

**Connecticut River Watershed Farmers Alliance Board Meeting**  
**10am February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the WRJ USDA Service Center**

Board present: Paul Doton, Steve Stocking, Bill Emmons, Linda Corse, Beth Kennett, Walt Gladstone, Katherine Adams, Amy Richardson, Jeff McNamara, Ed MacGlaflin, Guy Crosby

WRNRCD Representative: Marina Welch, taking minutes

NRCS Representative: Nick Comerci, Sylvia Harris

Members: Jed Davis call-in (non-voting), Kevin Kaija

*Welcome at 10:10am*

**General Board Discussion**

Approved December and January minutes/elections.

New members—Jeff McNamara, Sam Lincoln, Paul Knox, Tom Debevoise, George Miller, Mark Patch, Rory Allen, Loren Wehmeyer. Approved

Officer elections—approved slate of current positions.

Approved honorary member of Marina Welch for the 2017 year.

Treasury Report—current net income is \$2,117.01, lost money on the annual meeting. Approved

Reciprocal relationship with VT Farm Bureau to help spread newsletter tidbits from CRWFA?

**NRCS Update, Local Work Group Meetings (LWG)**

Walt brought up issue that farmers aren't present at State Technical Committee meetings in Colchester. Vicky Drew was open to the idea of CRWFA joining the meetings. State Tech Committee looks at the practices offered at the national level and decides what the state will focus on. Takes into consideration the Local Work Group meetings held by the Conservation Districts.

ONRCD LWG is on April 18<sup>th</sup>

Have one focus for CRWFA at State meetings and visits? Cover crops?

What can we do about farms that refuse assistance and are clear contributors to water quality issues?

How does CRWFA get involved in legislature?

**Action:** Katherine will go to State Tech Committee Meeting, all board members will try to attend LWG, push for cover crops, contact different Conservation Districts about their LWG dates

**Grant Update**

CRWFA Organizational Development application to Agency of Ag is either partially or fully funded. As is the partner application for UVM Ext. workshops and outreach. Waiting to hear back about what exactly was funded.

**Additional**

Should CRWFA have a booth at the Farm Show next year with watershed maps of the CT River Valley?

Ask the CT River Watershed Council for a map? Put it online?

Should we assign members to different regions for outreach?

Most water quality monitoring of the CT River is done by NH. What about sediment testing?

**Action:** Ask Ron Rhodes for a map of the CT River Watershed (or TRORC).

Will wait to review By-Laws until next meeting. Jed suggests thinking about having a nominating committee or not. Also need to clarify whether one farm has one vote or if multiple family members in a farm can vote if each registers.

**Action:** Ensure new members get welcome letters. Paul might bring up Atroazine issue at Legislature on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>

Next board meeting on Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

*Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm*  
*Minutes taken by Marina Welch*