

Champlain Valley Farmer Coalition, Inc.

Wednesday, July 10th, 2013
11:00 am to 12:00 pm
UVM Extension - Middlebury
23 Pond Lane, Suite 300
Middlebury, VT 05753

In Attendance:

Kirsten Workman, Secretary
Jeff Carter, Treasurer
Loren Wood, Member
Ben Dykema, Director
John Roberts, President
Tim Kayhart, Director
Matthew Severy, Member
Ernest Audet, Director
Ray Brands, Member
Rico Balzano, UVM Extension
Sidney Bosworth, UVM Extension
Jonathan Kuehne, UVM Extension
Lindsey Ruhl, UVM
Daniel Infurna, UVM Extension
Ted Foster, Director
Phil Wagner, Member
David Conant, Director
Brad Lawes, Member
Brian Kemp, Director
Lorenzo Whitcomb, Director

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

In lieu of a general membership meeting, UVM Extension staff hosted a Cover Crop Focus group from 10:00 to about 11:15 am. Many of the CVFC members were present.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order 11:23 am

Jeff introduces board, members and guests

Review and Approve June Minutes

Jeff Carter, Kirsten Workman

Motion: Ben Dykema

Second: Dave Conant

*Discussion: June meeting, Farmer(s), better communication about what the focus group was
Passed without dissent or abstention*

Treasurer Report

Jeff Carter

*Jeff Carter, Treasurer, handed out financial reports (P & L, Balance Sheet)...attached
Figuring out software, a few expenses (checking account)
\$1830.23 Net Income*

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Ernie Audet

Second: Brian Kemp

*Discussion: just CVFC account, not grant. Jeff will bring the grant expense report next time
Passed without dissent or abstention*

President's Report

John Roberts

- Out of town for three weeks, no rain in England.
- Booth at Addison County Field Days?? Help manning the booth. \$306 for 10' booth in Paquette Bldg. all week. August 6 -10. Public education in addition to farmers. Need liability policy for booth (our own or through field days). We need to be telling the public what we are doing to help water quality.

Motion to have booth: Brian Kemp

Second: David Conant

Discussion: \$\$ from CIG grant, will we get enough new members to pay for fee, the money is worth the public relations, farmers are aware and proactive, public good, important that farmers are there to talk – not just extension,

Passed without dissent or abstention...ernie voted no he won't be there

- Insurance...Officer's Insurance, liability
 - Quote - Commercial general liability and Directors/officers = \$1600/year...is \$1million coverage enough?
 - Waiting for two more quotes
 - As a non-profit, are there cheaper options...other community organizations use
 - Why do we need officer's insurance...embezzlement, actions that director's take, bad advice....Matthew: is this too much? What does it protect us from (ask lawyer).
 - Once quotes come in, talk to Jim Foley, is this necessary.
 - Consensus is that liability is important, but do we need D & O...ask Jim Foley, look for \$2 million and \$3 million

Motion to at a minimum get \$1 million general liability: Dave Conant

Second: Brian Kemp

Discussion:

Passed without dissent or abstention

Roles for CVFC

Jeff Carter/John Roberts

(Jeff) FAP from VAAFM that pays for cost share for agronomic practices (\$400-500 K/ year), legislature said all individuals need grant agreements. VAAFM asked extension if they could take it on, less paperwork for farmer. Roughly \$265,000 for this area. Heather Darby will take care of Franklin Co area. If we administer it, we can be more flexibility...paperwork. Could we determine caps, practice requirements,

Motion to pursue a sub-award from Extension through VAAFM for administering FAP \$\$ in Chittenden, Addison, Rutland counties: Ted Foster

Second: Dave Conant

Discussion: Who makes decision on who gets grant awards, extension or CVFC? Make sure we involve all farms (not just CVFC). Who would like to look at agreement ...email all the language

Passed without dissent or abstention (ernie left room)

Education/Outreach**Jeff Carter/Kirsten Workman**

Public Outreach with Across the Fence:

Haven't progressed with episodes. Ideas for episodes.

- Helicopter seeding
- AGO Monitoring Stations
- Eric, Matt, Ernie....deep till, gen-till comparisons (Fall Corn, same field)
- Cover Crop, soil profile

Membership Application Approvals**Jeff Carter/Kirsten Workman***No new applications in July***Other Items:**

- Governor coming to No. Williston Cattle Co. to do a press conference about weather affecting crops...input
 - Plug in for CVFC
 - 10% didn't get planted..corn
 - 20% failed or prevented
 - %50 beans didn't
 - 25-50% yield loss on corn
 - Where is the feed going to come from
 - Second cut poor quality
 - 20% dry hay got harvested (high)
 - Manure storage filling up with rain (cover manure pits)...most pits are doing o
- LCI...sewage overflows PR

NEXT MEETING: August...weather dependent, week after field days**Meeting adjourned at 12:43***Motion: Ben Dykema**Second: Ernie Audet**Discussion: none**Passed without abstention, dissention*