



Eastern Connecticut RC&D

Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.
24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon CT 06066 * (860) 373-7408 * www.easternrcd-ct.org

John Guskowski, President
Lois Bruinooge, Vice President
Barbara Kelly, Treasurer
Margot Burns, Secretary

Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council Meeting Minutes Meeting Minutes Monday, February 24, 2014 Tolland County Agricultural Center Vernon, CT

Board Members in Attendance: Barbara Kelly, Lois Bruinooge, John Guskowski, Judy Rondeau, Jim Larkin, Margot Burns, Jennifer Kaufman

Board Member not in attendance: Jim Gooch, Tom Seidel, Paula Stahl, Tom O'Dell

Other Attendees: Sal DeCarli, Elaine Sych, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Arte Ramthun, Francis Pickering, Javier Cruz

John Guskowski called the meeting to order at 12:07pm

Secretaries Report:

Motion: to accept the meeting minutes from December 17, 2013

Motion Made by: Judy

Seconded by: Barb

Voted: Motion passed

Abstention: N/A

Treasurer's Report

Reviewed Financial Statement, Profit/Loss Statement, and Project Accounting.

Motion: to enter the financial statement into the records

Motion Made by: Margot

Seconded by: Judy

Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team (Contact Elaine for distributed report)

ERT updated the Board on recent and continuing projects and distributed a report of activities.

Farm Energy Program (Contact Amanda for distributed Report)

Amanda updated the Board on current project, and upcoming events.

Motion: To allow the council to submit a grant application to RBEG for approximately \$44,000, and to authorize John to sign the application on behalf of the council.



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Motion Made by: Margot

Seconded by: Barb

Voted: Motion passed

Discussed Farm Credit East donation of \$2,500 to RC&D for support of the Farm Energy Program.

Project Manager Update

- Peat 319: Project is still continuing, and a new extension is being drafted by DEEP
- Lake Shore Management: Project Concluded
- Soil Health Workshops: Planning next workshops. NCCD is working on Soil health report and coordinating with Ray Covino to make sure report meets NRCS goals.
- Advocate: Train the Trainer: Conference held at the end of January. Workshop was successful and well attended with many new people and from a broad geography. Next Ag. Conference held on April 5th.
- Value Chain Partnership: Brothers is now New England Meat Packing. Equipment purchased to assist with meat processing. Open house will be scheduled in a few months to showcase new capabilities.

Committee Reports

Agriculture - Has not met.

Greenways - Has not met

Sustainable Communities - Has not met, but did provide a handout with some updates

New Business

RC&D Merger

- Discussion about Eastern and Kings Mark RC&D signing an MOU to join the two organizations.

New By-laws

- By-laws have been reworked in an attempt to incorporate both RC&D by-laws from Kings Mark and Eastern RC&D. New version was distributed 10 days prior to meeting for board to review. By-laws will be sent out again to be discussed at next meeting.

National RC&D Conference

- Mobile, Alabama in June. John interested in attending.

Old Business

- RPO Reorganization/Membership: Discussed in merger portion of meeting



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- GeoLab: John clarified some questions board members had at the last meeting.

Partner Updates

NRCS

- Farm Bill details have not been released yet, but easement programs have been consolidated.

Adjourn

Next meeting, 12:00pm April 28, 2014 at the Tolland Agricultural Center in Vernon, CT

Motion: to adjourn at 2:15pm

Motion Made by: Jennifer

Seconded by: Jim

Voted: Motion passed