PMNRCD Board Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2025 – **3:30 PM**
PMNRCD Zoom Number (https://zoom.us/j/9041299305)

Meeting called to order at 3:33 PM
Present: Don Markie, Darryl Kuehne, Katy Crumley, Olivia Carlson, Sadie Brown, Jaden Groff, Olivia Butterman, Jennifer Alexander, and Hilary Solomon

Approve August meeting minutes: Meeting minutes from August were not approved. Members preferred to have more time to read them and will review and approve them at the next meeting.

Financial Summary

Year-end financial report: Provided a brief summary of the year-end financial report, which was well underway at this point. Final slides/presentation to be emailed and/or provided a the next board meeting. Don Markie motioned to accept the financial report and Katy Crumley seconded.

Guest Speaker
N/A

Partner Reports
Olivia Carlson (NRCS) – August 22, 2025 was the deadline for many NRCS programs. There were 20 LFP applicants for the 2026 fund pool and Olivia is working with PMNRCD and Rutland NRCD staff to get the data they need from each farm. Trainings continue to be offered, but the wetlands training is not rescheduled at this time.

Olivia Butterman (FSA) – Olivia is working on drought-related programs, focused on losses to row crops, veggie farms, and grazing. Please include dry wells in the reports. They have a variety of programs, but need a notice of loss from the farms.

Angie Allen (DEC) – No report.

Katie Stiles (RNRCD) – No report.

Brief Staff Reports
Hilary- The large stormwater project in the Fair Haven Town Park is underway. Davenport Excavation is leading the implementation and Fitzgerald Environmental is overseeing the construction/engineering. Several of our projects have applications in to the South Lake CWSP, including a wetland restoration (at a large gully site) and a tree planting at a farm in Hubbardton. Another farm in Benson is headed for a CREP planting and the CVNPRN is planning to plant in the spring. Wrapping up the Flower Brook field work (one site visit left). Reaching out to Crystal Haven folks about three stormwater projects on their land. Finishing up the large project prioritization project – FEA is working on the project prioritization step and then will finish the designs. Hilary is working on her timesheet, approving timesheets, and getting caught up on staff mileage checks.

Jennifer- Helping NRCS with field checks of practices that have been implemented on farms. Soil sampling in the very dry conditions (Jen us using a drill bit in a special bucket that catches the soil coming off the drill as it's inserted into the field). Continued work in Go-crop including a meeting with

Lindsey Ruhl. Jen continues work to get farms into the local fund pool including multiple apps for soil carbon amendments. Soil sampling will be prioritized for farms that are signed up.

Whitney- Not present.

Sadie- Finishing multiple LCBP projects (at least the field work for several projects). She held a seed workshop at the Lake St Catherine State Park, which was the list of her small EO23 activities. That grant can now be closed out (we didn't get a 2025 grant and so kept this grant open to continue tracking extra deliverables/activities that wouldn't otherwise get credited. She is working with Pur Projet staff to allocate extra stems to this year's plantings and checking sites from the past two years for survival. This year we have multiple fall plantings. And the CVNPRN is hosting an open house on October 4. Sadie continues to collect seed and participate in statewide nursery partnership meetings.

Averie- Not present.

Jaden- Jaden is directing the water chestnut crew on their second and third passes across sites that are still accessible (many are not with the low water levels). LEAP and Lake Wise plantings are scheduled on our local lakes this month.

Victoria- Vicki is working with Chris Rottler and Lincoln Frasca on the capstone project to help LBEA with their qualifications and on forestry outreach projects and information.

Old Business

CWSP update: Currently 24 projects are being funded and completed – all different stages from assessments, design, and implementation to project maintenance.

NRCD legislative update: The PMNRCD Board approved us not holding a special legislative meeting this fall (as requested by Action Circles), but rather attending a Rutland delegation meeting in January, where the entire delegation is already gathered and will meet with us…

HR work: Update from Structural Integrity and the materials, which have been sent around – the Board is supportive of continued work and Hilary and staff will work to prioritize the items for funding and completion.

Technology/website update: Currently our website and emails are stable, except for Whitney's email, which is not working properly. Hilary is working with Jim Loya (former staff Infinity Design) to straighten that issue out. Once Whitney is able to access her email, we will switch to local support.

Farm Bureau Annual Meeting: September 25 at 5:30 PM. Hilary, Whitney, and Jen plan to go. Darryl will also attend (and is a member/board member).

New Business

MOU w NRCS – The board members discussed the memorandum of understanding (MOU) and the unfunded cooperative agreement (UCA) and would like copies to review. Hilary will forward these.

VACD Annual Meeting – November 6, 2025. All are welcome. It's for the day (not overnight) and in Montpelier this year.

WUV Org Support – The 2026 WUV Organizational Support grant application is due October 3, 2025. Hilary and Vicki will submit this application. We are considering a mix of ideas, but focusing on a new office manager and chief financial officer.

HS Comp Time – to be paid – w board approval - for FY25.

Board meeting adjourned.