**WCNRCD Board Meeting**

March 31, 2025 6:30 PM

NRCD Office, USDA Service Center, 28 Vernon St, Brattleboro, VT 05301

and via Zoom

**Present:** Cory Ross, District Manager

**Zoom Participants:** Meg Kluge, Linda Corse, Katie Morrison, Geof Dolman, and Pieter van Loon, board supervisors

**Financials:**

* NACD TA Grant: White River NRCD, along with us and Bennington are sub-recipients.
* We were slated to get $50,000 from this grant to pay for Heather and Mae’s time. We invoiced quarterly but haven’t been paid yet for 11/26/24 and 1/31/25. White River hasn’t submitted the last 6 months of reporting, so their payments likely aren’t updated (and those funds have been frozen due to changes at the federal level).
* White River has $90,000 for the grant (that’s what they were initially given) but it’s not clear what they’ve done with those funds.
* This isn’t super time sensitive, we’re fine in terms of cash flow, but we do need to be paid for this grant, still owed $37,500, not being paid would leave a big hole in our budget.
* Worried about the grant being canceled due to what’s happening on the federal level, or just not getting paid by White River.
* Advice from VACD is that someone from our board should talk to someone from their board. If that doesn't work, VACD leadership might be able to get involved.
* One update: did get a response from White River DM Jennifer - which said funds have been paused, will look into it. Cory asked for more specifics: which funds have been advanced? Is reporting up to date? Part of grant funds are supposed to be used for a shared engineer. Bennington volunteered to lead that up but the first two candidates fell through, not sure what’s happening there.
* NACD grants are pretty flexible in terms of how quickly money is spent.
* Bennington - hasn’t had any communications from White River, asked to be updated when we heard anything.
* Linda thought it’s best for Geof to sign it on behalf of the board.
* White River had a significant grant canceled - (Work Force Corps or something like that, Linda couldn’t remember exact name) which may be impacting this issue.
* Edit letter: last communication was recent but lacked information/not forthcoming about being behind on reporting.
* Motion to send amended letter to White River district board.
* Otherwise we’re generally good in terms of finances. AFT grant is also uncertain. They paid 2 oldest payments recently. They think there will be good news, but still uncertain.
* For this issue with White River: funds we’re invoicing for predate when funds were frozen, so we still should expect those payments.

***Motion to enter executive session 6:50pm. Motion approved.***

***Motion to leave executive session 7:00pm. Motion approved.***

***Motion to accept Cory’s analysis and move Mae to the next payment step and take her off probationary status. Motion approved.***

***Motion to adjourn. Motion approved***

***Meeting ended at 7:03pm.***

**Signed, Katie Morrison.**