

**SOUTHERN RHODE ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 18, 2015
AT THE URI MASTER GARDENER FIELD HOUSE**

Present: Clark Collins, Chair; Harvey Buford, Treasurer; Carl Sawyer, Secretary; Harriet Powell, Assoc. Dir.; Peter Stetson, Assoc. Dir.; Kate Bousquet, District Manager; John Richard, NRCS.

I. Clark called the meeting to order at 4:14PM.

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion made to approve minutes from the April 27, 2015 meeting. Harvey, Clark, unanimous.

III. Reports

Financial Statement: Harvey submitted Treasurer's Report/Financial Statement for approval. Motion to accept approved. Carl, Harvey, unanimous. Report on file.

District Manager's Report: Kate submitted updated report of SRICD projects. Report attached.

NRCS Report: John submitted updated report. Report attached. John noted that NRCS is toward the end of the funding cycle and, for the first time in a number of years, fund applications have exceeded fund availability. Kate and John noted the importance of District input in local working group meetings to establish priorities for funding.

Envirothon: No report, however it was noted that a fundraising breakfast would be held at Dave's Bar and Grill in Warwick on March 28th.

Ag Council Report: No report

Envirothon Report: Peter reported that this year's Envirothon theme was Urban and Community Forestry and featured 14 teams including one middle school team. Narragansett took top honors with Coventry coming in a very close second place.

RI State Conservation Committee Report: Clark noted that Ramona LeBlanc is resigning from administrative responsibilities and a search is underway for someone to fill the position.

IV. Old Business

- A. Board Position update.** Kate reported that Antonia Bryson was unable to attend the meeting, however she had 24 of the 25 signatures required for nomination. Kate will check with Ramona regarding requirements and procedures for appointment of Board members.
- B. Budget Subcommittee Update:** Kate, Harvey, Clark and Carl met in the hour before the May Board meeting to continue formulation of a budget. They expect to have a budget by the next meeting.
- C. Hopkinton Land Trust Integrated Land Management Plans:** Harvey reported that the Land Trust intends to contract SRICD to produce management plans for approximately 160 acres of forested and 10 acres of agricultural land.

V. New Business

- A. 2015 Annual Dinner Planning and Award Nominations:** Kate will send out nomination packets to Board members. It was agreed that we would like to try to have monthly meetings at award recipient's properties as we did last year. Kate asked if the Board would like to consider having our annual meeting

in cooperation with other Districts. The Board thought this was a good idea and Kate will contact other Districts to see if they are interested.

B. GIS 'Story Map': Peter and Kate will look into feasibility of producing a story map using GIS.

C. Future projects: Doug McGovern will be invited to our next Board meeting to discuss potential projects.

Motion to adjourn at 5:40 PM. Harvey, Carl.

The next Board meeting will be held at 4:00 PM on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the URI Master Gardener Field House.

Minutes submitted by Carl Sawyer, Secretary, SRICD