**Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2022 at 4:00pm.**

Attendance:

Staff: Sarah Robinson, Seth Jones, Kacey Weber

Supervisors: Toby Hall (Chair), Jensen Bissell, Jim Ferrante, Sue Mackey Andrews

Assoc. Supervisors: Sam Brown, Kim Merritt

Guests: Kent Black

The Meeting was conducted via Teams.

The Chair established that a quorum is present and opened the meeting at 4:03 pm.

Jensen provided an introduction to Kent Black. Kent is interested in joining the PCSWCD group and provided some background on his time in Maine and ownership in Medford.

**District Conservationist Report:** Seth expressed his appreciation at being included in the PCSWCD Retreat on 5/18/22. He then reported on his work with Olivia \_\_\_\_ of Xerces Society of Invertebrate Conservation regarding management opportunities for pollinators. Seth sees potential in the county work improving pollinator habitat. Seth will explore arranging for Olivia to educate the board more on this issue at a future meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Jensen reported that the District finances continue to be healthy. The dashboard was mistakenly omitted from the packet - Sarah will post after the meeting. Sarah discussed some minor expenditure decisions and the use of a Pleasant River Lumber donation to complete the earthwork around the new Law Farm Learning Center. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:** Sarah reviewed action to apply the $5,000 grant from the Onion Foundation to Kacey’s hours. The effects of the increase in Kacey’s hours from both the NRCS funding (10 hrs/week) and the Onion grant funding (6 hrs/week), increasing her hours to 36 hrs/week beginning in June and July and extending through the calendar year were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the extension of Kacey’s hours. The vote was unanimous.

Sarah discussed the arrangements she has made to complete the survey work on the Law Farm. She has researched the cost and availability of other surveyors and ended up going with Sackett and Brake. She will use the $5K in funds available after the Pleasant River Lumber donation was applied to the Learning Center earthwork.

**Consent Agenda:** Toby opened consideration of the consent agenda. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous.**

**Board Development and Outreach:** General positive discussion regarding yesterday’s retreat. Sam reported on his attendance to a Somerset County Birdwalk and his outreach to this group. Jim reported on an upcoming EAB workshop he will be conducting at the Law Farm on May 23.

**Other Business:**  Continued discussion regarding the 2022 Cooperator of Year- Agriculture Nominations**-** Shaw Road Farm & Marr Pond Farm. General support for the Marr Pond nomination. Sarah will try and schedule a farm tour for this fall.

**Upcoming Events:**

Law Farm Classroom Ribbon Cutting - 10 am 5/21

Other items listed in the agenda.

**Executive Session:**  **A motion was made and seconded to enter Executive Session to discuss a performance review. The vote was unanimous, and the Board entered executive session at 5:07 pm.**

The Board exited the Executive Session at 6:12 pm. A motion was made and seconded to increase the regular wage rate of Kacey Weber by 4%.

There being no further business, **Toby moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.**  The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.

| **PCSWCD Meeting Attendance Record** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **2022 Attendance** | **1/20** | **2/17** | **3/24** | **4/21** | **5/19** | **6/16** | **7/21** | **8/18** | **9/15** | **10/20** | **11/17** | **12/15** |
| ***Supervisors*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Toby Hall, Chair** | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Jensen Bissell** | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mike Pounch** | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sue Mackey Andrews** | x |  |  | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Jim Ferrante** |  | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Associate Supervisors*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sam Brown** | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Donna Coffin** | x |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Steve Tatko** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Amber Hines** | x |  | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ***Staff*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sarah Robinson Ex Dir** | x | x |  | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Seth Jones NRCS DS** | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kacey Weber** | - |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Emily Dickison** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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