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

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 16, 2022 at 4:00pm.**

Attendance:

Staff: Sarah Robinson, Seth Jones

Supervisors: Jensen Bissell (pro tem chair), Jim Ferrante, Sue Mackey Andrews(R)

Mike Pounch(R)

Assoc. Supervisors: Kim Merritt(R), Amber Hines (R)

Guests: Christian Fox (TNC), Kent Black, Molly London(R), Sheila Ashburn(R)

The Meeting was conducted at the NRCS office in Dover Foxcroft with remote access (R) via Teams.

In consideration of the absence of the Chair, Jensen agreed to serve as pro tem Chair. Jensen established that a quorum is present and opened the meeting at 4:12 pm.

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

**Treasurer’s Report:** Sheila referenced the current Dashboard and provided an overview of the District’s finances. The district is on very healthy footing. Discussion ensued regarding various accounts and rationales for budget variances. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Christian Fox - TNC:** Christian Fox, Watershed Restoration Specialist for The Nature Conservancy, presented to the group on the RCCP program and work the TNC is doing to improve water passage for fish and invertebrates, particularly via road crossing structures. TNC’s efforts locally are focused on the Pleasant River and Piscataquis watersheds. Opportunities exist for partnering and cooperation between the District and TNC. Discussion ensued regarding the current status of fisheries access and challenges to the improvement efforts. Christian will work through Emily to further explore the possibilities.

**District Conservationist Report:** Seth reported that work on contracting is now wrapping up and he is looking forward to getting out in the field to contact landowners regarding the next round. Discussion ensued about details of various programs and cost and availability of materials.

**New Business:** Several items were discussed.

1. The Board entertained two nominations for Associate Supervisors. Molly London and Kent Black both provided the Board with brief introductions and a background on their interest in joining the District administration. **A motion was made and seconded to confirm both Molly London and Kent Black as PCSWCD Associate Supervisors. The vote was unanimous.**
2. A quote for bush hogging the fields was tabled until more pricing information can be obtained.
3. Budgeting $500 for attorney fees to begin researching legal permanent access to the Bailey Hill Lot was discussed. **A motion was made and seconded to budget $500 for this purpose. The vote was unanimous.** Sarah will select an attorney for the work.
4. Sarah proposed selling the Districts event tent. The tent was purchased for events at the Law Farm and is no longer needed now that the classroom is completed. The tent is also heavy and hard to manage. The consensus was to proceed with the sale of the tent. Sarah will work on this.
5. Sarah discussed options for the plastic net tree shelters that the District owns. She listed several options including sale, give-aways appended to tree and plant purchases. The Board encouraged Sarah to pursue any action that was effective at reducing the inventory.
6. Sarah proposed Law Farm neighbor Dan Rosebush for 2022 PCSWCD Volunteer of the Year. Sarah reported on Dan’s grading of the access road this year and his unofficial vigilance of the property over the years. **A motion was made and seconded to name Dan Rosebush as Volunteer of the Year. The vote was unanimous**.

**Consent Agenda:** Jensen listed the items on the consent agenda, May meeting minutes, Grant and Staff Reports as presented in the meeting materials packet. **There were no concerns voiced and a motion was made and seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous.**

**Board Development and Outreach:** Sue provided an update on the consolidation of the output from the Board Retreat. Her work has been slowed by an injury to her hand but she expects to use a significant block of time at the July meeting to review the product and consider next steps. Jim reported on his EAB training at the Law Farm. A video was made of the session and is available to interested parties. Mike suggested connecting with Tyler Everett of the Passamaquoddy’s as the tribes approach the EAB is more holistic and worthy of consideration.

**Other Business:**  Sarah reported on the purchase of a new sign designating the PCSWCD that now hangs at the entrance to the industrial park. Jensen asked Molly for an update on cruising work at the Law Farm.

**Upcoming Events:**

Sarah read out and discussed the upcoming events on schedule for the District.

There being no further business, **Jensen declared the meeting adjourned at 5:59 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 | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mike Pounch** | x | x |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sue Mackey Andrews** | x |  |  | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Jim Ferrante** |  | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Associate Supervisors*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sam Brown** | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Donna Coffin** | x |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Steve Tatko** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Amber Hines** | x |  | x | x |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kim Merritt** | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kent Black** |  |  |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Molly London** |  |  |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Staff*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sarah Robinson Ex Dir** | x | x |  | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Seth Jones NRCS DS** | x | x | x | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kacey Weber** | - |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Emily Dickison** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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