

## Franklin County NRCD Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2022

In Attendance: Lauren Weston (District Manager), Richard Noel (Chair), Carissa Stein (Supervisor), Staci Pomeroy (DEC River Scientist), Molly Varner (Grand Isle County NRCD District Manager) – attending virtually. No quorum.

Conducted at St. Albans State Police Barracks

Minutes recorded by Lauren Weston

### Minutes:

9:00 am: Richard Noel, Carissa Stein, and Lauren Weston in attendance

NRCS update conveyed by Lauren Weston based on email from Sarah Larose, incoming District Conservationist for Northwest Zone.

- Round 1 EQIP funding cycle closed on March 18th, this week and next we should be getting notifications of what applications ranked high enough to get selected for funding.
- April 1st deadline to apply for 2nd Round funding cycle EQIP Classic. FMPs, cropland and grazing pools are the only pools considered in Round 2.
- April 1st deadline to apply to EQIP-CIC (Conservation Incentives Contract), minimum 5 year contract. EQIP-CIC can be a steppingstone for producers between EQIP classic and the Conservation Stewardship Program
- April 1st deadline to apply to EQIP WLFW-GWW (Working Lands for Wildlife -Golden Winged Warbler) <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/vt/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcseprd1888622>
- April 15th deadline to apply for RCPP-2018 Farm Bill-Vermont Stream Restoration and Protection-2517
- VACD Program Assistant slated to start early April, as long as the background check goes smoothly
- Sarah Larose official start date as District Conservationist March 28th.
- GS9/11 Soil Conservationist position advertised for St. Albans, open from 3/22 -3/28, USAJOBS - Job Announcement

Lauren Weston reminds Board members about two upcoming events: Local-Led Public Meeting at Valley Dream Farm on March 22<sup>nd</sup> in collaboration with the Lamoille County NRCD and Grand Isle County NRCD. Additionally, March 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Ferment on the Farm event at the Choiniere Family Farm which is being cohosted by the District and Composting Association of Vermont.

Richard Noel provides update from Natural Resources Conservation Council Finance Committee meeting including payments to FCNRCD from Council.

Lauren Weston and Richard Noel discuss tree sale logistics and needs at Franklin County Field Days site for April/May 2022.

Financials reviewed by Board. Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss for fiscal year 2022 through end of February 2022 are discussed.

Brief brainstorm session between group about potential future Board members to fill Adrian Rainville's seat.

Group discusses next Board meeting date: May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 am to 11 am at the Franklin County Field Days site during tree sale preparation week. Lauren Weston will confirm with other board members not present.

9:50 am: Staci Pomeroy, DEC River Scientist arrives

10:00 am: Molly Varner joins meeting virtually via Teams

10:01 am: Staci Pomeroy presents about Agricultural Ditch and Tile System Maintenance seeking feedback from FCNRCD Board Members.

11:18 am: Meeting ends.