

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

February 27, 2012

Chair Clarkson Collins called meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Present: Chair: Clarkson Collins; Directors: Harriet Powell, Rudi Hempe, Harvey Buford, Carl Sawyer; District Manager Eric Scherer; John Richard, NRCS; Ramona LeBlanc, SCC;

- I. Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 1/23/12 meeting as amended:
 - II - D. Agreements: SRICD is investigating sharing office space with RC&D: Harriet/Rudi; unanimous.

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

 - B. Chair: Clark revised town funding letters which have been sent to all towns in District.

 - C. District Manager: written report distributed.
 - Geese Workshop at Richmond Grange was lightly attended but contacts were made with several interested municipalities.
 - TMDL proposal submitted to South Kingstown after the deadline to have it on record. This was done to avoid competition with private sector while establishing this as a service that SRICD can provide.
 - A motion was made to receive the District Manager's activity report: Harriet/Rudi; unanimous.

- III. NRCS:
 - District Conservationist summary report, along with a map of focal area for NE Cottontail initiative, were distributed.
 - WHIP funding in RI will be for cottontail. However, funds have not been released to states yet.
 - 15 EQIP contracts have been signed in SRICD with 21 additional

applications in process.

- 21 applications for High Tunnels have been received and are waiting for release of funds from HQ.

IV. SCC: SCC and District Chairs met with DEM Director Janet Coit.

V. Old Business:

- NRLT: Ramona will invoice for GIS work completed.
- Ag Council: Eric and Jo-Anne will attend March 15 meeting.

VI. New Business:

- Building: Eric meeting with several contractors and is investigating grant funding for rehab of empty building at East Farm with idea of co-locating with several other groups.
- A motion was made for Eric to continue to investigate and to develop a plan of action: Harriet/Harvey; unanimous.

Motion to adjourn at 4:00: Harriet/Carl; unanimous.

Next Meeting: 3/26 at 4:00.