

Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, Inc.

UVM Extension Office
23 Pond Lane, Middlebury, VT



Wednesday, January 3, 2018
Directors Business Meeting

Attendance: Louise Waterman, George Foster, Peter James, David Conant, Merritt Gleason, Nate Severy, Brian Kemp, Kirsten Workman, Ray Brands, Ben Dykema, Lorenzo Whitcomb

9:45 am

President's Report *Brian*

RAP Committee hasn't met since last meeting.
Meet tomorrow in Montpelier about Tile Drainage Report

Secretary's Report *Kirsten*

Motion to approve December Minutes: Ray Brands
Second: Brian Kemp
Passed (7/0/0)

Approve New Members *Kirsten*

Membership applications
Class 1, Ashley & Erin Farr, Farr Farms (Richmond, Vt.)
Class 1, Jim Maille, Maille's Dairy (Shelburne, Vt.)
Class 3, Scott Gaines, Gaines Insurance Agency (Vergennes, Vt.)

Motion to approve member applications as presented: Ben Dykema
Second: David Conant
Passed (7/0/0)

Treasurer's Report *Kirsten (for Jeff)*

Motion to Approve December Financial Statements: Ben Dykema
Second: Brian Kemp
Passed (7/0/0)

Legislative/Agency /Tile Drainage Updates

The legislative session is up and running. We will review the new bills being introduced and get an update on Agency activities related to agricultural water quality as well.

There probably will not be many more Senate bills, as there date for completion was December 8

The House has till January 15 to get bills to completion
If there is any movement on these bills I will let you know
Bills introduced as of January 2, 2018

Senate Bills:
S-187 An act relating to eligibility of agricultural land for use value appraisal
S-188 An act relating to commercial feed and agricultural fertilizer
S-190 An act relating to creating the Vermont 250th Commission

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- S-191 An act relating to current use property taxation
- S-215 An act relating to prohibiting the use of the pesticides chlorpyrifos and dicamba
- S-218 An act relating to public access to nutrient management plans
- S-237 An act relating to providing representation to needy persons concerning immigration matters
- S-254 An act relating to subsurface tile drainage
- S-255 An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects
- S-260 An act relating to funding the cleanup of State waters
- S-276 An act relating to rural economic development
- House Bills
- H-547 An act relating to the use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos

Tile Drainage: Brian talked about the letter with Amanda St.Pierre, UVM grant hasn't started yet because the grant agreement,

Annual Meeting Planning (1-25-2018)

Review Agenda

Julie Moore, Secretary of ANR has accepted

Anson Tebbetts,

Paul Costello, Vermont Council on Rural Development

Young Farmer Panel...maybe not? Put them in the newsletter instead?

Invite the local senate/representativesBill Torrey

Director Elections

Directors with terms expiring are Tim Kayhart, Lorenzo Whitcomb and Loren Wood

Review process for accepting nominations and conducting elections

Still want to accept nominations from the floor, but

Motion to have four total Director spots open for election in 2018: David Conant

Second: Ben Dykema

Discussion: this would be one additional spot from current number

Passed (6/0/0)

Agriculture Clean Water Initiative Program (Ag-CWIP) Grant Proposal *Kirsten, Nate, Louise.*

We will give a brief overview of the proposal being submitted to VAAFV for funding for educational programs and organizational development.

Public outreach emphasized, dollars for that.

Advisory Committee part of strategic planning process

11:45 Motion to ADJOURN Meeting: George Foster

Second: David Conant

Passed (6/0/0)

Reminder: Next CVFC Board of Directors Meeting – February 7, 2018

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON JANUARY 25, 2018 @ VERGENNES AMERICAN LEGION