

**SOUTHERN RHODE ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD OCTOBER 24, 2016  
AT THE URI MASTER GARDENER FIELD HOUSE**

Present: Clarkson Collins, Chair; Harvey Buford, Treasurer; Carl Sawyer, Secretary; Rudi Hempe, Dir.; Antonia Bryson, Dir.; Peter Stetson, Assoc. Dir.; John Richard, NRCS; Kate Bousquet, District Manager.

**I. Clark called the meeting to order at 4:09 PM .**

**II. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the August, 27, 2016 meeting were approved after adding Harvey's name to those listed as present (Rudi, Clark, unanimous).

**Vote to Approve October 11, 2016 Email Vote.** A motion was made to approve the electronic vote of October 11, 2016 which approved the five 2016 awardees (Rudi, Harvey, unanimous).

**III. Reports**

**Financial Statement:** Kate submitted Treasurer's Report/Financial Statement for approval. Motion to accept approved. (Harvey, Antonia, unanimous).

**NRCS Report:** John submitted a written report and noted that approximately 50% (\$1.6M) of contract funding is for projects in the Southern District.

**Ag Council:** Peter reported that the Council was awarded a grant to update its website and that the next meeting will be March 16<sup>th</sup> in Rumford. Carl will bring the Ag Council display to the woodlot tour to be held at the Bryson's Oct. 25.

**Envirothon:** Peter reported that one training workshop had been held at a Westerly Land Trust property and an aquatics workshop is scheduled to be held at Camp Ehuntee. Dave Wescott is the new Envirothon President.

**District Manager's Report:** Kate presented a written report which is filed with the minutes.

**IV. Old Business**

- A. Legislative Outreach Update:** There was discussion of our need to better present what the District does to our legislators.
- B. Annual Dinner update:** Carl will help set up at the Varnum Armory in E. Greenwich on Saturday. Antonia will collect, tag and set up silent auction items.
- C. Collection of SRICD Volunteer Hours:** Kate will email a form for Board members to submit volunteer hours which can be used for match time on grants.

**V. New Business**

**A. Land and Water Summit Participation:** It was decided that the District will not set up the display at the Summit this year.

**B. Local Working Group for RI USDA NRCS Programs:** Kate encouraged Board member participation for November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to determine weight of ranking questions for 2017 Environmental Quality Incentive Program and Agricultural Management Assistance funding applications. The meeting will be held at the Warwick office at 9:00 AM.

**Motion to adjourn at 6:08 PM.** Rudi, Harvey.

**The next meeting will be held at URI East Farm Master Gardener Field House November 28, 2016 at 4:00 PM**

Minutes submitted by Carl Sawyer, Secretary, SRICD

