

Monday, July 31, 2023 6:00pm

Fresh Harvest Kitchen

9 East Ave Unit F

Westerly, RI 02891



Minutes July 31, 2023

1. Call to Order

P. Moreschi called the meeting to order at 6:08pm. K. Kieffer, C. Collins, G. Fuller, and K. Sayles all present.

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

K. Kiefer made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting, Clark Collins made the 2nd. Motion passed 3-0

3. Reports

3a. RI USDA- NRCS State Conservationist- Jameson Long

- NRCS Office Updates:
 - Kyle and Ashley will be taking positions in CT NRCS
 - 2 New district positions will be advertised
 - 1 NRCS Soil Con Position will be hired
- EQIP, AMA, Applications for 2023 Update
 - Right now Southern has obligated 46 contracts for 2023 = \$1,499,668.
 - Most popular practices:
 - Rare or Declining habitat (oysters 643) 36
 - Forest thinning (666)- 31
 - Cover Crop (340)- 24
 - Mulching (484)- 18
 - Critical Area Planting (342)- 13
 - Forest Trails (655)- 13
- No-Till Seed Drill
 - Possible agreement with the District
- Wildfire Projects DEM
 - Initial stages of working with DEM on a joint effort for projects involving forest fires
 - Dry hydrant standard designs
 - Burn Plans
- 2024 Contracting
 - Starting field work for next years cycle, outreach ideas
 - Southern District practices completed since 6/22/2023:
 - Total money paid out \$339,628.35 -0 CSP Contacts -0 AMA Contract -15 EQIP Contracts

3b. RI Association of Conservation Districts

Cassius Spears Sr. No report

C. Clarkson made a motion to nominate P. Moreschi to the RIACD to replace Harvey Buford, K. Kieffer 2nd the motion, motion passed 3-0.

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3c. RI State Conservation Committee Phil Moreschi and Kate Sayles

No Report

3d. District Manager Gina Fuller provided the following updates

i. Agreements Update

- IRA agreement drafting final agreement with NRCS, will support 3 FTE for 4 years, plus district manager time, and additional staff time in year 5. Includes outreach, planning, and demonstrations of EQIP and CSP climate smart practices. Also include purchase of no-till seed drill and other equipment and supplies needed to conduct demonstration projects.
- AT 535 annual amendment in progress will support 0.5FTE per district
- NACD TA staff currently working on 2022, G. Fuller is drafting application for RIACD for TA 2023
- RCPP Implementation will be completed by Oct 1
- Outreach 3.0 planning for summer farm tours
- People's Garden SRICD still has funds for 2023 available for gardens, RISCC is starting the update for the final year of the agreement.
- PL 566 planning continues, Exeter RI and Sterling CT have been added hydrological model almost complete.
- Narragansett EWP SRICD/RIACD applied for one year no cost extension. Certified letter sent to landowners, no response to date.,

ii. Grants

- Congressionally Directed spending Request has moved to Appropriations Committee, first step in long process.
- LASA funds have been received
- United Way Summer Learning Program camp ends next week
- Mystic STEM Mentoring RI continue to seek funding for next year and build Executive Board capacity
- RIDEM Specialty Crop Grant: SRICD is preparing for fall demonstrations.
- Resilient Riverfront Renewal Westerly: SWIG-Westerly Main St., RI Infrastructure Bank (RIIB) MRP with Westerly : project ongoing, preparing for next round of MRP and seeking other funding sources. Preparing to take concept designs to landowners. Ritter property is in permitting with construction planned for the fall.

iii. Fresh Harvest Kitchen Update Jose is settled in, HACCP certification complete, and Food Safety Training scheduled. Kitchen is open 6 days a week on a regular schedule. New fishers are coming and we are applying for a federal dealers permit.

iv. Main Street Site Visit K. Keiffer reported on a successful site visit with Senator Jack Reed, NBEP, EPA, landowners, and members of the Westerly Town Council for the Resilient Riverfront Renewal project.

v. Financial Report G. Fuller provided attached P&L and balance sheet June 2023

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3e. Other Board Reports: None

4. Old Business

4a. Employee Health Benefit update: G. Fuller is working with broker and employees to sign up for United options.

5. New Business

5a. **RIDOT Agreement.** G Fuller reported SRICD has signed a new charter agreement with RIDOT for the stormwater projects in the district.

5b. **Employee Update** G. Fuller reported Kyle Lemoine is moving to NRCS CT. G. Fuller, K. Lemoine, and J. Long conducted interviews. Meghan Seeley will be joining SRICD full time to do outreach and NRCS planning, Ryan Corvese has been hired for full time NRCS planning, and Richard Fuka has been hired part time to assist at the Fresh Harvest Kitchen.

6. Future Agenda Items

Handbook and updated policies.

Buy Protect Sell grants from RIDEM

7. **Adjournment** C. Clarkson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm, K. Keiffer seconded the motion, motion passed 3-0.

Meeting minutes approved.

Clarkson A. Collins

8/28/2023

Clarkson Collins, Secretary

DATE 08/28/23

Southern RI Conservation District
Profit & Loss
June 2023

	<u>Jun 23</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
FFOS Fee	100.00
Program Income	34,305.37
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Total Income	34,405.37
Cost of Goods Sold	
Direct Labor	
EE Direct Labor	24,805.00
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Total Direct Labor	24,805.00
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Total COGS	24,805.00
Gross Profit	9,600.37
Expense	
Facilities and Equipment	
Rent, Parking, Utilities	1,822.05
Repairs & Maintenance	96.00
Facilities and Equipment - Other	26.21
	<hr/>
Total Facilities and Equipment	1,944.26
Office Expenses & Postage	157.46
Operations	
Telephone, Telecommunications	143.44
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Total Operations	143.44
Other Expenses	-1,248.95
Payroll Expenses	
Payroll Employer Taxes	3,317.14
Payroll Processing Fees	210.40
Wages	3,412.50
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Total Payroll Expenses	6,940.04
Professional Services	
Accounting & Software Training	305.00
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Total Professional Services	305.00
Program Expense	22,464.70
Supplies	1,120.62
Travel	
EE Mileage Reimbursed	1,002.76
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Total Travel	1,002.76
	<hr/>
Total Expense	32,829.33
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Net Ordinary Income	-23,228.96
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Net Income	<u><u>-23,228.96</u></u>

Southern RI Conservation District
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2023

	<u>Jun 30, 23</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Operating Checking Acct.	231,507.11
Total Checking/Savings	<u>231,507.11</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	2,047.15
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>2,047.15</u>
Other Current Assets	
Expenses Paid	0.00
Prepaid Retainer	1,000.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>234,554.26</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>234,554.26</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
FHK RI Foundation Grant	50,000.00
LASA 2023	20,000.00
STEM Mentor -RI Foundation	100,000.00
United Way SIL Liability	-21,349.37
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>148,650.63</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>148,650.63</u>
Total Liabilities	148,650.63
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	198,302.47
Net Income	-112,398.84
Total Equity	<u>85,903.63</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>234,554.26</u></u>