

BCD Supervisor Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 4, 2024 4:30pm

The Berkshire Conservation District Supervisors Meeting convened remotely via Zoom. Members of the public were invited to attend and were welcomed to speak only during the public comment period.

1.Call to order and Determination of Quorum - Adam Galambos

Adam called the meeting to order at 4:36pm and there was a quorum.

Present: Supervisors: Adam Galambos (Chair), Ron Kujawski (Vice Chair), Donna Kittredge (Secretary), Ned Kirchner, Ambrose Clausen (Healthy Soil/No-Till Coordinator), Lynn Browne (Bookkeeper and Treasurer), Sylvia Munez Gaya (NRCS)

2.Public Comment Period

No members of the public were present.

3.Report from NRCS Representative

The person who will be replacing Sylvia will be starting on March 25.

4. Secretary's Report – Submitted by Donna Kittredge

-Review and approval of February 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Dan made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report, seconded by Ron. There was a roll-call, with all in favor, except Ned abstained since he was not present at the February meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report – Submitted by Lynn Browne

Review and approval of Treasurer's Report

Lynn said by the end of 2024, we should be able to see all the reports through Quickbooks. All the info is in Quickbooks, but she needs to do clean up work. Lynn thanked Cynthia and David for all their efforts which made it so much easier for her to get Quickbooks up and running. Ron made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Donna. There was a rollcall, with all in favor.

6.Status of Audit

Quickbooks Update — Lynn said Quickbooks is in sync with the bank and the audit is done.

8.Program/Grant Updates

-Equipment Rental and Soil Testing Program— Ambrose has been calling people and with the warm weather, there's been a lot of interest in booking the No-till for March which is encouraging. Use will depend on field conditions. He was at a meeting today put on by AFT to cross-pollinate our events with other groups over the next year. Matthew from HHCD, a rep from UMass extension, Michael Leff, and others who put on many events during the year. They all expressed support for BCD. Ambrose put up a shout out to Mike and said he is always available when we need him. The Caretaker's Agreement, which has been modified, is up for renewal.

-Fall Plant Sale will be held on August 31, 2024 — Ned asked Ambrose if he might advocate at the Ag breakfast on March 15 at Holiday Brook Farm. Ambrose placed an order from N.E. Wetlands. He took off 5 of the 10 elms from the 2023 list. He reached out to Nasami Farm. They are at capacity for orders at the moment. He is interested in getting ecotypes from our area. He is looking at including ground covers,

species for extreme water conditions and shade plants.

-Grant Updates

Adam said there is no news on Basic & Innovation and the Challenge Grant.

-Summary of Recent MACD Board Meeting

Adam said there were no updates except there was ample conversation about the need for timely grant money from Districts.

-North Adams Armory Garden - Spring Maintenance Crew MCLA

There are 3-4 students at MCLA who live locally who will be stewards for the garden. Earth Day is April 22nd. Some of us will meet on Saturday, the 20th with the students for clean up and weeding.

9.New Business

Ron said we had talked about visiting Dave Long at Maiden Flower Farm on March 22 to see his biochar operation. Ned asked Ambrose about soil sampling. He's going to an information session. Adam mentioned that the coordinator for Environthon will be leaving that role after 16 years.

10.Supervisor/Staff Comments and/or Announcements

Set Date and Time for April Supervisor Meeting. We chose to meet on Monday, April 1 at 4:30pm via Zoom.

11.Motion to Adjourn

Ron made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:41pm, seconded by Ned. There was a rollcall, with all in favor.