PMNRCD Board Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2025 – **3:30 PM**
PMNRCD Zoom Number (https://zoom.us/j/9041299305)

Call to order: 3:37 PM
Present: Don Markie, Darryl Kuehne, Katy Crumley, Hilary Solomon, Sadie Brown, Whitney Burgess, Jaden Groff, and Jennifer Alexander

Approve June meeting minutes: Katy motioned and Darryl seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Financial Summary

Quarterly financial report: Quarter 3 of FY 25 (January – March) was presented and approved. Don motioned and Katy seconded.

Guest Speaker
N/A

Partner Reports
Joseph Tillman (NRCS) – presented trainings and program deadlines for current NRCS programs. The local fund pool deadline is 8/22/25, as is EQIP, RCPP, and AMA. August 19 is a collaborative UVM and Stonyfield workshop about robotic milkers. Updates to EFOTG section 3 include addition of working lands for wildlife (oaks, turtles, etc). In addition, NRCS is holding their annual rollout day in late July.

Olivia Butterman (FSA)- Not present because she has a crop reporting deadline on July 15th.

Angie Allen (DEC) – Not present.

Katie Stiles (RNRCD) -

Brief Staff Reports
Hilary- Hilary and Vicki worked to get the FY23 LCBP Organizational Support Grant final report and deliverables turned in by June 30. She and Sadie worked very hard to get the LWAP final copy and deliverables turned in slightly before June 30, so that the LSCA could turn them in on time. She is working to get the next set of deliverables turned in for the LCBP Project Development grant. Both the LWAP and Project Development grant had public meetings in June where Hilary helped present information. The LWAP was challenging, but Hilary's final site visit included amazing waterfalls… She is working to get caught up on QB and her time sheets.

Jennifer- Provided a detailed analysis of her contract deliverables and the progress she's made toward meeting them. She and the board discussed her plans to finish meeting the outlined deliverables in the next year. Jen also provided a copy of the 2025 ACAP newsletter that she mailed out in early July.

Whitney- Participated in her first water quality inspection at a farm that she has largely introduced to state WQ practices. She reported that it was a good learning experience and that areas where the farm had made improvements were recognized. Whitney announced the local fund pool results ($500,000 for Rutland County in pasture, water, invasives, and other practices). Also, is offering a water systems technical day to several farms with Amber Reed and Carly Bass on July 22.

Sadie- Reviewed the tree planting sites (completed!) and the work at Robinson's in Pawlet that was above and beyond the normal effort with a dumpster and an excavator recruited to help with site cleanup and invasives removal (NFWF) prior to a CWSP-funded planting project. Sadie has been working with timesheets a lot as the seasonals get used to the new system and have questions.

Averie- Out of the office today, but generally busy helping at the nursery and on call for any timesheet issues.

Jaden- Provided a water chestnut update. The new boat has been working well for surveying areas that may have water chestnuts (saves a lot of time) and so far the crew has harvested 8,500 rosettes. LEAP started this week and we have two highschool interns. Devon, a BBA student, is back helping this year after being an intern last year. Lake Wise assessments are also underway with three completed so far.

Victoria- In Australia (have fun!).

Old Business

CWSP update: FHV-06 should be implemented in September. It did receive more funds from the BWQC to help pay for the directional boring under Park St (VT 22A) required by the town. Currently, all permitting and historical (etc) reviews are completed and we are just waiting for the drop inlets and R-tanks to be fabricated.

The BWQC heard information about one new project (FHV-04), but was not ready to move forward with it, due to complications with wetlands rules, etc. The project was tabled for now.

Other projects that may move to implementation include a project at the Castleton Village School and several projects at Crystal Haven. Hilary participated, with FEA staff, in a boat tour on lake Beebe for the Lake Bomoseen LWAP.

NRCD legislative update: The advocacy day retreat is coming up on July 28, if any board members would like to go? Hilary and Katie (Stiles) are both planning to be present for the day and can bring back updates from Action Circles and VACD.

Possible HR work: Proposal from Structural Integrity – we have a date in early August to meet with Sage Ruth to plan our next steps forward and begin the 'discovery' process, where she gathers information about our needs, systems, etc…

New Business

Staff Retreat was on a beautiful Saturday and was a lot of fun. It was held at the Whaleback Winery, and we tasted all of their wines (with Sadie's mom leading the tasting, which was fun). We mixed some light work related activities with games that helped to celebrate Whitney's upcoming wedding, with some just silly, bonding activities.

Adjourned 4:28 PM.