



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

Somerset County 4-H Center  
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### **SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING October 17, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Mark Kirby, Jim Laine, Matt Loper, Jill Ott, Frank Calo

**ABSENT:** Bob Amberg, Ed Dec

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

The meeting was called to order at 12:13 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 MINUTES**

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

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

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

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Frank Calo informed the Board that the District had received a notice from the Somerset County Board of Agriculture advertising their annual dinner to be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Frank Calo presented to the Board three memos from the State Agricultural Development Committee regarding “Rural Microenterprises on Preserved Farmland, Revisions to the Soil and Water Conservation Policy P-48,” and information about an upcoming beginning farmer’s workshop.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Erosion Control Specialist Position – Frank Calo reported to the Board that the District had received 6 applications for the posted Erosion Control Specialist position. A review of the submitted applications has found three candidates with some of the required qualifications. The District is also in discussions with a possible 7<sup>th</sup> candidate. The District will request that Somerset County continue to keep the posting of the position open until as such time that additional applicants apply with the required qualifications in the job description.

FY 2018 Audit – The Board was informed that Frank Calo had met for a second time with John Brewer of the firm of Vernioia, Enterline & Brewer. Frank Calo reported that Mr. Brewer has nearly completed the audit. The letters of confirmation needed to complete the audit will be sent out for signatures this week. The FY2018 audit will be presented to the Board for their approval at the District’s November meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

2018 Annual Conservation Partnership Meeting – The Board was reminded that the Annual Conservation Partnership meeting is being held on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of at the Rutgers EcoComplex in Bordentown. The District Manager reminded the Board that their attendance was required. The manager will send a reminder to all the Board members prior to the meeting. All the Board members present verified their attendance at the upcoming meeting.

1st Qtr. FY 2019 RFA Reimbursement – Frank Calo reported that the District had received an invoice from the Department of Agriculture for the first quarter RFA Reimbursement for FY 2019. The invoice was for the amount of \$3,000.00. Matt Loper made a motion to pay the RFA reimbursement invoice. The motion was seconded and the Board unanimously voted in favor of paying the invoice.

2019 NACD Membership Dues – Frank Calo informed the Board that the District had received an invoice for the FY 2019 NACD dues. The Board was also given a copy of the NACD newsletter. Matt Loper made a motion to pay the \$500.00 dollar dues for FY 2019 to the NACD. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

December Luncheon Meeting – The Board after some discussion decided to return to last year’s meeting venue of the Girasole Restaurant in Bound Brook. This year’s District luncheon meeting will be held on Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.

Conservation Plans – Jill Ott presented to the Board 2 conservation plans for sites in Hillsborough Township and 1 conservation plan for a farm in Franklin Township. Also presented were 4 requests for assistance for 3 sites in Hillsborough Township and 1 site in Warren Township. A motion was made by Jim Laine to enter into closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The board entered into closed session at 12:51 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 1:03 p.m. A motion was made by Matt Loper to approve the conservation plans and requests for assistance as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board. Jim Laine recused himself from voting on one conservation plan in Hillsborough Township. The Board did not have a quorum for voting on the conservation plan for the compost project in Hillsborough Township. This conservation plan will be re-presented to the Board for approval at the District's November meeting.

District Action on Chapter 251 – After a review by the Board, Jim Laine 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 2018-3073, and 2018-3313, on the certified list.

## **REPORTS:**

NRCS – Jill Ott Reported that the EQIP deadline for applications is Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at noon at the District office.

A motion was made by Matt Loper to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo  
District Manager