



## **SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Somerset County 4-H Center  
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### **SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING January 28, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Mark Kirby, Jim Laine, Matt Loper, Chad Cherefko, Frank Calo

**ABSENT:** Steve Needle

The meeting was called to order at 12:22 p.m.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

The minutes of the December meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The report for December was unanimously approved.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- The District received an announcement for the NJACD Memorial Conservation Scholarship. The scholarship is granted to encourage and support qualified students to pursue a career in natural resources.
- The District received an announcement from the Somerset County Board of Agriculture, for the Tom Everett Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is granted to New Jersey Students majoring in an agricultural subject and intending to pursue a career in production agriculture or in a field related to agriculture.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

District Fee Schedule - Frank Calo reported that he had attended the State Soil Conservation Committee meeting in January. The agenda included the District's request for a revised application fee schedule. The Committee approved the fee schedule and a letter from the Committee confirming the approval was received by the District on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Frank informed the Board that the District would forward a memorandum announcing the revised fee schedule to the engineering community at the beginning of February. Implementation of the new fee schedule will take place on March 1, 2015.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2015 Poster Contest – Frank Calo informed the Board that the 2015 Poster Contest was underway. The theme for this year is “Heroes- Your Hard Working Pollinators”. The District has sent the contest flyers to the school superintendents of both counties for distribution.

Exempt Municipalities Annual Report – The Board reviewed the status of the exempt municipalities. Frank Calo reported he had met with Bernard's Township and indicated that, due to the agreement for the District to review and certify plans, the Township is only handling the inspection and enforcement of the erosion control. The process was a smooth one and is working well. Bernards is the only exempt municipality doing erosion control on their own. The Board unanimously approved the annual review and directed the Manager to submit same to the State Committee.

2015 NJ Conservation Regional Meetings – Frank Calo informed the Board that this year's Regional Meetings have been scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> of March. The Board was reminded that they usually attend the Central Region Meeting which will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> a day before the District Board Meeting. The Board will make a final decision as to which meeting they will attend at the District's February meeting.

Amendments to the NJ SE&SC Standards – Frank Calo reported that the District had received two Administrative Policy Bulletins from the State Conservation Committee. The first bulletin is a clarification on the implementation of the “Single Family Exemption” under the Soil Erosion and Sediment control Act. The second is to facilitate the uniform collection of electronic versions of Chapter 251 site plans for storage and retrieval in the NJDA Hydrologic Stormwater Basin Database. The Bulletins were reviewed and discussed by the Board.

2014 Permit Extension Act Extension – The Board discussed the impact of the extension of the “Permit Extension Act of 2008” by Governor Christie on December 26, 2014. The extension means that the 31/2 year time limit on District certification does not apply to plans in which certifications have or will expire between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2015.

Revised Annual Audit Manual-Draft – Frank Calo presented to the Board a draft copy of the Annual Audit Manual for NJ Soil Conservation Districts. Frank informed the Board that a copy had been forwarded to the District's auditor for comment. The Board reviewed the draft copy of the manual and after some discussion directed the District Manager to forward Board comments to the State Committee.

Business Auto & General Liability Insurance Renewal – The Board was informed that the District had received an invoice from La Fontaine & Budd Insurance for the Districts auto and general liability insurance. The invoice was reviewed by the Board and unanimously approved for payment.

Union County Budget Update – Frank Calo reported that the District had received a voucher from Union County for this year's annual contribution. The contribution did include an increase of 5% as requested by the Board.

District Action on Chapter 251 – (a) The Board unanimously approved the plans on the attached completed list. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on application: 2012-0703. (b) The Board approved the certified plans on the attached list. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications: 2014-1520 and 2014-1441.

**REPORTS:**

NRCS – Chad Cherefko reported NRCS news.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities, which included the search for a new District Supervisor from Union County.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 12 noon at the District office.

The meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo  
District Manager