

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

January 12, 2023 at 4pm.

Attendance:

Staff: Sarah Robinson, Seth Jones, Kacey Weber

Supervisors: Jensen Bissell, Steve Tatko

Assoc. Supervisors: Sam Brown, Kent Black, Toby Hall, Kim Merritt

Guest Speakers: Marc Warren

The Meeting was conducted via Teams.

Establish a Quorum: Chair Jensen Bissell opened the meeting at 4:01 pm. Quorum was established.

Consent Agenda - Motion and second to approve the consent agenda. Unanimous to approve. This includes the previous minutes, grant reports and staff reports.

Treasurer's Report - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Discussion ensued about the current bookkeeper increasing hours for training and organizing QB.

Guest Speakers - Marc Warren, Stream Restoration Project Manager. Introduction to the Board.

District Conservationist Report - Seth reported that they are working on ranking applications. He shared information on mulching for erosion control, water and soil health practices. They are currently looking at it for not just blueberries, but other applications as well. Seth expressed the value in hearing from producers and how the Local Working Group drives support for current needs. In the past, we have had one Local Working Group meeting a year and that is difficult because there is a lot of information to collect and organize. Seth thinks moving forward, we need to break out the Local Working Group into 2 -3 meetings a year and break the information we need to collect into smaller discussions to get the information we really need. He thinks it can be hugely beneficial to NRCS and PCSWCD, as we all need to be in the know about what specifically the local needs and priorities are. Jensen shared information about the Brochu's producing mulch/soil amendments for blueberries and noted it could be a big thing. Toby added that mulching and soil health is going to be and is a current big issue. Seth mentioned mixes used in the past have created issues. NRCS is exploring using 3-part mixes of chips, compost and lime. They are in the process of refining it. Biochar could be a solution.

New Business -

Cider Pressing: There was a motion made to approach ESG with the idea of the location of the event and the workload move back and forth. There was a motion and a second. Unanimous.

Biennial Plan of Operations: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Biennial Plan as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2023 Year Plan & 2023 Workshops & Events Calendar: A motion was made and seconded to accept the plans as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

