



**White River  
Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
District**

28 Farmvu Drive  
White River Junction, VT 05001  
www.whiterivernrcd.org  
whiterivernrcd@gmail.com  
(802) 369-3167

**White River NRC D Board of Supervisors Meeting  
February 10, 2026, 11 am -1 pm  
Virtual**

**DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Topic:** Defining the District “Whole Under Management” and Decision-Making Framework

[White River NRC D Whole Under Management Working Document](#)

**Attendees:**

Jennifer Byrne; Didi Pershouse; Willie Gibson; Abe Collins; Sabra Ewing; Michael Fernandez; Lauren Weston; Anna Hubbard; Kate Willard; Karen Ganey; Lyle Nicholes; Henry Harris; Jaiel Pulskamp; Alvina Risinger-Harvey,

**Overview**

The board and participants met to begin defining the White River Conservation District’s “whole under management,” including decision-making structures, resource base, and financial capacity. The session introduced principles of holistic management and emphasized the importance of collaboration, clear communication, and adaptive learning.

**Key Discussion Points**

**1. Decision-Making Structure**

- Identified key decision makers: board members, staff, and district manager
- Recognized influence of external entities, including funders and NRCS
- Noted the need for clearer roles, authority, and transparency in decision-making

**2. Resource Base**

- Defined resources under management:
  - Land and ecosystems
  - Physical assets (buildings, equipment)
  - People (farmers, landowners, community members)
- Emphasized understanding ecological processes, landscape feedback, and energy flow



## White River Natural Resources Conservation District

28 Farmvu Drive  
White River Junction, VT 05001  
www.whiterivernrcd.org  
whiterivernrcd@gmail.com  
(802) 369-3167

### 3. Stakeholders & Impact

- Acknowledged broad range of affected groups:
  - Farmers, landowners, local organizations, and community members
  - Policymakers and external institutions
- Highlighted importance of relationships, equity considerations, and community engagement

### 4. Financial Resources & Opportunities

- Current resources include:
  - Bank accounts and grant funding
- Explored additional options:
  - Tax levying authority (with challenges)
  - Loans and revenue-generating activities (e.g., tree sales)
  - Municipal appropriations
- Discussed capacity for managing larger grants

### 5. Holistic Management & Process Feedback

- Introduced holistic management framework and grounding process
- Participants expressed:
  - Appreciation for systems-level thinking
  - Need for clearer goals, pacing, and actionable outcomes
- Emphasized the importance of relationship-building and shared understanding

### 6. Next Steps

- Continue refining definitions of the district's "whole" in future sessions
- Plan for expanded holistic management training
- Improve communication, logistics, and clarity for upcoming meetings

## Adjournment

The meeting concluded with appreciation from participants and a shared commitment to continue developing a more integrated, holistic framework for district management.