

Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 3rd, 2020: Bakersfield Fire Station, Bakersfield

Attendees: Cynthia Scott, Paul Stanley, John Little, Ellen Fox, Lindsey Wight; Brian Jerose joined via Zoom.

- 1) Joined the FWC meeting via Zoom at 7:00pm; **new Coordinator Tucker – Lindsey will try to coordinate meeting up with him and working on some collaborations.**
- 2) Review of August meeting minutes – **PS motions; CS seconds; all in favor.**
- 3) Administrative business – **mini-newsletter. Board made some suggestions/corrections. Lindsey will get this out to our email list asap, and will follow that with a mailing to those folks for whom we don't have an email address. Suggestion: get in to SAMess or Courier!**

Other suggestions: print extras and post – Post offices, stores, ATM in Montgomery, provide to schools?

Internal controls – need to develop some of these policies, as well as other documents. Revisit the idea of seeking professional help to determine our policies and procedures. Lindsey will apply for VCF funds to do this.

- 4) Outreach/Projects

Ellen: water sampling at Wright's and Couture's. Technical difficulties prevented us from seeing the prepared presentation, but Ellen gave us a synopsis. Low water this year has yielded relatively high P. During rain, the P levels are lower – which could indicate that there isn't a lot of erosion happening. Need to get precip totals vs surface area to confirm this assumption. There is consistently almost no nitrate except one location with known issues. Turbidity has been consistently low on both upstream and downstream of the Mill Brook bank stabilization project.

Edible Rain Garden – Weeds grew remarkably fast, but school (Jay/Westfield) was taking care of it. Lindsey and Ranier added more mulch, and will get a map/sign out. May be able to do outdoor programming with GMFTS at the school this fall.

Education/Outreach opportunities/ideas – Each school district seems to have different parameters. Lindsey will reach out to the schools and see if there is something we can provide. We'll try to be adaptable. Should also reach out to homeschool groups, and work to develop things that can be provided for remote learning.

LEAP – New program – well, expanded program following an example laid out by the Poultney Mettowee Conservation District. They hire high school interns and have them learn about clean water projects, such as rain gardens or riparian plantings. Work with landowners to implement small-scale projects. \$10k grant, but needs \$5k match. Can be matched with our buffer planting funds.

- 5) Grants/financials update

Funds to cover ECO AmeriCorps member: Decision pending. There are other possibilities on the horizon, but the biggest loss from the revoked VAAFMs dollars is the mileage and supervisor hours. Have W&S cover the first 2 quarters, then we'll pay the 2nd two.

Other ideas/target for Ben & Jerry's funds? Newsletter? It's a good way to reach people in these times; could get creative about using it as a community-gathering action.

- 6) Events – **No events; educational programming, but shelve others until the future**
- 7) Next meeting – October 1, 2020 – **Enosburg EMS building? Or Community Center?**
 November 5, 2020 – **thoughts?**
 December 3, 2020 – **thoughts?**

- 8) Adjourn – **JL motioned/CS seconded; meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.**