

**THE FRANKLIN WATERSHED COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Franklin Homestead**  
**January 14, 2010**

Present: David Breed, Dick Benton, Lucille Rainville, Eric Beauregard, Rolland Rainville, Dan Larivee, Ron Paradis, Paul Stanley, Sue Clark, Heidi Britch-Valenta, Jim Cameron, Peter Benevento

The meeting commenced at 7:00PM.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held 12/10/09 were reviewed. Sue Clark made a motion to accept the minutes. Dick Benton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Sue Clark gave the Treasurer's Report. A total of \$41,946.88 has been spent from the 2008 319 Grant leaving a balance of \$7,153.12 to be spent. A request has been made to VT-DEC to roll over the 2008 balance to the 2009 319 Grant. Approval of this request is pending. A total of \$12,672.33 in invoices drawn on the 2008 319 Grant is awaiting approval.

The End of Year Report has been submitted to the Town Auditor. The issuance of a Form 1099 to the Coordinator will close the books for the year 2009.

A donation in the amount of \$1800.00 has been received from the LCCA.

The checking account balance is \$2,888.69 and the money market account balance is \$39.61. Dick Benton made a motion to close the money market account and transfer the balance to the checking account. Peter Benevento seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Coordinator's Report**

Heidi Britch-Valenta gave the Coordinator's Report.

**Shoreline Projects-** A total of seven culverts have been selected for repair, i.e. three on the Patton Shore, three on the Westcott Shore and one at Sandy Bay. Hydraulic studies have been completed and design projects are pending. One culvert (#40) borders on a wetland and will require a permit. The waiting period for the permit is fifteen days.

**Dewing Project-** The repair of the Dewing Brook has been completed and a total of \$2500.00 has been approved to pay for the project. The fence has not been installed this is estimated to cost \$2,250 and should be installed in the spring.

**Governor's Award-** Application for the Governor's Environmental Award has been submitted. The award winner will be announced in February.

**Final Report 319 Grant Funding-** The final report for the 2008-2009 Sec. 319 Grant was made available in both hard copy and CD form.

**Volunteer Hours-** FWC members donated more than 1000 hours during 2009.

**Town Report-** A year-end report to be included with the Franklin Town Report was submitted to the town. It was noted that the Franklin Selectboard is very supportive of the FWC and an annual donation in the amount of \$1,000 is anticipated.

**NUVAK-** Representatives of NUVAK have requested to meet with the FWC however the reason for meeting and a definite date has not been established. NUVAK is a new cow feed currently being studied and tested.

**LCBP-** The Lake Champlain Basin Program is sponsoring a \$10,000.00 grant for wildlife habitat issues. Heidi will apply for the grant by March 1, 2010.

In addition to the above items Heidi stated that a Conservation Tillage Tool Workshop would be held 1/26 in St. Albans and a LCBP Networking Event would take place in Burlington on 2/10. Heidi, Jim Cameron, and David Lucey are registered to attend.

### **Member Appreciation Brunch**

Jim Cameron reported that a member appreciation brunch would be held on Jan. 30, 2010 at the Franklin Homestead. Everyone is welcome, including family members. Members were asked to call Heidi with the anticipated number of people attending.

### **Water Sampling Program**

Peter Benevento stated that he will be preparing the 2010 LaRosa Lab Grant application and asked the group if there were any additional sites to be sampled. Suggestions for sampling included the Little Pond Rd. culvert, the Hammond & Dewing Rd. culvert, drain tile from the Dewing Brook and culverts in the Town of Franklin.

A presentation to the landowners regarding the 2009 sampling results was discussed. The presentation will be conducted in the spring with a representative from the VT-DEC present to interpret the findings.

### **Board Development**

Jim Cameron proposed that the Board meet on a Saturday to discuss the board's history, roles, duties, responsibilities and ways to be more effective in the future. A session in late spring or early summer will be scheduled.

### **Cover Crops**

Paul Stanley presented his report on the FWC Fall 2009 Cover Crop initiative. The report was reviewed and discussed. It was decided that the report recommendations would be the topic of a separate cover crop meeting to be held in late February or early March. The date for the meeting will be set at the February monthly meeting. Paul was thanked for a job well done.

### **Lothian Farm CREP Initiative**

Paul Stanley, Heidi Britch-Valenta and CREP Coordinator Ben Gabos met with the Lothians to discuss a CREP Initiative on their farm. Due to the potential loss of land emanating from the project the CREP Initiative was deemed not feasible. An alternative plan to fund the stone lining of a ditch was then discussed. A decision on this proposal was tabled until the February monthly meeting. The ability of the FWC to fund the project should be known at that time.

### **Meeting with Julie Moore**

Jim Cameron gave an over view of the meeting with Julie Moore who heads the state's Clean & Clear Program. The focus of the meeting was to identify and discuss the process to secure grant funding through the Clean & Clear Program. Jim stated that it was a very productive meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Dick Benton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Breed seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Peter Benevento, Secretary