

Homer Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes: Oct 9th, 2019, 5:00 PM

Topic	Discussion	Action
Roll Call	Present: Chris, Jim, Kyra, Tim, Otto, Hannah, Pam, Julie McConnell	Start 5:30 pm
Approval of Agenda	unanimous	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve by Tim and Jim seconded	
NRCS Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Planning and Programs: • EQIP - Our work group had eight contracts funded in FY19, \$4.3 million. No area high tunnels. • State Technical Committee Meeting – October 22, 9am – noon. The conference room is available for joining the meeting by VTC. • New Planning Software and Program Rankings Systems – to go into effect this fall or early winter. • Next Local Work Group Meeting – It is unclear how LWG input will inform new ranking system, BUT the talk is it will. At least, info can be conveyed to the State Office and the State Technical Committee. • Working Lands for Wildlife - Looking at two culverts in Kasilof-Ninilchik areas (work managed by the Kenai office). • Nutrient Management Training – Craig Smith, State Agronomist, is planning to offer the classroom portion of Nutrient Management to Homer and Kenai planners, including partners. The classroom portion is required to become a Certified Nutrient Management Specialist. Tentatively scheduled for Dec 11-13. • Imagery Request – Kenai Peninsula Borough plans to obtain new imagery over selected portions of the KPB. NRCS requested additional area be covered, including all the Fox River Grazing lease (portions were not included). • Staffing – Replacement Program Support Specialist (what Rose and Jen did) vacancy to be re-advertised. Resource Conservationist vacancy open now, closes tomorrow (Oct 10). State Conservationist, Alan McBee, estimated date of arrival mid-Oct to mid-Nov. • Annual Civil Rights – Packet provided for your information. Questions welcome <p>Pam Out of Office: October 31 – Nov 6</p>	Kyra will be commenting at technical committee
Visitors	none	
Financial Report	Gena approved Otto seconded	send Gena the financial reconciliation
Manager's Report: • Land Use: Trails	Fox River Flats Trail: Work has continued. Approaches to bridges improved with fill and Geoblock. One bridge moved. Applying to extend permit for bridge maintenance. Devony compiled notes and recordings of Fox River trip and met with April Simpson of DNR to discuss	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality • Agriculture/ Soil • Invasive Weeds • Education • Administration 	<p>details of the lease and the CRMP.</p> <p>Watermelon Trail: Still waiting to hear from DNR about permits. CIRI finally refused to sell easement. So there's that. Planning to hit it hard in the spring/early summer because ADF&G funding will be gone at the end of June.</p> <p>KBNERR: Continuing work on finalizing the Management Plan. Kyra asked to possibly present with KBNERR in DC in March re: applying science to land manager decisions. Looking to collaborate more on future groundwater studies and on Anchor River headwater studies that include reed canary grass.</p> <p>Food surveys: Still moving forward on surveys, all must be turned in by the end of the month. If supervisors would like to read over them, just ask Kyra for a copy.</p> <p>Soil Health: as Brad puts together final reports for the end of this NRCS trial, we are discussing what we would like to do with it in the future since we have more funding to continue.</p> <p>BLM/NRCS Soil Survey funding: Since Eric Geisler is retiring, the format in which BLM hires field staff may change, so Brad is working on collecting resumes of the different people we can offer BLM as our team.</p> <p>CWMA: A month of meetings. Katherine facilitated the Reed Canary Grass Strategic Plan update (most reports on the spread since the original plan was written were grim) with our CWMA. Also attended a statewide strategic planning session. Looking to collaborate more with KBNERR invasives specialist too.</p> <p>Bradley Lake: after a few trips this summer (thank you HEA!) we have sprayed much of the white sweet clover, discovered reed canary grass, sprayed it too, then discovered more. I guess it will mean continued support over there. Job security.</p> <p>Ag in the Classroom: Conducted tour of local farm with Flex students and picked apples at the WJM orchard with Connections kids (ages 4-8) and then made apple cider.</p> <p>New office space agreement: Still nothing new.</p> <p>Internet upgrades: going to spend \$25 more a month, but will double our speeds</p>	
Rhodiola	<p>Otto talked to Jason Ritter, Chair of the Coop. He said Al is great to work with and he sees no reason to change anything.</p> <p>MOU with coop?</p>	Kyra to invite Jason to talk about shredding rhodiola
Lime to Fairbanks	<p>Could we get a silo? What distributors would get it? Could we be a distributor?</p>	What is the price in regular scenarios
AACD update	<p>Motion to support a board member to go to state meeting Otto, Tim second: \$800</p>	
-David Reutov-	<p>State Farm Conservation Plan: Otto moved to approve, Tim secondedPassed</p>	
	<p>adjourn</p>	8:16

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