

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

**Present: SRICD: Chair: Clarkson Collins; District Manager, JEric Scherer Directors: J. Eric, Harriet Powell, Harvey Buford; NRCS: John Richard; RISCC: Debra Aiello.**

**Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the December 17th meeting minutes as presented. Harriet/Rudy; motion passed.**

### **Reports**

**Treasurer's Report: A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Harriet/Harvey; motion passed. The Board would like to meet with Ramona to discuss a plan to have the treasurers report more well-defined.**

### **Chair's Report:**

### **District Manager's Report**

**Outreach Open House for NRCS is will take place on April 9th at the Crandall House in Hopkinton from 5:30-7:30**

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**Administrative -Staff is continuing to work with the SCC on fees for services efforts of the conservation districts.**

**Draft MOU and Policy- the Board and staff are supportive of SCC efforts to work with Ken Payne of the AG Partnership on the draft update to the SCC-CDs MOU and Policy document at the request of SCC. The district would like to become more engage with all the**

**other districts to look at the language and go in a better direction.**

**Special Projects- Land Trust Signage Project- The Board and staff sent a second rough draft of the Land Trust Signage Project to the graphic artist to clean up and input diagrams and photos. Eric would like to visit the properties. Harvey would like to have the district do the management plans on the properties and possibly hire others to do the base line studies.**

**Town Planning Assistance- the City of Warwick has sent in a donation of 500.00 to the SRICD. A letter from Chari will go out to officially request the funds. A funding request of the municipalities needs to begin again begin and will be discussed based upon staffing levels. Staff continues to provide support for the development and update of the 1989 RI Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, expected to be finalized in March of 2013. The Board would like to adopt NRCS guidelines.**

**RYSE School is very interested in Goose Abatement project and attended a February 22nd meeting at Charlestown Town Hall with SRICD staff who presented, informally some of the assistance that the district could provide. They are moving forward working with Jessie from the ERICD. Harriet suggested having an associate director from every municipality.**

**NRCS:**

**Programs – FY Round 1 EQIP Approved contracts-John was not anticipation big first round.**

**RI NRCS will be asking for Regional Equity Money to do all projects for round two; and to finish round one (already obligated).**

**Chris Modisett was appointed as State Resource Conservationist.**

**Reena Shaw – Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Program/Field.**

**NEC habitat cuts happening now- SRICD district awardees South County Rod and Gun Club and Breene Hollow Farm- Actively working on developing NEC habitat . The first habitat cuts for NEC in RI.**

**RI SCC: Ramona was not present. A written report was submitted.**

**FFOS: Ramona has the list of all farm properties enrolled in FFOS. She is developing a process by which current enrollees are asked to provide a copy of their current conservation plan or have one developed. The SRICD board would like to become involved in FFOS training.**

**Fee for Service: Two flyers will be developed from the list of services prepared. One will focus on watersheds and the other on land management.**

**Subcommittee: A subcommittee meeting was held on February 6, 2013. At the meeting, Ramona received permission to investigate cost to have someone take suggestions of subcommittee and write policy.**

**Ken Payne is willing to work on the policy documents.**

**MOU's: Ken Ayars asked that the RISCC have the SCC/CD memorandum of understanding reviewed. The legal opinion was that there was a contract implied in the document and that there was**

**transferred liability.**

**RIACD:** A letter was submitted requesting that legislative changes be made to the CDs to increase Board size. Ken Ayars suggested that a subcommittee be formed to review the entire enabling stature and to develop an entire package of suggested changes to bring the General Assembly for possible action in next year's legislative session.

**Small Forestry:** A series of four workshops on small scale forestry will be held in March in the towns of Scituate, Glocester, Foster and Burrillville.

**Outreach:** The next round of workshops is in the planning stage

**Rivers:** RISCC engineering technician will be developing a design for remediation of a site a Mount Hope High School in Bristol that consistently floods. This design will be one element of a comprehensive report on entire site.

**Engineering:** Work is proceeding on schedule to allow completion of all design tasks required in agreement. Cindy Kwolek will be working on the Round II Outreach flyer, the development of two fee for service brochures, SRICD's resource document.

**Old Business:**

**Hopkinton Land Trust Project:** Eric put together a signage guideline brochure for all land trust to be able to utilize. He is now in contact with sign companies.

**Strategic Plan:** Nothing to report.

**RI Soil & Erosion Sediment Handbook:** At the end of March, three major agencies will look at grant or agreement to do outreach.

**New Business:** Nothing new to Report.

**The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.**