

# CONNECTICUT RIVER WATERSHED FARMERS ALLIANCE

Thursday December 12, 2019

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Yankee Farm Credit downstairs meeting room(right side of building)

52 Farmvu Drive, White River Jct., VT

## Business Meeting Agenda

### MEETING MINUTES

Meeting begins 10:09am

Present: Tom Beaudry, Andrew Davis, Jeff McNamara, Steve Stocking, Craig Gardner, Paul Doton, Linda Corse, Carl Majewski, Guy Crosby, Laura Johnson, Bill Emmons, Mike Dolloff, Amy Richardson, Jennifer Byrne

10:00 Welcome

Introductions

10:05 Approval of Minutes –November 21, 2019 meeting (attached)

Motion to approve, approved

10:10 Treasurer's Report

\$5093.40, check book statement, \$6834.90, book statement \$18,645.51

No till seeder program in the hole because some people have not paid

Coulter bearings replacement on drill. Drill receipts turned into treasurer. Parts, labor

Motion to approve, approved.

10:15 Admin Report

PES: working group, pressure from Abe Collins to fund him personally, CRWFA and working group seeking opportunities to support all contributors, not just one. PES will not have complete recommendations yet for PES, working group hoping to develop more concrete recommendations, not conceivable for the original January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Brief discussion and overview of what working group is and what their role is.

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So far, 4-5 page draft for legislature so far, not yet complete

Discussion about what data is to be collected for sale of PES. Same questions about what and how will performance measures be measured, what's the baseline.

Letter from CRWFA supporting request to extend deadline for setting performance goals for PES, to be sent to legislature. Other partner groups will also be submitting a similar letter. Andrew has drafted and will add some additional points specific to the conversation today (baseline, definitions of terms, CRWFA difficulties understanding).

NEWTRIENT (making money from manure) has been involved in working group discussion and will present webinar for working group.

10:20 Discussion – CRWFA Purpose and Goals (skipped)

Annual Meeting details – January 22, 2020

Alyson Eastman, VAAFM-happy to present on PES progress

Screen for presentations? UNH Ext Carl M has screen and projector (computer)

\$75 kitchen and meeting space, 9am-3pm

Corn chowder, cornbread from Hartland Diner. Amy will organize list of potluck foods.

Contract for renting space, Amy brought. Linda writes check for payment

Anyone from NH Agency of Ag-Commissioner to be invited

Agenda draft:

Morning:

Agencies of Ag

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Videos (Newmont farm etc)

Dam relicensing update, Mudge book, Tom Bueadry's video

Business meeting

Afternoon:

Speakers (UNH)

Laura (UVM)

Online payment – **Laura to take off website**

Snail mail and email requests for dues, announcement for annual meeting, and Board of Directors positions/nominations

Save the date, magnet vs postcard discussion

Magnets of CRWFA logo for members-**Andrew will research**

Review brochure

Status of update-address, phone number, email, to be printed on NON glossy paper so you can write on it. Bullet points of what CRWFA does, highlighting workshop vs farm tour vs educational opportunities. **Andrew to discuss details with Amy**

Retention and recruitment plan

Incentives-Paid board members? Stipend? Or mileage reimbursement?  
Scholarships? Membership renewal packet contents (brochure, handbook, magnet/sticker). Restructuring meetings, general board meetings, membership meeting (celebratory, cookout, summer social?), but also members maybe not looking to attend more meetings....can website be more educational and email updates to highlight. What the common thread for educational threads (dairy vs org veg for example), how to diversify message. What are farms getting for \$50???

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Newsletter (accomplishments, successes, annual report/year in review, cover cropping-Census?).

Vital communities, Windsor Country Farm bureau-climate change conversation?

2020 plan?

Laura to update calendar (make sure annual meeting is there) and upload minutes

11:00 Volunteer worksheet – come with the events you have attended

11:05 Events

11:10 Future Events

Vermont Farm Show – January 28-30, 2020

Vermont Grazing & Livestock Conference – January 17 & 18, 2020

CRWFA – January 22<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting

11:40 Other Business – The future including grant opportunities

NRCD has a board member position open.

Discussion about water quality monitoring direct to CT River, DEC funding? For monitoring direct to CT River, right now, just monitoring of tributaries (not land that abuts the river). Danielle Owczarski is naming CRWFA as group as a contact for consulting about monitoring plans.

Army Corps of Engineers – list of pesticides (North Hartland Lake Jap Knotweed treatment) – willing to come talk about use to CRWFA (Marcus Bradley) in Feb, uses Rodeo variety (reduced runoff potential, for use around water bodies)

No-till drill from District-looking to maybe sell to CRWFA.....does CRWFA want it?  
Form separate committee-volunteer members Tom, Steve, Craig, Guy

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11:55      Next Meeting Date

February 24<sup>th</sup> board meeting

Meeting adjourned 12:10pm

Notes by Laura Johnson