

## **VERMONT HOUSING & CONSERVATION BOARD**

### **Viability Grants Review Committee Meeting Virtual Meeting by Zoom**

#### **DRAFT MINUTES**

**February 9, 2021**

Viability Grant Review Committee Members present: Diane Bothfeld (Chair), David Marvin, Gus Seelig, Joshua Faulkner (departed at 2:00pm), Marli Rupe, Sarah Isham, Colleen Goodridge

VHCB staff present: Ela Chapin, Jen Hollar, Liz Gleason, Aaron Guman

Guests present: Nina Gage, VAAFm joined from 1:30-2:18pm to support VAAFm staff during deliberations

---

At 1:04pm, Diane Bothfeld opened the meeting. Brief introductions were made.

A motion to approve minutes from the May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 grant review committee meeting was made by Dave Marvin and seconded by Sarah Isham. All were in favor.

Ela Chapin introduced the grant review process and described available funding at 1:08pm. This review committee's role is to provide funding recommendations to the VHCB board chair, and the VHCB board chair must review and finalize funding recommendations.

Diane Bothfeld called for public comment at 1:16pm. No public comment was made.

Ela Chapin and Aaron Guman outlined the meeting's agenda and review process, provided an overview of Water Quality Grant applications received this round, and summarized staff considerations.

A motion to go into executive session, at 1:17pm, for applications review was offered by Gus Seelig, seconded by Marli Rupe and all were in favor.

A motion to come out of executive session, at 2:22pm, was made by Gus Seelig, seconded by David Marvin, and all were in favor.

A motion to fund the following water quality grants, at 2:25pm, was made by Sarah Isham, seconded by David Marvin, and all were in favor.

Vermont Heritage Grazers LLC	Covered manure storage, animal housing, gully erosion	\$40,000.00	
River Valley Dairy	Vertical Tillage Tool	withdrawn	
Leaning Barn VT	Leaning Barn Water Works	defer	engineering/TA support before next review
Kelley-View Farm	Precision Yield Monitoring & Mapping for Vermont Farms	\$38,216.00	contingent upon support of Senate & House Ag Com. Leadership; data required per VAAFM
M & L Dairy	No-Till Corn Planter	\$40,000.00	
Woodnotch Farm	No-Till Corn Planter	\$35,000.00	
Birch Meadow Farm	No Till Corn Planter-\$25,000 (Matching funds from farm and	\$25,000.00	
Fort Waite Holsteins	Manure Application Equipment	\$25,000.00	
Robert P Parent & Son LLC	Small Barn Lines Manure Pit and New Barnyard	\$40,000.00	contingent on BMP/rest of funds secured
Sykes Hollow Land and Livestock	Improvements Farmstead Complex Water Quality	defer	first look at BMP \$; get engineering review
BJ Family Farm	Waste Storage Facility Upgrades	\$40,000.00	contingent on EQIP Assist contract
Kayhart Brothers LLC	No-Till Grain Drill for Cover Crop and Crop Rotation	\$40,000.00	
Four Hills Farm Partnership	Liquid Manure Dragline Injection	\$40,000.00	

A motion to adjourn, at 2:29pm, was made by David Marvin, seconded by Gus Seelig, and all were in favor. Diane Bothfeld ended the meeting at 2:29pm

\*\*\*

Notes submitted by Liz Gleason