

# Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, Inc.

Wednesday, July 8, 2015  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
UVM Extension Office  
23 Pond Lane, Middlebury, VT



## 10:00am Business Meeting MINUTES

**Board of Directors:** Kirsten Workman, Jeff Carter, Ted Foster, Brian Kemp, Loren Wood, David Conant, Lorenzo Whitcomb, Eric Clifford, Marie Audet, Ben Dykema

**Members:** Ed Schilliowski, Julie Moore, Matt Biette, Rachel Orr

**Staff:** Nate Severy

**Public:** Olivia Andreozzi (UVM), Kristin Williams (UVM), Beth Kennett (Liberty Hill Farm)

### **Meeting called to order @ 10:10 AM**

#### **Welcome and introductions**

Jeff Carter introduced new faces.

Olivia Andreozzi, new UVM Extension Agron. Field Intern

Beth Kennett, Liberty Hill Farm. Interested in starting a group similar to CVFC in the Connecticut River watershed.

#### **Secretary Report**

**Kirsten Workman**

- Membership Application Approvals

*Motion: Ted Foster*

*Second: Brian Kemp*

*Discussion: none*

*Passed without abstention or dissention*

*Motion to accept June minutes as presented: Brian Kemp*

*Second: Eric Clifford*

*Discussion: None*

*Passed without abstention or dissention*

#### **Treasurer Report**

**Jeff Carter**

Jeff presented the balance sheet and profit/loss statement through July 8<sup>th</sup>.

*Motion to accept: Loren Wood*

*Second: David Conant*

*Discussion: none*

*Passed without abstention or dissention*

How to handle WLEB grant to pay Nate's wages: private contractor vs. putting it through UVM? Could it go through UVM without overhead?

High Meadows Fund is similar situation. UVM was sponsor.

## Presidents Report

Brian Kemp

- Meeting at Loren Wood's for McKenzie Brook...20 farms, 4 businesses. There will be more meetings. Asked John Thurgood to make the planning meeting be modified to better accommodate farmer participation.
- Eric...write a letter to NRCS in support of allowing Loren Wood's waiver being approved and Ben Dykema's NMP. Maybe have Vicky Drew come to a meeting and hear from us.

## Program Coordinator Report

Nate Severy

- McKenzie Brook meeting summary
  - See brian's comments
  - Reviewed event summary
- Farm to Plate water quality meeting
  - Two F2P working groups came together for a meeting about water quality. Field trips to Mountain Meadows and Swallowdale Farm. What can we do as technical service providers to get farms to implement practices?
- HMF grant update
  - Money for new/improved promotional materials. New display for upcoming events: field days, farm show, Bourdeau,
  - Erosion Table...get one and Rainfall Simulator
  - Field Trips
  - Field Trip with Gaye Symington
- WLEB grant update
  - Grant agreement on its way...will begin work soon
  - Crop Management Implementation Plans (modeled after the Dairy Management Team concept)
  - Many of the first participant farmers are in the McKenzie Brook watershed

## UVM Extension Updates

- 60 different trials right now
- Cover crops
- No-till
- Frost seeding in pastures
- Italian Ryegrass Variety Trials
  - Kehoe, Farr

## Small Farm definition draft proposal

Eric Clifford

- CVFC input/strategy
- VAAFM is coming up with a draft version of a small farm definition in the beginning of August. They would like CVFC to see it (first), also FWA and Ag Working Group for input, then to public comment, for implementation next summer
- Maybe at our August Board meeting or otherwise...get small farm members there

## NW Crops and Soils Field Day trip- July 23<sup>rd</sup>

"**Highlights** include Innovative ways to Seed Cover Crops and Equipment, Drone Technology to Monitor Crops, Heirloom Dry Beans Trials, Hop Fertility and Downy Mildew, and much, much more!"

## Other field trips:

- Miner Institute, Tile Drainage

- No-Till Drill Field Day @ Fosters or Woods

### **Addison County Fair and Field Days**

- Anyone coming?
- Educating the public

### **Other Business/upcoming events**

- New individual hired by NE Dairy Promotion Board (Laura Stebbins-Hardie), water quality outreach person. Invite her to a Board Meeting in near future.
- Tax Department 'field day' at Whitcombs
- New fee/tax on digester emissions, based on specs of generator (marie)
- Williston may tax solar panels as impervious surface
- Flexibility in NRCS contracts...field by field vs. acres. When is the next EQIP State Technical meeting?
- VPR story....

### **Membership recruitment working session (15 min)**

Bring your ideas for recruiting new members!

Who do you know that should/could/would be a CVFC member?

### ***Already interested...just need to join!***

Jeep Madison (Cheryl, Brian)

Kurt Ingwerson (Nate)

Ashely Farr

Brad Thomas

Richard Hall (Eric)

Elwin Neil (Eric)

Curtis Layn (Rico)

Dallas Carabeau (Dave, Rico)

### ***Maybe Interested...need more outreach***

Pawlet folks (Rico)

Rich Hulett

Scott Cleveland

Ken/Tim Leach

Tim Sheldon

Tim Howlett (Ernie)

Norris Brisson (Ernie, Loren)

Rob Hunt

Joe Hescoek

Andre Desautel

Brian (Ron) Hill

Mierop

VanderWey

Hall & Breen

### ***Should be interested...haven't talked to yet***

Andre Vorsteveld

Forgues

Mike & Lawrence Quesnel  
Paul Parent  
Small Farms...email outreach,  
Danyo  
Livingston  
Bob LaDuc  
Jeff Fifield

Other stuff:

- Miner Institute Farm Report...good example
- Graze
- Hoard's Dairymen...Round Table
- Hire an 'advertising' person

***Motion: David Conant***

***Second: Lorenzo Whitcomb***

***Discussion: none***

***Adjourned at 12:32***

***ADJOURN***

**Next CVFC Board of Director Meeting – August 12th, 2015**