

**Coös County Conservation District
Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2017**

Called to order: 5:05pm

Attendees: John Lanier, Sarah Brady, Bert vonDohrmann, Kelly Eggleston, Carolyn McQuiston, Kris vonDohrmann, Scott DeBlois, Mike Harrington, Steve Turaj

NRCS Update (Kelly)

Reviewed pollinator sites with Eric Venterini, from Maine.

Field staff have been asking for more program training. Program rollout training January-May for funding, folks should apply sooner than later.

Technology training, this Friday, Nov 17. Requests have been made for emergency funds since this last flooding. Berlin-Gorham area.

Kelly spoke at the Annie's Project Conference (women farmers) at the Highland Center in October.

No District Conservationist in Orford, Kelly will be helping out there beginning in January.

District (Sarah)

Financial Report – October 2017 – reviewed, Bert motion to accept, Scott 2nd.

Still waiting for Moose grant funds, invoice has been submitted.

New Cooperators

Land in Stewartstown, Cooperator lives in Penacook, NH. Kelly believes will be a good contact, resource.

Office Activity:

10/13 – Job Posted

10/17 – Spreader rented

10/30 – Fruit & Vegetable Seminar & Tradeshow

10/31 – LIS RCPP Call

- Organizing grant information & guide for new administrator
- Annual meeting presentation. No one from Coös was able to go, however Sarah sent down a presentation to represent the County. Annual meeting was well attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Nursery –

- a. Essex CCD may be interested in the tool shed (for \$1000) – Heather is asking her board and will contact us.
 - i. Discussion we could use these funds in the nursery. Planting, maintenance budget for mowing, etc.

- b. Do we want to schedule another fencing day for the nursery for now, or wait until the spring? Yes, should set one in the Spring.
 - c. \$365.30 left in the Task 3 budget that was supposed to be used to move the tool shed. Maybe we can get a small plastic storage shed from Home Depot or Lowes? Discussion, Kris will pick up the storage shed with a discount, she believes she can get the next size up for the same price. It should be lockable, we will want to build a base to keep it off the ground. vonDohrmanns may have some pressure treated wood that can be used.
 - d. Interest in a Vernal Pool workshop at the nursery in the spring. (note: could use this time and mileage for demo grant match).
2. LIS RCPP – 4 counties involved. The additional money that was available for the LIS RCPP is still available and we've decided only to utilize the funds if the grant is extended for another year. Farmer time is now able to be used as in-kind match. We won't know if it is extended until the end of this years grant 2018.
Match reporting is due, Dec 6 to Jackie at NHACD.
 3. NHACD Dues – Linda and Richard have been contacted about our request to pay \$100 instead of the \$500 dues to NHACD.
 4. Supervisor Terms – John S.'s nomination form – need a copy to send to SCC.



NEW BUSINESS:

1. Monitoring Reports – 2 of the easements are due for a monitoring report. Charlie Baylies needs to be contacted to do the monitoring.
2. Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust Meeting – We've been invited to attend a meeting with ACT to give feedback on their emerging Strategic Conservation Plan. They are looking for feedback and thoughts about the minimum size for working farm and forest lands, how they weight various natural resource values, and how they are incorporating issues of climate change in this work. The meeting is on Monday, November 27 from 11-12:30 at their office in Franconia. Kelly is planning to go, Carolyn should also plan to go.
3. Demo Agreement – Kelly contacted Don Keirstead about the status of this year's demo agreement funds and asked if there was any way we could get surveys done so they can be finalized early in 2018. Don would like to move forward, but is afraid it will take longer than the timeframe we were hoping for. There will hopefully be a conference call soon about the project and then we can move things forward. (Scott has done 3 hours of mowing, we should add)

- 4 County Budget – Carolyn’s salary and benefits should be able to just transfer over in to our budget request. Reviewed, Carrie is aware there is a line item missing Carolyn’s longevity. She will adjust in February. The 2018 Proposed Budget public hearing is on December 11 at 10am in Stewartstown. Bert and Kris plan to attend.
- 5 Spreader – We had a tire on the ash spreader that needed a patch on October 19. The producer had Northern Tire mail the bill to us. Who is responsible for the charge (\$38)? Bert, motion to pay. Scott 2nd. Was not from misuse of the equipment, regular maintenance, general wear and tear we will pay.
- 6 Staff Changes – we would like to Thank Sarah Brady for serving as Coös County Conservation District Administrator and Welcome Carolyn McQuiston to fill this position. Please arrange to have Passumpsic bank signature cards prepared.
- 7 High Tunnel Tool Storage: Kris made proposal to prepare a grant to purchase a trailer and shed to store tools. Discussion, this would make a nice traveling display for workshops, fairs, etc. also would be handy to have available here at the office for display. Possible add in to grant funds for mulch layer, maintenance fund, or other tools. Bert motion to write the grant, John L 2nd.

Adjourned: 6:00pm Bert motion, Scott 2nd to adjourn.

District Calendar 2017

- **January**
 - 1st – New Year’s Day (OFF)
 - 10th – Board Meeting
 - 16th – MLK Jr. Day (OFF)
 - 17th – 18th - Farm & Forest Expo
 - **February**
 - 14th – Board Meeting
 - 20th - President’s Day (OFF)
 - 21st – Forage Crop Workshop
 - 22nd – Soil Health Meeting
 - 27th – Agronomist Interviews
 - **March**
 - 15th – Dairy Seminar
 - 17th – Bulb / Plant Orders Due
 - 21st – Board Meeting
 - 23rd – Agronomist Orientation
 - 30th – CDEA Meeting
 - 31st – Annual Budget Meeting
 - **April Spring Bulb Sale**
 - 11th – Board Meeting
 - ~~13th – Soils Training Day~~
 - 19th – Roller / Crimper Demo, Unity
 - **May Spring Bulb Sale**
 - 1st & 2nd – Plant Pick-Up
 - 4th – Mud Season Breakfast
 - 9th – Board Meeting
 - 9th – 11th – Field Office Review
 - 11th – Spreader Demo
 - 16th – Soil Training Day, Sunapee
 - 17th & 18th – Conservation Day
 - 29th – Memorial Day (OFF)
 - **June**
 - 13th – Board Meeting
 - 28th – CDEA Meeting, Concord
 - **July**
 - 4th – Independence Day (OFF)
 - 11th – Board Meeting
 - **August Fall Bulb Sale**
 - 8th – Board Meeting
 - 22nd – Erosion Control Workshop
 - 24th - Asparagus Lunch & Learn
 - 31st – Start of Lancaster Fair
 - **September Fall Bulb Sale**
 - 1st – 4th - Lancaster Fair
 - 11th – Bulb Orders Due
 - 12th – Board Meeting
 - 25th & 26th – Bulb Sale Pick-Up
 - 30th – Forestry Workshop
 - **October**
 - 10th – Board Meeting
 - 30th - Fruit & Veg. Seminar
 - **November**
 - 14th – Board Meeting
 - 2nd & 3rd –NHACD Annual Meeting
 - **December**
 - 12th – Board Meeting
-  = Events to discuss
-  = Events to be approved by the board