

# Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, Inc.

Wednesday, August 12, 2015  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Kayhart Brothers, LLC  
7428 VT Route 17 West  
Addison, VT. 05491



## 10:00am Business Meeting

**Attendance:** Jeff Carter, Peter Smith, Tim Kayhart, Ted Foster, Eric Clifford, Loren Wood, Nate Severy, Matthew Biette, Kristin Williams, Tony Correia, Rico Balzano, Brian Kemp, Cheryl Cesario, Brad & Ashton Thomas, Ben Dykema, George Tucker, Harvey Smith, Bill & Dan Barnes, Greg Butler, Bill Curry, Ray Brands

### 10:10 Meeting called to order

#### Welcome and introductions

*Secretary Report*

*Motion to approve July minutes: Brian Kemp*

*Second: Eric Clifford*

*Passed without abstention or dissent*

#### Kirsten Workman

Membership Application Approvals

*Motion to accept Kenneth Pope (North Wind Acres), Joseph Severy (Waters Run Farm), Brad & Jill Thomas (Jillian Holsteins) as Vermont Farmer Members: Eric Clifford*

*Second: Loren Wood*

*Passed without abstention or dissent*

#### Treasurer Report

#### Jeff Carter

Jeff presented financial reports (Balance Statement, Profit & Loss) through August 12, 2015. Taxes are complete. Inquired about director's insurance coverage and errors & omissions policies. This would be in addition to the general liability policy.

*Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Loren Wood*

*Second: Eric Clifford*

*Discussion: should have an additional person take a look at end of year*

*Passed without abstention or dissent*

#### Presidents Report

#### Brian Kemp

- Starting to build membership in earnest...need to continue that emphasis
- Funding for promoting CVFC and what members are doing for water quality. Self-promote, media, is important.
- VPR interview with Orr's, Brian, etc.
- Better source of communication between director's & staff...short email blasts, more notice, newsletters,
- Marli would like to know what else the state can do with Clean Water Fund...marketing, unique practices, etc. Would like CVFC input.

## CVFC Outreach activities

Nate

- Addison County Field Days: Stream table and rainfall simulator were very engaging
- Handed out membership applications to folks
- New CVFC banner outside with planter,
- Jeff: 100 entries of crops contest, crop insurance, CVFC display, Extension display, no-till grain drill, fencing demonstration, Livingston's no-till planter with different closing wheels, comparisons of corn in different management (tillage, drainage), upgrade
- Planning events and field meetings: Crop Walk @ Wood's & Thomas to see reduced tillage in the field...These are good recruiting opportunities
- Three-fold brochure handed out at businesses (application)...website not very prominent, listed on tear off
- Miner Institute:
- **Website...can we monitor activity?**
- Facebook page...social media?

## UVM Extension Updates

Jeff/Kirsten

- Eric: Alburgh Field day was impressive, Addison county version of a research farm?? Priority for this organization as a long-term goal, multiple vs. one location.

## Small Farm definition draft proposal...update

No word from Laura yet.

## Letter to NRCS...Vicky Drew reply

Couldn't come down for August, we'll invite her to September meeting.

**Jeff will notify members about next NRCS EQIP technical committee.**

## EPA holding public meetings regarding TMDL: St. Albans, S. Burlington, Rutland (Aug 26, 27)

### 10:30 Discussion

#### Targeted Watershed approach to meet TMDL goals

NRCS has identified specific areas in the Lake Champlain Watershed where they are going to concentrate more of their resources and create a 'targeted watershed planning process'. We will summarize the first meeting held by NRCS (*on August 11<sup>th</sup>*) to address the specific ag water quality needs in the McKenzie Brook Watershed and gather your input for the most effective approaches. Identify the practices that farmers can and are willing to implement on their farms in the McKenzie Brook Watershed over the next 5 years, so that we can leverage the funding to make it possible.. What you say WILL have a direct impact on what is in this plan, so have your voice heard!

Action:

**12:00 ADJOURN**

**Next CVFC Board of Director Meeting – September 2, 2015**