

Natural Resources Conservation & Development Board
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

This meeting was held by teleconference.

Board members in attendance:

George Woodbury
Cheryl Thompson
Carol Kenley
Bernie Karl

Others in attendance:

Shana Joy, Executive Director, NRCDB
Ed Fogels, DNR Deputy Commissioner
Franci Havemeister, Director Div of Ag
Erik Johnson, Div of Ag
Ken Marsh, President AACD

Steve Hicks, CAO, AACD
Laura Allen, Upper Susitna SWCD
Joan Hope, AACD
Brian Maupin, AACD

1. Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

It was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by George Woodbury at 9:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Carol moved to approve the agenda as presented; Bernie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Approval of March 5, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Carol moved to approve the minutes as presented; Bernie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Executive Director Report

Shana gave an update on the status of the new NRCDB website. The Commissioner's office has provided some suggestions and comments so she is working on making a few final changes to the site. She will also be out of state next week for a NASCA board meeting followed by personal leave.

5. AACD Report

Steve Hicks commented that the funding situation for districts for the next fiscal year is looking bright and that AACD is gearing up. Ed Fogels offered additional comments that the Governor is currently reviewing the capital budget and that the NRCDB should voice its opinion regarding the 4 items in the budget for AACD/SWCDs. It is the general consensus of the board that the board supports the funding currently included in the capital budget and George Woodbury instructed Shana to draft a letter to the Governor stating such as soon as possible.

6. Southeast Alaska Conservation District Formation

Joan Hope reported that Brian Maupin has been hired to finish up the preparation work for a new district to form. Shana Joy presented a list of new cooperators to the board. **Bernie moved to approve the new cooperators as presented. Carol seconded the motion. The motion carried.** Shana described the next steps in the district formation process which includes a public hearing in Juneau to take public comments and review proposed district boundaries. She will work with Joan/Brian to set a date for the hearing and make arrangements for board participation.

7. Statute Working Group Report

Shana provided a report on the first two meetings of the Statute Working Group. The first meeting focused on identifying the problems/issues to be solved. This information was distributed to the SWCD community and AACD following the first meeting. The second meeting focused on identifying a goal for resolution of each issue. A few new items came up as well including tax status of districts and tax liability. These will be looked into before the next meeting. The option of districts becoming non-profits was introduced. Information is being prepared for a full discussion at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12th at 9:00 a.m. Ed Fogels has secured any necessary support or assistance that may be required by the working group from the Dept. of Law on this project.

8. Board Comments

Cheryl Thompson is happy to see good participation in the statute working group. It is appreciated.

9. Public Comments

Ed Fogels expressed the need to provide a letter to the Governor regarding the district funding as soon as possible.

10. Next Meeting Date and Location

Shana suggested the week of June 27th for the next meeting so that the board can take up review of the district annual work plans at that time. The meeting will be held by teleconference.

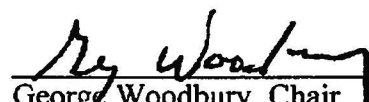
Carol moved to adjourn. Bernie seconded. The motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Minutes taken by:

Minutes approved by:



Shana Joy, Executive Director
NRCDB



George Woodbury, Chair
NRCDB