**THE ROWLAND CO-OP**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**March 8, 2020**

**Participants:** Lorraine Bentley, Kenny Christianson, Kenny Connors, Lori Emanuele, Karen Havens, Robin Hoose, Laurel Mason, Karen Monel, Randy Nilsen, Jane Olsen, Diana Mae Potts, Mallory Roscone, Tom Shelp, Bryan Thompson, Jeff Thompson

1. **Call to Order:** 2:07 pm
2. **Minutes of meeting of February 23, 2020:** Approved as presented. Moved by Robin, seconded by Randy.
3. **Treasurer’s report:** The coop has obtained a $20,000 loan for start-up costs from Caryn. From this we need to purchase insurance, opening inventory, a POS system, and set aside a reserve for salaries.
4. **Water Update:** Rich Tussel sent a list of geologists and soil engineers. Kenny has been contacting geologists on the list to see if any of them would be willing to help with our water supply.
5. **Updates:**

Kenny went through the Pennsylvania Business Checklist, is currently filling out the Department of Revenue forms.

Kenny contacted Pocono Mountain Dairy, will meet with Tom Callahan next week for milk deliveries.

Denise Steuhl, Lackawaxen Township clerk, has been contacted to inform her we plan on opening soon. She said she will notify Rich Tussel and Jim Dolan.

1. **Discussion:** The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing various issues involved in opening the grocery store.

**-**There is no fishing license agent in the area. We should work on becoming one.

**-** There is still one board vacancy.

**-** Until we have the water approved, we can sell coffee either with bottled water or provide coffee for free.

**-**Pepperidge Farm has a local route, they may be able to supply bakery products.

**-**We may be able to sell Lotto tickets and cigarettes, but members are against selling beer.

**-**Necessary equipment will include wifi, microwave, freezers and coolers.

**-**We should sell baby supplies.

**-**For now, we can have bagels and muffins for breakfast.

**-**For coffee, we will need creamers, sugar, cups, stirrers, coffee filters

**-**Restaurant Depot is a good source of supplies.

**-**Tentative hours will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, 7 am – 7 pm

**-**We need to explore EBT SNAP payments (food stamps)

**7. Next meeting** – Work and clean-up meeting, Saturday, March 21, 12:00 – 4:00 pm.