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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS November 23rd, 2020

PRESENT:

District Office Closed due to COVID-19 a Zoom meeting was held
Mark Brown, Rhonda Jarvis, Nick Rowell, Robert Bombard, James Lieberum,
Dean Moore, Bob Bombard and Maren Alexander were at the District office.
Zoom members: Dan Bruno, Craig Leggett, Tim Thomas, Susan Wilson, Mike
Greenslade and Ryan Cunningham.

- 1) **Meeting was called to order:** Brown called meeting to order at 1.01pm.
- 2) **Approval of the previous SWCD meeting minutes: Motion:** by Thomas to approve meeting minutes for October 2nd by Wilson, carried.
- 3) **Presenter:** NONE
- 4) **Report of Officers:**
 - a) **Chairman Report:** Brown has not much to report he mentioned hopefully everyone is staying safe and have a Happy Thanksgiving.
 - b) **Treasurer Report:** As far as the financial situation, the District has an estimated \$193,059.29; most of it is in grant money. Bills for payment for October totaled \$13,151.354. Grant bills for payment totaling \$16,751.05. **Motion:** by Greenslade to approve all operating bills and Grant Bills for payment for November and signature sheets were signed and returned, 2nd by Wilson, carried. **Motion:** by Greenslade to approve the financial report for October 2020, signature sheets signed and returned, 2nd by Wilson, carried.
 - c) **Correspondence:** 1. A thank you note to Lieberum from John Fair for meeting with him and sharing his knowledge. 2. NACD annual renewal invoice to be discussed and approval for payment. **Motion:** Greenslade to pay \$775.00 to NACD dues 2nd by Wilson carried. 3. 2021 Legislative Days information for discussion. 4. East Shore Schroon Lake Association annual report. 5. Ben Thomas, NYS DEC follow up on the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid report, chemical applications have been conducted in shorelines of Lake George.
- 5) **SWCD Business:**
 - a) **Office of Operations Plan- no update. BOD any discussion at this point.** Lieberum mentioned at this point all staff is currently in the office, working but mainly out on site visits each day. This will stay in affect until and hopefully not another shut down.

- b) **Lake Champlain Basin Program Grant Applications (second round),** a couple more applications are being developed for the second round of Lake Champlain Basin Program Grants. 1. Organizational grant (TBA) 2. Educational grants (Agroforestry Conservation Education Program on Lake George).
- c) **Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan application,** Lieberum has almost completed the new funding application for the Hazard Mitigation Plan grant. Lieberum mentioned after speaking to the count administrator is would be best to submit funding for what we need rather than the whole amount. Max federal funding is normally \$125,000, county plans to request \$90,000 with this amount it will be a good chance of the award.
- d) **2020 Community Awards and December meeting,** Randy Rath has been selected for the Warren County Conservationist of the Year for the. Congratulations Randy. Lieberum will get in contact with Randy for the details for the meeting. The 2020 Ronald Montesi Citizen Awards will go to 1. Tom O’dea-Master Gardener/community Volunteer. 2. Lee Rounds-Head Grounds Keeper at the Queensbury school system. 3. Dr. Jeremy Farrell-RPI Academics. Lieberum will also contact them about the awards and details. It has been decided there will be no AEM award this year. The December board meeting will be at Lizzy Keys, at this time.
- e) **Current grant project updates,** Rowell’s WC SW-12 grant has been submitted for final payment on the close-out. Two more grants for Alexander’s grant with CWICNY will hopefully by submitted by the end of year. Two NYS DEC upfront vouchers have been submitted for 2019 grants application approval process that final received the contracts. District technical staff is working on new round of applications for the LCBP grants. Lieberum also emailed a list of grants details to the board members; the district is involved with now.
- f) **Community Conservation Program,** Warren Washington Association for Mental Health, Inc application approved and now approval of payment in the amount of \$1,003.05. Cornell University cooperative extension Warren County application approved and now approval of payment in the amount of \$708.79. **Motion:** by Greenslade to approve the payments for the completed approved applications, 2nd by Wilson, carried.
- g) **SWCD Board of Directors Reporting Info,** none (Please make sure all board members email Rhonda if they have taken any courses or seminars or meetings).
- h) **Other,** 1. Lieberum went over with the board members on the District’s Proposed 2021 Part C funding expenditures and all members were on board with the proposed expenditures. If anyone has projects for this Part C funding, please let Rhonda or Lieberum know so it can be added. 2. Lieberum mentioned Rachael DeBenedictus would like to volunteer with the District starting next year for field work experience for her college degree of B.A. Geology, starting the volunteer internship in March, 2021. The board members agree to have the volunteer for next march Lieberum will give those more details as the time gets closer. 3. Dr Seeley from extension ask the District if we would like to help provide funding for the game of logging trainings 1,2 and 3 for three separate days Lieberum let

him know he would discuss it with the board and the district will know our funding situation in the beginning of the year and will get back to him. Tim Thomas submitted a remarkable tree to Maren for our Tree Challenge program. It was a white pine about 12ft around at base, located trail side on the Carolyn Fish hiking trail in Chestertown, NY.

6) **Staff Reports:**

- a. **Jim Lieberum, DM**, Lieberum's report was reviewed.
- b. **Robert Bombard, WRS**, Bombard's report was reviewed.
- c. **Dean Moore, SrDT**, Moore's report was reviewed
- d. **Nick Rowell, NRS**, Rowell's report was reviewed
- e. **Maren Alexander, DT**, Alexander's report was reviewed
 - a. **Ryan Cunningham, NYS SWCC**, Cunningham's report was reviewed.

- 7) **Adjournment: Motion:** by Thomas, to adjourn meeting at 2:20pm, 2nd by Greenslade, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda L. Jarvis, Office Manager/ Treasurer
Date Approved: _____