



**DISTRICT MEETING**  
**Tuesday, August 18, 2009**  
**USDA Service Center, Presque Isle**  
**MINUTES**

**Supervisors Present:**, Leigh Morrow, Bruce Roope.

**Associate Supervisors Present:** Mike Bragdon, Gary Belyea, Dotty Dudley, Larry Park.

**Absent:** Tim Scott, Tim Hobbs, Matt Porter, Ray Harris, Brent Flewelling, Steve Sutter  
Jon Durepo, George Howe.

**Staff:** Linda Alverson.

**Others:** Jo Weber, Skip Babineau.

**Acting Supervisor:** Mike Bragdon was appointed acting supervisor for this meeting

**Minutes for July 14, 2009:** *The minutes were approved with a motion from Dotty Dudley and second from Gary Belyea.*

**Treasurer's Report:** *approved after a motion from Dotty Dudley and second by Gary Belyea*

**NRCS Report: Joe Weber.** Joe has been working on irrigation related EQIP applications. He has had one EQIP application approved and several for AMA funding. All the states allocated water use funding has been spent. A New Conservation Stewardship program has been launched. Pauline Pare is working on renewed Cooperation/Contribution agreements with SWCDs. This is primarily for administration purposes. There may be Technical Service Provider funding to go with these agreements. St. John-Aroostook RC&D report: Skip Babineau. Skip reviewed projects he has been participating in: Camp Nomacca river bank erosion, Green Ridge/Parkhurst Wind Development, Envirothon, Christina Survey, Presque Isle Downtown Revitalization. Skip will be the acting coordinator for Downeast RC&D until a replacement is on board. Chris Jones is now the RC&D State coordinator.

**Executive Director's Report: Linda Alverson.**

- 2010 Envirothon: The SWCD Employees Committee voted to make the following changes to the Envirothon: one t-shirt per year, rather than 2; hold 4 rather than 6 regional events (Northern Regional would stay the same), Districts would no longer receive a reimbursement from MACD, each regional area can set up semi-permanent sites rather than moving every year, hold fall field days rather than mock Envirothons in the spring, partner with local universities and use students as instructors.
- Ann Morris started the Christina Report before she left. Linda will finish it this fall
- We received a 319 grant award from DEP to perform a watershed survey on Williams Brook and to set up a StormWatcher Program for Prestile Stream.
- The Cavendish sediment basins are nearly complete.
- The Environmental Field Day in Perham was nearly washed out. Three farmers showed up for the no-till seeder demonstration. Thanks go to Gary Belyea and

Warren Grass for giving the demonstration and to Glenn Viola for his tractor and use of one of his fields.

- The District has been asked to participate in developing a solution to the eroding boat launch at Monson Pond.
- Operation Agreements with NRCS. These agreements are being revised and will likely be a cooperative agreement rather than an operating agreement. We may have to contribute time or funds equal to the value of our office space and computer access provided by NRCS. The value of this service is approximately \$6,000. These agreements are targeted to be completed by October 1, 2009.

**District Elections:** Terms of office expiring on December 31, 2009

Appointed: **Bruce Roope**

Elected: **Matt Porter**

Election Supervisor: The Board selected George Howe as this year's Election Superintendent

**CASWCD Resolution to MACD.** MACD response to our District's letter concerning 1.how MACD meetings are run, 2.responsibilities of the Executive Director and 3.how MACD reports financial matters.

MACD will distribute the letter to all District Boards for comments and potential changes. These changes will be sent back to CASWCD for revision and formatting as a resolution for the winter meeting. Leigh Morrow will check on the resolution process.

**Municipal Requests.** Municipal assessments are very slow coming in this year. Fort Fairfield has cut our request from their budget. Linda will provide an update at the next Board meeting.

**Irrigation Guide update:** Maine Department of Agriculture has agreed to provide \$7600. toward updating the irrigation guide. Maine Department of Environmental Protection will donate \$1000 to the effort. Plans are to complete the update by February 2010.

**Conservation Award Committees**

Conservation Farmer:

**Gary Belyea, Brent Flewelling, Leigh Morrow, Bruce Roope and Mike**

**Bragdon**

Conservation Forester/Woodlot Owner

**Larry Park, Bruce Wilkins, Dave Rochester**

**Education Endowment:** *The Board voted to donate \$100.00 to the Forestry Building on the Northern Maine Fairgrounds. Motion by Larry Park second by Bruce Roope.*

**Spring No-Till Field Day:** The District will plan a No-Till Field Day in late April 2010. Board suggestions for this Field Day included: coordinating with Aroostook Beef producers, getting help from Dee Potter, check with MOFGA for assistance, enlist a forage expert to help, see if Matt Williams is interested in assisting.