

**Southern Rhode Island Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
Master Gardner's Field House, East Farm, Kingston, RI**

January 23, 2012

Chair Clarkson Collins called meeting to order at 4:09 pm.

Present: Chair: Clarkson Collins; Directors: Harriet Powell, Rudi Hempe, Harvey Buford, Carl Sawyer. J. Eric Scherer, Matt Deane, SRICD. John Richard, NRCS. Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee.

- I. Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 12/19/11 Board meeting: Harriet/Harvey; unanimous.

- II. Reports
 - A. Treasurer's: A motion was made to accept the financial reports as presented: Harriet/Harvey; unanimous.

 - B. Chair: Clark has been working with Peter Conopask in preparation for first strategic planning session scheduled for 1/30/12.

 - C. District Manager: written summary of activities distributed.
 - Eric will be developing an assessment report for Tiverton Land Trust for Pardon Gray property to determine best use of property.
 - Eric attended State Technical Team meeting at which water protection issues were a focus. He sees opportunity for CD's to strengthen ties to EPS and DEM/Water Resources, particularly in light of Geese & Waterways.

 - D. Agreements: SRICD is investigating sharing office space with RC&D Council.

- III. NRCS: written report distributed.
 - WHIP funding will be more restricted in current year and will be linked to specific species. Many WHIP projects will be moved to EQIP.

IV. SCC:

- Consolidation policy was revised to allow Conservation Districts to enter into agreements in core programs directly if confined to that District. SCC will continue to provide administrative support for those agreements.
- SCC has established an engineering team that includes a PE, an engineering technician and an engineering firm to provide support on an as-needed basis.
- A meeting with DEM Director Janet Coit is being planned.

V. Old Business:

- No response from South Kingstown on storm water proposal yet.

VI. New Business:

- Letter requesting funding will be sent to municipalities.
- Eric will discuss participation with NRCS at upcoming events, including Land/Water Summit & Flower Show.

Next Meeting: 2/27 at 4:00.