

Berkshire Conservation District Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 5:00 PM  
Remote Meeting  
Call-in number 1(646) 558-8656. Meeting ID: 505 943 8770 #

Minutes from Wednesday, January 6, 2021

1. Call to order at 5:08pm and Determination of Quorum  
Present:  
Supervisors: Adam Galambos (Chair), Ron Kujawski (Vice Chair), David Ellis (Treasurer), Donna Kittredge (Secretary), Ned Kirschner  
Program Administrator: Cynthia Grippaldi  
NRCS Representative: Gary Blazejewski
2. Public Comment Period  
No members of the public were present.
3. NRCS Reporting/Comments from Gary Blazejewski  
-Gary reported that construction continues in the building. Covid only allows 2 people to be in the office at a time. Gary learned that the VA is going to be an actual medical clinic requiring examination rooms and the ceiling needs to be taken down to lay new plumbing. Gary's understanding that it's in the process for BCD to be on the NRCS WiFi.
4. Secretary's Report – Submitted by Donna Kittredge  
- Review and approval of December 2, 2020 minutes. Motion to accept by Ron, second by Ned. All in favor.
5. Treasurer's Report – Submitted by David Ellis  
- See December 2020 Treasurer's Report. We've been reimbursed for everything up to November. Motion to accept by Ron, second by Donna. All in favor.
6. District Supervisors  
- Update on application process from Ned regarding BCD supervisor to have access to building. No new updates.
7. Program Status
  - a. No-Till updates (FY 2020)  
Since our last meeting, Cynthia has been in touch weekly with Mike who's been busy and then the holidays came. She has a tentative agreement to meet with him this week. Deposits from No-till are being made into our account. Adam is concerned about liability and that we need to get paperwork in hand from Mike. Mike is handling all the rental agreements and has been depositing the checks. Adam suggested we come up with an electronic agreement that can be filled out and paid via our website.

Ned suggested we start thinking about marketing for No-till. Adam said he's happy to share his past experience using Facebook for advertising. We decided to earmark \$500 for

advertising No-till. Ned made a motion to earmark \$500 for No-till advertising, second by Ron, all in favor.

b. Nutrient Management update

S.T.A.R. Program — Cynthia talked with Bruce Hendrickson about the program that encourages farmers to have better practices and rewards them with signage which has a 1 to 5 star rating based on nutrient load. There is a video on the S.T.A.R. site. There is a license agreement but we could do a test drive first. She will schedule a meeting with Bruce to learn more.

c. Pollinator Grant update — plants are heeled in for the winter and will be planted in spring 2021.

d. Allison Dixon of HVA said they went for a 319 grant last year that they didn't receive. She did get good feedback and asked if we were interested in joining them. Heavy lifting would be done by them. They will submit their grant application in June. Ned asked if there are any golf courses that we might consider involving. HVA does stream monitoring and can identify where the hot spots are.

8. Program Administrator Update

- Cynthia canceled Spectrum as of Dec 10 now that we can have access to the USDA internet.

9. New Business

-NACD Annual Meeting 2021 — the \$50 ticket price will be waived for District Supervisors to attend. This price gives access to the Feb 1-5 administrative meetings and the convention programming from Feb 8-10. Adam and Donna signed up. Ron expressed interest in attending.

- Supervisor term renewals: Adam, David, and Donna realized their one-year commitments as BCD Supervisors ended on 1-8-21. Ned said typically that supervisors are elected at the district annual meetings. Adam asked if we can legally vote since our terms expired. Cynthia will call Tom to ask what we should do. Ned motioned that we vote to volunteer for a one year term, second by Ron. Adam put a motion on the floor, second by Ned, all in favor.

10. Comments and Announcements

Adam thanked everyone for their participation!

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Adam at 7:12pm second by Ron. All in favor.