



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING February 22, 2017

PRESENT: Mark Kirby, Matt Loper, Jim Laine, Steve Needle, Bob Amberg, John Kluthe, Paul McCall, Frank Calo

ABSENT:

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 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 January meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report for January was reviewed by the Board. Matt Loper made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The District received a news release from USEPA with information about the reauthorization of the Stormwater Construction General Permit (CGP).

- The District received a notice from the NJ DOA concerning the SADC new program assisting farmers with deer fencing on preserved farms.
- The District received an information sheet from the US Global Change Research Program dealing with trends in percent increases in the amount of precipitation falling on the continental US.

OLD BUSINESS:

Soil & Water Conservation Project Cost Share – Frank Calo reported to the Board, that the District had received some further guidance from the NJ DOA as to the role and responsibilities of the Soil Conservation Districts, as they pertain to the soil and water cost-share program. The SADC and NRCS are currently discussing the NRCS's technical assistance role in this program.

Supervisor Regional Meetings – The Board was notified that it appears that the central Supervisor's Regional Meeting will be held on Thursday March 30th, at the same venue as last year, the Villa Mannino Restaurant in Bordentown. Frank Calo informed the Board that as soon as the meeting is officially scheduled by the State Soil Conservation Committee, they will be notified.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chapter 251 Surcharge Fee FY 2017 2nd Quarter – The Board was presented with an invoice for the Chapter 251 Surcharge fee for FY 2017 2nd quarter. The invoice was in the amount of \$3,225.00. A motion was made by Matt Loper and seconded to pay the invoice. The Board unanimously approved the payment of the invoice to the NJDA-SSCC.

RFA Reimbursement for FY 2017 2nd Quarter – The Board was presented with the invoice for the RFA Reimbursement for FY 2017 2nd Quarter. Steve Needle made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

2017 NJ Envirothon – Frank Calo informed the Board that this year's NJ Envirothon would be held in Mercer County. The event will be cosponsored by the Mercer SCD along with the Warren SCD. It is also the time of year when the District makes its annual donation in support of the Envirothon. The District's budget, for FY 2017, does include a contribution of \$500 dollars for the Envirothon. Steve Needle made a motion for the District to make the \$500.00 donation to the NJ Envirothon. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

District Meeting Schedule – Frank Calo made a request to the Board as to the rescheduling of the April and July District Supervisor Meetings. The rescheduling would be made to alleviate some scheduling conflicts. After some discussion, the Board decided to reschedule the April meeting from the 19th to the 26th, and the July meeting from the 26th to the 18th. Jim Laine made a motion to reschedule the April and July District Supervisor meetings as decided. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

Conservation Plans – John Kluthe presented to the Board, 1 conservation plan and 4 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 12:48 p.m. A motion was made by Bob Amberg to approve the conservation plan and requests for assistance presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

District Action on Chapter 251 – (a) Bob Amberg made a motion to approve the plans on the attached certified list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. (b) A motion was made by Steve Needle to approve the completed plans on the attached list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on application: 2015-1849.

REPORTS:

NRCS – John Kluthe reported on an NRCS's CSP program through EQIP and on the possibility of working with Watchung Borough on a deer management program.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities and on his work with the State Training Committee, and the work being done by the computer consultant. There was also a discussion with the Board about the continued devastation of the ash tree population throughout the country and especially here in NJ.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at 12 noon at the District office.

A motion was made by Jim Laine to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager