



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING May 24, 2017

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

ABSENT:

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:33p.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 April meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report for April was reviewed by the Board. Steve Needle made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The District received a notice from NRCS about the Firman E. Bear Chapter of the SWCS's Tour and Business Meeting which will be held on May 25th at the Hunterdon County SCD.
- The District received a notice from John Showler, State Engineer, concerning a NJ Developers Green Infrastructure Guide.
- The District received a conservation practice guide from NRCS on the practice of Biochar.

OLD BUSINESS:

Somerset-Union SCD Supervisor Nominating Committee – Frank Calo informed the Board that the new Somerset-Union Supervisor Nominating Committee met on May 9th. A copy of the meeting minutes was presented. The re-nomination of supervisor Bob Amberg was approved at the meeting, and the required documentation was forwarded to the Soil State Committee for review. The re-nomination should be approved at the June committee meeting.

Union County Budget Update – The Board was informed that the Union County 2017 Budget was approved on April 27th. A contribution to the District with the requested 5% increase from last year's amount is included in the approved budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

2018 Annual Plan of Work – Frank Calo presented to the Board a draft of the District's Annual Plan of Work for 2018. This year's plan has some minor changes but, the main objectives remained the same as previous years. After some discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Matt Loper to accept the Annual Plan of Work as presented. The motion was seconded and was unanimously approved by the Board.

Application Surcharge Fee Reimbursement for FY 2017 3rd Quarter – The Board was presented with the invoice for the application surcharge fee for FY 2017 3rd Quarter. Steve Needle made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

Conservation Plans – John Kluthe presented to the Board 1 conservation plan. A motion was made by Bob Amberg to enter into closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The board entered into closed session at 7:50 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 7:57 p.m. A motion was made

by Steve Needle to approve the conservation plan presented. The motion was seconded and passed by the Board. Jim Laine recused himself from the voting.

District Action on Chapter 251 – (a) Bob Amberg made a motion to approve the plans on the attached certified and completed list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications 2017-2654, 2017-2691, and 2017-2555, on the certified list. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications 2013-1115, 2014-1441, 2015-2002, and 2016-2237 on the completed list.

REPORTS:

NRCS – John Kluthe reported on the Burnt Mills Dam Removal Partnership Meeting to be held on June 6th. The Board was also presented with the SWCS Membership application. John explained the importance of the SWCS and the advantages of the District becoming a member. The Board, after some discussion, decided that the District should become a member. A motion was made by Jim Laine to join the SWCS at the conservationist level. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Frank Calo was directed to complete and submit the application.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. The Board was informed that the updates to the District's soil database had still not been completed. The District may have to find a new consultant to complete the update. The District had been contacted by John Showler, State Engineer, informing them that their portion of the H & H database was up to date. The District will begin the recertification process in June for projects with certifications expiring. Most of these were projects that had received a one year extension through the 2016 permit extension act.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at 7:30 pm 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 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager