



CONNECTICUT

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

1066 Saybrook Road

Haddam, Connecticut 06438

*John Guszowski, President
Judy Rondeau, Vice President
Treasurer, Justin LaFountain
Margot Burns, Secretary*

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 9/17/19, 12:00 – 1:30
Call In Meeting

Board Members in Attendance: John Guskowski, Margot Burns, Rick Huntley, Lois Bruinooge, Judy Rondeau, Lynne Pike DiSanto, Aaron Budris; Justin LaFountain, Jim Costello

Board Members not in Attendance: Matt Fulda, Mark Nielsen, Jim Larkin, Joanna Shapiro, Rosa Browne, Rebecca Andreucci, Mark Goetz, Jim Sipperly

Other: Jeanne Davies; Amanda Fargo-Johnson; Andrea Peres; Lilian Ruiz

John Guskowski called the meeting to order at 12:03pm and noted that there was a quorum.

Mid Atlantic Conference:

Motion: To authorize Jeanne and 1 other Council member to attend the conference.

Motion made by: Rick Huntly

Seconded by: Judy Rondeau

Voted: Motion approved unanimously

Mid Atlantic RC&D Youth Program:

Discussion: This funding for youth programs would allow for outreach to colleges and high schools for creation of agricultural programs. \$10k - \$15k funding for next year. 1/3 for administration, 1/3 for marketing, and 1/3 implementation.

Motion: Authorize Jeanne to pursue grant application.

Motion made by: Lynne Pike DiSanto

Seconded by: Rick Huntley

Voted: Motion approved unanimously.

CT Council on Soil and Health – Soil Health Committee:

Motion: To authorize Amanda Fargo-Johnson to join as a member only of the CSWC Soil Health Committee so as to provide support with stakeholder capacity building as well as outreach and education and to request formal acknowledgement of CT RC&D's participation by vote of CSWC appointing her as a member of the newly formed CSWC Soil Health Committee.

Motion made by: Rick Huntly

Seconded by: Justin LaFountain

Voted: Motion approved unanimously

Annual Report:

Consensus to do info-graphic format.

Climate Strike:

Andrea Peres asked for the Council to endorse the CT Climate Crisis Mobilization. Margot thought this was something that COG representatives might want to ask for COG board approval on.

Motion: For RC&D to endorse CT Climate Crisis Mobilization.

Motion made by: Jim Costello

Seconded by: John Guskowski

Motion Passed, Margot, Justin, Aaron, Lynn abstain.

Grants Update:

Job Jump Start funded through USDA through Sept.2020.

Tour des Farms:

Final countdown to the event on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

Agriculture Programs Update:

- REAP Grant Projects – all June round applicants were funded, since inception CFEP has helped with over \$17 million dollars in energy projects in CT since 2010.
- REAP completed solar projects at Earth's Palate, Warren, CT
 - Angevine Farm, Warren, CT
 - Kent Falls Brewery, Kent, CT
 - Litchfield Distillery, Litchfield, CT
- BMP Guide – 3rd edition has been completed
- FarmUP program – new handout
- SCRCOG Project – 2 of 3 Greater New Haven Region Farm videos are completed and posted on CT RC&D's new you tube channel that Riley created.
- DOAG Grant – Livestock guide nearing completion with CT Farm Bureau as contractor.
- REDA #1 Geothermal Project – 14 of 18 assessments have been completed for farms. Recently completed reports for: Sunny Border Nursery, Maple Lane 2 and Michael's Greenhouses.
- REDA # 2 – Energy Audit program with EnSave launched, 1st event Fall 2019 TBD.
- Soil Health Initiative – August 2019 Silvopasture & Agroforestry 101 workshop at Hidden Blossom Farm, Union, CT had 60+ attendees.
- CIG Grant – No-Till Cover Crop Farm Field day in partnership with CT NOFA at Sub Edge Farm being held on October 2, 2019.
- Compost Conference – planning stages with stake holders for a March 2020 conference

- Soil Committee Invite from CCSWC

Financial:

Executive Committee to meet with Liberty Bank staff to begin transfer of accounts from Key Bank to Liberty Bank.

CACEE Concept – CT DOAG Grant Proposal:

Consensus to continue conversation with executive committee and Town of Lebanon concerning their interest in the CACEE center and a Northeast Farm Access, LLC program concerning affordable housing for farmers and financial and legal processes to acquire affordable farm land and donated land.

Council Capacity Building:

Mark Hoover to replace Mark Goetz as the representative from Metro COG.

Motion: To adjourn at 1:19

Motion made by: Jim Costello

Seconded by: Rick Huntly

Respectfully submitted,
Margot Burns, Secretary