

Organic Advisory Board  
of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Division of Agriculture and Resource Marketing

Minutes of Public Meeting of February 12, 2008

Meeting Location: RI DEM Division of Agriculture  
Conference Room  
Room 370, 235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908

Members Present: Erik Eacker, Brian Simmons, Peter Susi, Fritz Vohr, Rik Kleinfeldt  
Members Absent: None  
Staff Present: Ken Ayars, Dennis Martin, Matt Green, Scott Marshall  
(RIDEM/Agriculture)  
Others Present: Dan Lawton (RI NOFA)

The meeting began at 10:07 a.m. at the Division of Agriculture, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI. A quorum of board members was present.

Minutes from OAB meeting of November 27, 2007, were read. Brian Simmons made a motion, seconded by Fritz Vohr, to approve the minutes without corrections. The motion was approved unanimously.

Proposed adjusting 2008 organic certification fee for producers and handlers downward to \$200 to set the certification fee to cover the costs charged by USDA for maintaining certifier accreditation. Brian Simmons made a motion, seconded by Fritz Vohr, to recommend setting the 2008 certification fee for producers and handlers at \$200. The motion was approved unanimously.

The 2008 meeting schedule was discussed. Brian Simmons made a motion, seconded by Erik Eacker and Fritz Vohr, to schedule the second annual board meeting in 2008 for November 18, 2008. The motion was approved unanimously.

Other discussion:

Possible activities of RI NOFA in promotion of organic farms and education of Standards  
Market labeling practices for organic and conventional products to ensure organic integrity  
Processed manure usage policy

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matt Green, Supervisor of Insect Pest and Plant Disease Control,  
RIDEM Division of Agriculture