyster Bar and will feature a farm tour.**

**2. Eric distributed a list of the five award categories and their respective criteria. The five categories are Professional Conservationist of the Year, Conservation Farmer of the Year, Conservation Forester of the Year, Excellence in Promotion and Conservation of Land & Water Resources, and Excellence in Conservation Education. Please send nominees to Eric.**

**3. The RFP for the Town of Richmond is due by the end of the week. Please review the report and send any changes, suggestions or edits to Eric.**

**4. Eric is working on the Land Trust project. An effort is being made**

to draw in other entities like the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/11/12.

5. The review committee is working with a contractor to update the RI Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Handbook. They have received an extension until March 2013.

6. The first visit to the Hopkinton Land Trust will mostly involve Outreach activities and to introduce various conservation plans to the board. Potential future projects include trail development, FFOS plans, and other Fee for Service Items.

IV. NRCS: John Richard: The total obligated funds for the Southern District during the last fiscal year includes: EQIP projects - 17 in Kent County and 4 in Washington County totaling \$1,163,172; and WHIP projects – 3 in Kent County and 2 in Washington County totaling \$139,515. The Northeast Cottontail was only found in the Southern District. The two new engineers hired by NRCS have begun working.

V. SCC: Ramona was not present and submitted a written report.

A. Three agreements have been signed with NRCS. They are Outreach, Engineering and Small Scale Forestry.

B. Ramona will meet with Ken Ayars and Pete Susi to review the FFOS enrollees who have signed up for the program but have not received a plan.

C. The current Fee for Service items list has been divided into three categories: Currently Available; Close to being Available; and Not Currently Available. The sub-committee will schedule future meetings to discuss resource/staff availability.

**D. The State Committee will organize a sub-committee to review and update the Districts/State Committee MOU, Reorganization Policy Report, District Handbook and Training Manual. The sub-committee will consist of a minimum of two members from each district board.**

**VI. Old Business:**

**A. Staffing Plan: Cindy and Eric are working on an Organizational Chart that includes board members, support staff, resource personnel and their availability for projects both within and outside the Southern District area.**

**B. 2012-2013 Budget: A revised budget was distributed. Income from agreements has been increased due to NRCS contract renewals, and overhead contribution has been decreased.**

**VII. New Business:**

**The Annual Meeting and Dinner for the Northern District is scheduled for 10/4/2012 at Addieville East Farm.**

**VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.**

**The next meeting is the Annual Meeting scheduled for October 22nd.**