

Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District (RNRCD)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Rutland
June 25, 2024

Supervisors Present: Alan Shelvey, Mike Pedone, Sean Barrows and Lee Turner

Also, Present: Nanci McGuire, Ted Grembowicz, Phyllicxia Moore, NRCS, District Conservationist, and Whitney Burgess, Ag Outreach Specialist

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

Awards Presentation – The Board presented an award to Ted Grembowicz to show appreciation for his years of service to the RNRCD Board.

Review/Approval of Minutes from the May 23, Meeting - A motion was made by Lee and seconded by Mike to approve the minutes. This was voted on and the motion passed.

Financial Report – The report for May was reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made by Lee and seconded by Mike to approve the financial report. This was voted on and the motion passed.

Ag Outreach Specialist Report: (Whitney Burgess)

Whitney reported that she:

- Is working with a landowner on mushroom production.
- Is collecting soil samples and doing soil health testing.
- Attended a workshop at Smokey House in Danby sponsored by UVM on Forest Farming Practices.

NRCS Update: (Phyllicxia Moore)

Phyllicxia reported that:

- The Team is working through applications and doing contract management.
- Application cutoff date for FY25 is August 23.
- She has a new position as Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations beginning July 29.
- FY25 Conservation Delivery Rollout Meeting is July 31 at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee.
- Caleb Smith new partner staff.

District Manager Report: (Nanci McGuire)

District Manager Meetings – Nanci reported on meetings/trainings that she participated in on June 10, and June 24

Other:

VT Envirothon Steering Committee Meeting – I participated in this meeting on May 30, via zoom.

Topics discussed:

Review of 2024 Envirothon - What went well and what could be improved?

Priorities for 2025 Envirothon - Increased Recruitment - how do we get more schools involved?

Future Meetings- Will be held quarterly.

Grants:

LCBP Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems Grant (Town of Proctor SWMP)

Watershed Consulting Associates have draft 30% designs for Proctor High School and Proctor Library. They expect to have the other (2) draft designs for Proctor Elementary School and Riverside Cemetery completed soon.

Deadline on this agreement is August 31, 2024.

Otter Creek Basin Clean Water Service Provider, Clean Water Projects (Town of West Rutland SWMP for the Clarendon River Watershed)

Evan and Frank with Fitzgerald Environmental met with Sean on June 5, to review the projects that have been identified and visited some of the sites. The deadline on this agreement is June 30, 2025.

Round 3 RFP for Otter Creek Basin Clean Water Service Provider, Clean Water Projects – (Sargent Brook-Cold River Floodplain Restoration/Berm Removal)

Fitzgerald Environmental are working on processing the field survey data that they have collected. There will be an on-site meeting once the field survey data and computer modeling has been completed. The deadline on this agreement is January 31, 2025.

Other Business:

Personnel discussion.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 9:30 at the USDA Service Center at 170 South Main St., Ste 4, Rutland.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.