



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

Somerset County 4-H Center  
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### **SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING July 18, 2017**

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

**ABSENT:**

#### **CALL to ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34p.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 Bob Amberg to approve the June meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

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

The report for June 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 news release from NRCS concerning the convening of local work groups which are set to meet later this month.
- The District received a notice from the National Association of Conservation District's about the NACD Soil Health Champions Network.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Union County Budget Update – The Board was informed that the District had received the Union County donation at the end of June. The donation did include the 5% increase that the District had lobbied for back in December.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

NJ Soil Restoration Standards - Frank Calo reported that the revised land grading and topsoil standards had been approved. The District will begin enforcing these revised standards effective December 7, 2017. Training for the District staffs and the engineering community would be held sometime this coming October. The training will also deal with how the standards will be enforced, especially in exempt municipalities.

Supervisor Performance Standards– The Board was informed that the newly revised Supervisor Performance Standards and Appointments policy had been adopted by the State Soil Conservation Committee. The Board members reviewed the new performance standards and the appointment requirements for new appointees and for returning supervisors.

2017 NJ Conservation Conference – Frank Calo informed the Board that this year's SSCC/NJACD annual conference would be held on Thursday November 2nd at the Rutgers Eco-Complex in Bordentown. The Board was reminded that supervisors were required to attend at least one annual State conference and two business meetings per regular three year term of appointment.

Liability Bond Renewal – Frank Calo presented to the Board an invoice for the District's liability bond renewal. The Board was informed that the total due, \$389.00, had not increased from last year. After some discussion, Frank Calo was directed by the Board to contact the District's insurance agent to determine if the bond amount should be increased in view of the District's current assets. The District Manager informed the Board that he would contact the District's insurance agent and report back to the Board on this issue at the next meeting. Steve Needle made a motion to pay the current bill. The motion was seconded. The Board unanimously voted in favor of paying the current invoice.

August District Meeting – Due to the time of year, as in the past, the Board decided to cancel the District Supervisor Meeting for August. A motion to cancel the meeting was made by Jim Laine. The Motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board. This decision was made on the condition that if any pertinent District business did arise which needed Board review or approval, and a quorum could be obtained, a meeting would be held in August.

Conservation Plans – Frank Calo presented to the Board, 1 request for assistance. A motion was made by Steve Needle to enter into closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The board entered into closed session at 7:55 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 7:59 p.m. A motion was made by Bob Amberg to approve the request for assistance presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

District Action on Chapter 251 – (a) Steve Needle made a motion to approve the plans on the attached certified list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on application 2017-2710. Jim Laine made a motion to approve the plans on the attached completed list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications 2014-1520, 2016-2195, and 2013-1065.

## **REPORTS:**

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. Also this year, as in the past, the District will be presenting a joint exhibit with NRCS at the upcoming 4-H fair in August.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. 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 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo  
District Manager