

**Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes  
June 6, 2019**

**Supervisors Present:** Ted Grembowicz, Bob Smith and Alan Shelvey

**Also Present:** Nanci McGuire, Marian Jordan and Stefano Pinna

**Meeting called to order at: 9:40 a.m.**

**Minutes from the April Meeting** were approved.

**Financial Reports for April and May** were reviewed, discussed and then approved.

**District Manager Report:** (Nanci McGuire)

**Discussion on:**

**VT Envirothon Statewide Competition** – I attended this competition on May 22 at VT Technical College. 11 teams participated. Bellows Falls came in 1<sup>st</sup> place and Stafford Tech. Forestry & Natural Resources class came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

**Green Mountain Water Environmental Association's Conference** – I attended this conference on May 23 at the Grand Hotel in Killington with Andres and Hilary. Andres and Hilary put together a presentation regarding Stormwater Master Planning and we talked about projects that have been implemented in Rutland County.

**RNRCD Tree Sale** – I thanked the Board for being there to help me on the day of pick up.

**VACD Voting Board Member** – I responded to Jill and she said that she would like to be able to communicate with Alan via email.

**Trout Sale** – This sale went well. Thank you, Alan and Mike, for being there to help.

**Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program** – This program started Tuesday, June 4 and samples will be collected every other week until August 27.

**Tactical Basin Planning Partners Meeting** – Alan and I attended this meeting on May 31 with Angie Allen and Barbara Pulling (RRPC).

**VACD Update** – VACD/NRCC hired a new Ag. Programs Manager, Jess Buckley to replace Susie.

**State's Clean Water Initiative Program** - NRCC was awarded \$55,460 with the goal of preparing projects to move forward towards funding, design and implementation in the Lake Champlain, Lake Memphremagog, Connecticut River and Hoosic River watersheds.

**GRANTS:**

**NRCC Block Grant DEC-** We have received a conceptual design for a practice at Rotary Park. The design has been emailed to Bob Peterson along with details. Once this has been approved by the Parks and Rec's Department the plan is to write for funding through the NRCC Block Grant to implement this practice.

**ERP FY2018 Moon Brook SWMP** – Andres and I had a teleconference with Jeff W, Jim and Ted on May 29 and it is clear that they are not going to do outreach as they are TOO BUSY so I have started mailing letters to landowners and Watershed Consulting Associates will follow up after a week. There is a \$1,500 match that the city is aware of.

**NRCS Update:** (Marian Jordan)

- We have ~60 applications pre-approved across a number of fund pools. Area staff are currently working to prepare these applications for obligation.
- 34 applications have been pre-approved or are approved; 30 have been obligated.

- Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) funds have been released. No applications from the Southzone were funded. We had only two applications submitted for consideration.
- Conservation Stewardship Program: The South Zone has 19 new applications. We are currently working on getting those applications ready for ranking.
- Any pre-approved CSP applications must be obligated by September 6, 2019.
- Wetland Reserve Easements: we currently have 3 new applications. To date, none have been funded.
- As it currently stands, no additional applications will be funded this fiscal year.

**Outreach:**

- Local Work Group Meeting: Districts are tasked to gather recommendations regarding priority resource concerns, and geographic areas of consideration to be submitted to the State office by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Staffing Update:**

- Detail Soil Con in Brattleboro leaves June 14<sup>th</sup>. A new detail Soil Con will come to us from Arizona. His name is Andrew Faison.
- Paperwork has been submitted to advertise both Rutland and Brattleboro Soil Con positions. They may fly in either June or August.

**Ag Specialist Update:** (Stefano Pinna)

**Discussion on:**

**NMP Plan Updates** – Stefano reported that he is currently collecting soil and manure samples to assist producers in updating their NMP Plans from 2016. This has been a challenge due to the weather.

**PMNRCD Office Move** – Stefano reported that he is assisting with this.

**Farms in Rutland District** – Stefano is interested in sitting with Nanci to look at farms in our District that he might work with.

**RNRCD Annual Meeting** – Nanci and the Board thanked Stefano for being there and for presenting.

**Other Business:**

Alan updated the Board on the S.96 Bill that has passed the House and Senate.

**FSA Update:** Tina Williams provided a written report.

**Next Meeting Date:** Wednesday, July 24 at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.**