

**NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES
(NACDE)**

**2006 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 24, 2006**

Tim Riley called the meeting to order and introduced the current officers of the association. A roll call of the NACDE directors was made to confirm the presence of voting members. Voting delegates were Richard Kirschner from Delaware, Joan Richardson from New Hampshire, Ed Hoxie from New York, Mike Lovegreen from Pennsylvania, Marli Rupe from Vermont and Angelo Caruso from New Jersey.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the 2005 annual meeting held in New Jersey were approved.

Financial Report

The account balance as of February 28, 2006 was \$6,740.41. Interest accrual from March through June was \$2.95. HydroCAD registrations from MA & NY programs were \$13,200.00 for a total income of \$13,202.95. Expenses during the same timeframe were \$9,583.00. Account balance as of July 24, 2006 was \$10,360.36. This does not include additional income and expenses associated with the NY & MA HydroCAD programs.

It was moved by Marli Rupe, seconded by Ed Hoxie to approve and accept the financial report as presented.

President's Report

Tim Riley reported that the NACDE Board holds meetings in the Millbrook, NY office, and most recently met in March 2006. Tim had been involved with the planning for this regional meeting, making frequent visits to PA. NACDE has been focused on revamping the awards program and also worked on revising the current Strategic Plan.

It was moved by Ed Hoxie, seconded by Marli Rupe to accept the updated Strategic Plan.

Communications

Rick Mickowski currently produces two issues per year of the N'oreaster newsletter. This publication is mailed to every District office and leading partners in the northeast, for a total of over 400 recipients. Rick wanted to recognize Sue Moon and her staff from the Somerset District who print the newsletter. NACDE is soliciting businesses to advertise in the publication, and rates can be sent by contacting Rick. Rick requested that more states contact him with articles and news to include in the newsletter.

NACDE has a website, <http://ne.ncdea.org>, which is maintained by Victor DeVasto. Meeting minutes, training and career opportunities and the most recent newsletter can all be found on the site.

HydroCAD Trainings

HydroCAD is a computer aided design tool used by civil engineers for modeling stormwater runoff. NACDE is offering these trainings to any state that shows a need and interest. Delaware hosted the first training at the Kent Conservation District, and those held after have all been very successful. The state of NY has a license to offer additional trainings throughout the remainder of 2006 and 2007 and provide CEU credits. Please contact Mary Currier if your District would like to host an event.

Tim reminded everyone of the State of the States program scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. He encouraged more states to participate as the program would only become more successful.

NCDEA Report

Bob Dobbs, NCDEA President, stated that Tim had done an outstanding job for the northeast region. NCDEA had a good mid-year meeting in Phoenix. NCDEA will be celebrating its 15th anniversary next year. The association has been very active, and is now a non-profit, 501c3 and is incorporated. The dues structure is \$200 per year, which is then leveraged for receiving grant and federal funding. Rich Duesterhaus has been hired as the Executive Director for NCDEA. In May, Bob and Cindy Moon, Vice President, traveled to Louisiana and Mississippi for the Quarterly Partnership Leaders Meeting. Partnership leaders met with local and state officials to clean-up a 150-foot stretch along the Mississippi Gulf coast. NCDEA is scheduled to hold its first time national conference call on Thursday, July 27th to communicate and share important information about the activities of the association. The National Leadership Conference is scheduled for November 29-30 in Nashville, TN. The purpose of the meeting is to provide leadership development and reinforce the core conservation partners. All state partnership leaders are encouraged to attend. Bob, once again, thanked the states who have paid their dues.

NACDE Conservation Awards

Tim Riley presented the *2006 Conservation District Board Member Award* to David Mankamyer of the Somerset Conservation District in PA. David has been extremely active in his community and is currently working on an innovative biomass and methane generation renewable energy project.

Tim presented the *2006 Conservation District Employee Award* to Dan Dunmire of the Mifflin County Conservation District in PA. Dan has been in the conservation field for over 10 years, beginning his career in his neighboring District. He said that he's seen

many challenges but feels that if you surround yourself with good and confident people; it only helps you in the end. He ended by saying, "he loves his job!"

Other Business

Mary Currier mentioned the required USDA security background checks and inquired how other states are handling the procedure. Bob Dobbs said this request came from Homeland Security and it is a requirement. Mary said NH wrote a letter to the Assistant State Conservationist requesting a meeting to discuss issues. Tim Riley said the directive just came out in Delaware last week, and the State Conservationist will decide how to proceed. Amanda Barber in New York said each District is handling the procedure individually. Krysta Harden sent out a Fact Sheet that answered many questions and concerns states have. Marli Rupe asked if the NACDE website could be used as a forum for states to communicate with each other on issues like this.

Tim Riley applauded the District employees for their attendance. This was the best turnout he has seen in a while over the 15 years he has been involved. Tim will be involved with the planning of the 2007 meeting in Connecticut. He will be looking for someone more local to attend the planning meetings. If anyone has ideas to bring to the meetings, please contact Tim.

The National NACD meeting is scheduled for February in Los Angeles. Tim encouraged everyone to attend and said he will be looking for employees to moderate sessions and/or give presentations at the meeting on behalf of NACDE.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Rickrode, Secretary
NACDE