



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING January 27, 2016

PRESENT: Mark Kirby, Jim Laine, Matt Loper, Evan Madlinger, Frank Calo

ABSENT: Steve Needle, Bob Amberg

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

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

APPROVAL of MNUTES

A motion was made by Jim Laine to approve the December meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report for December was reviewed by the Board. Mark Kirby made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The District received an announcement from the NJ Department of Agriculture about the NJ Agricultural Convention. The convention & trade show will be held on February 9-11, 2016 at the Harrah's Resort Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ.

- The District received a conservation fact sheet from the USDA concerning the Conservation Reserve Program.

OLD BUSINESS:

Amendments to the NJ SE&SC Standards - Frank Calo reported that the District had received a notice from John Showler, State Soil Erosion Engineer, that the SSCC had approved the Soil Restoration Standards. The next step would be to have them published in the NJ Register. These are revisions to the topsoil and land grading standards. These revisions had been presented to the Board by John Showler at the November 2015 Board meeting. How the newly revised standards are to be enforced, will be presented to the District's at a future training session.

NEW BUSINESS:

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. A motion was made by Jim Laine to approve the annual review. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The Board directed the District Manager to submit the Report of Exempt Municipalities to the State Committee.

RFA Reimbursement for FY 2016 2nd Quarter – The Board was presented with the invoice for the RFA Reimbursement for FY 2016 2nd Quarter. Mark Kirby made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

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 a motion was made by Matt Loper to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved for payment.

North Jersey RC&D Annual Dues – Frank Calo informed the Board that the District was no longer a member of the executive committee for the NJ RC&D. The NJ RC&D and the Musconetcong Watershed Association are now working together in a joint agreement. The District will now be a member of the NJ RC&D Technical Advisory Committee. The District has also received a request for the FY 2017 sponsor dues. A motion was made by Jim Laine to pay the NJ RC&D dues. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

2015 Permit Extension Act Extension – The Board was informed that the "Permit Extension Act of 2008" had not been extended by Governor Christie. This means that the 31/2 year time limit on District certification would now be enforced. The process for recertification was explained to the Board.

Conservation Plans – Evan Madlinger presented to the Board, 4 conservation plans and 2 requests for assistance. A motion was made by Matt Loper to enter into closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The board entered into closed session at 12:40 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 12:53 p.m. A motion was made by Matt Loper to approve the conservation plans and requests for assistance presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

District Action on Chapter 251 – (a) The Board approved the plans on the attached certified list. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications: 2015-1991 and 2015-1985. (b) The Board approved the completed plans on the attached list. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on application: 2015-1837.

REPORTS:

NRCS – Evan Madlinger reported on NRCS news, which included the filling of the engineering position in the Frenchtown office.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. The Board was informed that the 2016 NJ Conservation Regional Meetings are tentatively scheduled for March 30th, April 5th and April 7th. The Board was reminded that they usually attend the Central Region Meeting which will be held on the 30th of March. The Board will make a final decision as to which meeting they will attend at the District's February meeting. Frank Calo reported that the 2016 NACD Northeast Regional Conference will be held on August 14-16, 2016, in Stockton, NJ. Frank Calo and the Board discussed the passing of Henry Dreyer. The Board unanimously decided to make a donation of \$150.00 to the Sarcoma Foundation of America in Henry Dreyer's name.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2016, at 12 noon at the District office.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager