

WCNRCD Board Meeting  
November 8th 6:30 PM Held at Geof's House and over Zoom

**Present:** Cory Ross; District Manager; Heather Blunk, Ag Outreach Specialist; Board Members: Meg Kluge, Geof Dolman, Linda Corse, Pieter van Loon

**Zoom Participants:** Phyllicia Moore; NRCS Zone Conservationist, Marie Caduto; DEC Watershed Planner

**NRCS Update from Phyllicia Moore:**

- Still waiting on an official job offer for soil conservationists.
- Drew is helping with cover crop certification.
- October 20th was the application deadline, however they are still sort of accepting people.
- Prioritizing workload and cite visits. Working with other partner planners to assist Emma with workload.
- Phyllicica is taking detail as state resource conservationist November 20th for 120 days. Joe is going to act as NH state conservationist so Phyllicia is filling in for him.
- NACD grant funded at 75% from what we proposed.

**Marie Caduto Basin 12 Planning Process Presentation:**

- Deerfield. Already did water quality monitoring of rivers, streams, lake ponds and wetlands.
- Data people stepped in and gave reports. Marie is now starting to draft the plan.
- Land use and land cover is forest, wetlands, lakes, reservoirs and lots of developed land, it is around the ski areas. Storm water will be a chunk of the plan.
- River monitoring is looking at bugs and fish. All good, not much red, bug community and fish are in good shape.
- Lakes and ponds, not much red, are in the midwest power plant area. We need more data. Rivers and lakes are random sampling. Wetland sampling is done when Marie asks them to go and document an outstanding one or a problem one. The Wetland assessment program is only 5 years old. She wants us to tell her where the problems are, where the good areas are. This will tell her where to monitor next, and help write the basin plan.
- Focus collectively is Newton Brook in Vernon- it is the only Ag impaired water in Marie's region. Nitrogen levels have been going down since 1994, due to work being done in Springfield Mass and Hartford CT. LISFF(Long Island Sound Futures Fund) will also help address this. Would like more Ag projects identified in the Basin. Looking to learn water quality conditions are, what to protect, where to do projects, prioritize projects and help doing these projects. Hoping to do these meetings next month, have the plan done by January (not likely) (winter). Public draft out by spring so formal draft by June.
- We have done aquatic assessments in summer, what data can they use?
  - They can use public data, shoot it to Kim Jenson or Marie.

**Quarterly Financial Reports:**

- \$77 in black
- Unbilled hours for LISFF, will hopefully get rolling soon. Meeting next week to get things going.
- AFT RCPP money needs to be used.
- Implementation project, Ellis Brook, held up by state historic preservation review. Probably Fall 2024. Will increase grant awards to do archaeological review.

- Greeter season done, greeters have been paid, we have not been paid by DEC.
- Will need to do a revised budget next month.
  - Isabel has secured 3 trees for streams
- Cost of the annual meeting should go under.... Meetings

### **DEI Summary**

- What are our goals with this DEI assessment?
  - Self education
    - Could have improvements
  - Want to do not just to feel better about ourselves
  - This learning should result in action

### **VACD Annual update:**

- Full board was reelected
- Willing to let go of rule making (if all districts want to get rid of it)
- Working on DM job description

### **DM Report**

#### **Mission Statement:**

- Land stewards and users
- A subcommittee of Meg, Geof, Pieter was formed and they will meet to create a mission statement.

#### **Annual Meeting:**

- Good to go!

### **Minutes**

**Motion to accept the October meetings minutes was moved, seconded and passed with corrections.**

Correct spelling of Isabel correctly Bottom of page 56. Moved, seconded, and passed.

**Next Meeting December 12th, At Geoff's**

**Motion to adjourn moved, seconded, and passed - 8:38**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Blunk**