

DRAFT Minutes
NC RC&D Board of Directors Meeting-September 8, 2009
Gordon Nash Library - New Hampton, NH

Directors Present: Dan McLaughlin, Bob Harrington, Russ Dowd, John Hodsdon, Ben Hudson, Joan Turley

Others Present: Rick DeMark, Ann Bowes

Absent: Jeff Hayes, Nate Miller, Adam Tatem, Lisa Rixen

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:22pm.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 8/4/09 were reviewed and corrected to show that Russ Dowd was present. The Chairman moved to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by Russ Dowd. The motion was passed unanimously.

Financial:

There was no financial report available. Russ Dowd gave an interim report from the Finance Committee.

The Finance committee met on 9/3/09.

The committee reviewed and discussed a number of issues including financial policies and procedures. The bookkeeper is chronically in arrears e.g., no financial report for this meeting, 990 filing was due in May and the Board has filed for a second extension. In the past two years the IRS 990 tax form has been filed in November. The 990 cannot be done by the CPA until the books have been closed for 2008. There will be a meeting on 9/18 with the bookkeeper to address the issues. The committee has set a date of 10/1 for the books to be closed.

Russ mentioned that Lisa Rixen was added to the bank account at the last meeting, it was discussed that perhaps an additional signer was necessary. Joan Turley moved to appoint Bob Harrington as an alternate check signer, seconded by John Hodsdon. The motion was passed unanimously.

Due to the potential long-term or intermittent absence of Secretary/Treasurer Adam Tatem, Rick Demark requested the board nominate Lisa Rixen as Acting Secretary/Treasurer. Joan Turley moved to appoint Lisa Rixen Acting Secretary/Treasurer, seconded by _____. The motion passed unanimously.

The Capitol One credit card account has been frozen and despite attempts to make immediate payment in full, Capitol One refuses to communicate. The Board will use its bank debit card in lieu of the credit card until a new business card has been secured. Lisa

Rixen is researching a new credit card. The Board will send a certified letter to Capitol One stating its intention to pay the bill in full and documenting all of its efforts to do so to date. Other avenues for recourse will be pursued.

The quote to renew the professional service agreement between the Board and Lynch & Denoncourt, CPA is \$650.00, the same fee as last year. Bob Harrington moved to accept the agreement, seconded by Russ Dowd. The motion passed unanimously.

Rick and Russ will work on a revised quarterly budget updates format to present to the board.

At the suggestion of Chairman, the Coordinator's report was presented prior to the Report from the Area Plan Subcommittee.

Coordinators Report:

RGGI Grant

The RGGI proposal to the Public Utilities Commission was approved and the final documents need to be signed and notarized prior to presenting to the Governors Council.

Rick Demark read the proposal to the Board. Dan McLaughlin will take packet to be notarized.

NRCS Accrual Reports

NRCS is requires accrual reports according to the combined agreement with SNH and NC and the grazing land project. Letters must be sent to NRCS previous to quarter end which is 9/30/09. The letters must state expenditures, reimbursements and anticipated accruals. The Chairman signed the two accrual letters prepared by Rick Demark.

Revisit employee policy needs

Rick Demark requested the board activate a personnel policy committee. The Chairman called for volunteers. Joan Turley and Rick Demark volunteered.

Plans for NE Assoc. Meeting

Rick Demark distributed the agenda and registration form for the NE Association of RC&D's Fall Conference to be held in Portland, ME on 10/29-31. This year the Board budgeted \$5500 for training of which about \$3200 was used for Russ and Dan to attend the National conference in Albuquerque, with a little more than \$2000 remaining. Need to know by 9/23 who wants to go. Dan suggested sending a constituent or partner to the conference. Rick suggested sending Ann Bowes and splitting the cost with SNH RC&D. Rick will poll the absent members. Ben Hudson said he would like to go and he could stay with a relative to avoid the hotel costs. Dan suggested the RC&D could promote the conference to its constituency.

The conference is seeking items for auction. Dan said he will donate Alexandria Eggs.

Laconia Building

Rick Demark and Dan McLaughlin attended the GSA meeting on 8/5/09. Rick reported that the decision to surplus the building was a done deal. On 8/10/09, the Chairman sent a letter to GSA protesting the disposal of the building. Rick distributed the response to that letter from USGSA. The GSA must find alternative space should the Board request it. The Board has to send a letter to GSA by December making a request for GSA to find comparable lease-space options.

It will be 12-18 months before the Council will have to move.

National RC&D Week

Rick announced National RC&D Week is 9/21-25 and asked the Board what they would like to do to commemorate the week. Rick will send out a press release to the local papers. Ann will send a notice to the community cable stations.

Invitations

Invitations have been received for the NC Region of the NH Charitable Foundation 2009 Annual meeting on 9/23 at AMC Highland, the Lakes Region NHCF annual celebration on _____ at the Belknap Mill and the NC Council annual meeting on 9/25 at the Grand Summit at Attitash.

Other Business:

Rick Demark distributed an updated Board of Directors contact list. A couple of corrections were made.

Russ asked about annual volunteer certificates. Rick will look for them.

Area Plan Subcommittee Report:

Ben Hudson gave a progress report to the Board. He described the steps the subcommittee has taken to develop a new five year Area Plan. He presented the draft vision, mission and goals developed by the subcommittee. These were discussed and some revisions were made:

Draft 2010 – 2014 Area Plan Revisions (in red)

Vision

The North Country is a vibrant working and wild landscape which fulfills the social, economic and natural resource needs of its local communities.

Mission

The North Country Resource Conservation and Development Council responds to local needs by facilitating innovative actions that enhance the quality of our lives and natural resources.

Goal	Objectives	Strategies
1. Renewable Energy	1a. Efficiencies	Farm energy audits Energy saving practices/installation
	1b. Utilization	Wood biomass Institutional/community scale DH RGGI roadmap
2. Ag/Forest retention/viability	2a. Business creation and retention	Green renewable jobs Business planning Develop cooperatives
	2b. Add value	Markets Products
	2c. Ag land protection	
3. Natural Resource Protection	3a. Clean water	Winnepesaukee project
	3b. Ample water	Large water withdrawals
	3c. Resource protection	Land trusts Rural Fire Protection Init. (supply plan and facilities) Farmlink
	3d. Land management	Forest stewardship and planning Farm conservation and planning
4. Effective Organizations and Communities	4a. External	Project development and facilitation Training Grant research & writing
	4b. Internal	Training Financial sustainability Develop relationships Communications

The next meeting was scheduled for 10/20/09.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.