

**SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D.
DISTRICT MEETING
November 28, 2018**

PRESENT: Mark Kirby, Matt Loper, Ed Dec, Jill Ott, Frank Calo

ABSENT: Bob Amberg, Jim Laine

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 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 Matt Loper to approve the October meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report for October was reviewed by the Board. Ed Dec made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Frank Calo presented to the Board a letter from Joseph Lomax, State Soil Conservation Committee, requesting any feedback concerning the NACD 2019 Governmental Affairs Priorities-Draft.

Frank Calo informed the Board that the District had received a request from the NJ Tree Recovery Campaign to act as a distribution point for the 2019 tree seedling pickup. The Board was reminded that the District has participated in the campaign for the last 6 years.

OLD BUSINESS:

FY 2018 Audit – The Board was presented with a draft copy of the FY 2018 District audit. The Board reviewed the audit and after some discussion a motion was made by Matt Loper to approve the audit as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board. Frank Calo was directed by the Board to forward the approved FY2018 audit to the State Soil Conservation Committee as required.

December Luncheon Meeting – The Board was reminded that due to a scheduling conflict the December meeting would be held on Thursday December 13th at noon. The meeting venue will be the Girasole Restaurant in Bound Brook.

NEW BUSINESS:

2019 NJ Conservation Poster Contest – Frank Calo informed the Board that the District had received the flyer for the 2019 NJ Conservation Poster Contest. This year's theme is "Life in the Soil- Dig Deeper". The flyer will be posted on the District's webpage. Copies will be sent to the School Superintendents of both counties so that they can be distributed to the various school districts.

Union County Annual Report – The District Manager presented to the Board the 2018 Union County Annual Report. The District forwards this summary of programs and activities annually to Union County, detailing the work the District has performed throughout the previous year. The Board reviewed the report and after some discussion, decided to authorize the District to request a 5% increase from Union County in their annual donation. A motion was made by Matt Loper to forward the report as written to Union County. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

2019 District Meeting Schedule – The District Meeting Schedule for 2019 was reviewed by the Board. After some minor discussion a motion was made by Ed Dec to approve the District Meeting Schedule for 2019. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

1st Qtr. FY 2019 Chapter 251 Surcharge Fee – Frank Calo reported that the District had received an invoice from the Department of Agriculture for the first quarter Chapter 251 Surcharge Fee for FY 2019. The invoice was for the amount of \$2,325.00. Matt Loper made a motion to pay the Surcharge Fee invoice. The motion was seconded and the Board unanimously voted in favor of paying the invoice.

Conservation Plans – Jill Ott presented to the Board 1 conservation plan for a site in Hillsborough Township and 1 request for assistance for a site in Bedminster Township. 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 12:33 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 12:44 p.m. A motion was made by Matt Loper to approve the conservation plan and request for assistance as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board. Mark Kirby recused himself from voting on the conservation plan in Hillsborough Township.

District Action on Chapter 251 – After a review by the Board, Ed Dec 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 2015-2019 on the completed list.

REPORTS:

NRCS – Jill Ott reported on the possibility of government furloughs, the Farm Bill status, and the possibility that the state office maybe moved from Somerset to Hamilton Square.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13, 2018, at noon at the Girasole Restaurant.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager