



# Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

## Board of Supervisors Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

August 25th, 2020 9:00-10:30am  
Teleconference meeting on Zoom

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**Attendees:** Gianna Petito, Kristen Balschunat, Rick Hopkins, Jeff Cueto, Rich Turner, Russ Barret Marybeth Whitten (NRCS)

#### **9:00 Meeting Called to Order**

**9:02 NRCS Updates Recap:** NRCS is in crunch time to obligate their funding (just 4 weeks remain to get projects contracted). The local work group bulletin has been published, so we can move forward with the surveys. Marybeth noted that the format of last year's survey results was great - easy to read and interpret the data. We will plan to replicate a similar suite of questions. In October, a subset of the state technical committee will meet to discuss how the local workgroup questions are embedded in the new CART system. Note that Williston field office is still in the "gating" phase (no clients in office). Berlin office is in Phase 2 (accepting some clients by appointment only with strict cleaning procedures). Note that the official Williston office move is progressing forward. The new office will be in the same building as the Agency of Agriculture.

**9:20 NRCC Updates:** Preliminary draft budget for FY21 has been created - \$1.57 million from NRCS, Basin Program, DEC, Agency of Ag and NFWF (slight increase in overall funding for council, but there has been a decrease in funding from the Agency of Ag for council core services, but an increase in funding from AgCWIP). Claire Ireland has started as the financial manager for Council and VACD (50/50). Next meeting is Sept 22 on Zoom.

**9:25 Supervisor and Staff Sharing:** Rich mentioned that the EAB response team for Williamstown is moving forward with writing the plan. Cross VT Trail has selected a bridge contractor. Northfield has been working on some Conservation Commission Grants for EAB & trail signs. Jeff shared that he does not plan to renew his position on the board when the position is up in 2021, but is willing to

continue as an associate. WNRCD will seek to fill the position with someone from Chittenden county who can provide new perspectives to the board.

**9:36 Minutes:** Jeff motions to approve the minutes from the July 2020 meeting as written. Seconded by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.

**9:40 Financial Report:** Motion by Jeff to approve the July financial report. Second by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.

**9:48 Supervisor Timesheets** Jeff mentioned the nuaiance of the per-diem/donation income tax implications for the supervisor timesheet.

**9:50 Staff Progress Report** See report

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 - 9am - Meeting in Berlin Outside WNRCD office - In case of poor weather, Zoom link will be provided later. Bring a lawn chair.

**10:30 Adjourn** Motion to adjourn by Jeff. Seconded by Rich. All in favor. Motion passes.