



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING January 23, 2019

PRESENT: Mark Kirby, Matt Loper, Ed Dec, Bob Amberg, Jim Laine, Jessica Henry,
Frank Calo

ABSENT:

CALL to ORDER:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Erosion Control Specialist Position – Frank Calo updated the Board on the District’s search in filling the Erosion Control Specialist position. The Board was informed that the District was complying with the Somerset County interview process. As such, the District had submitted a list of members for the interview review team to Paul McCall, director of Public Works for his approval. Also, prospective candidates had been contacted to see if they still had interest in the position. Once the interview team is approved the District will move forward in scheduling interviews.

NEW BUSINESS:

RFA Reimbursement for FY 2019 2nd Quarter – The Board was presented with the invoice for the RFA Reimbursement for FY 2019 2nd Quarter. The invoice amount was for \$3,375.00. Matt Loper made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

2018 State SCC Audit Review – The Board was presented with the State Soil Conservation Committee Audit Review for the District’s fiscal years 2015 thru 2017. Frank Calo informed the Board that the documents provided, as per Frank Minch, Executive Secretary to the State Soil Conservation Committee, were only informational. The Board appraised the documents and followed up with some discussion on various aspects of the review.

Supervisor Appointments – Frank Calo informed the Board that the District had been notified by the State Committee as to the expiring terms of two of its member’s, Mark Kirby, and Jim Laine, in June of 2019. The Board was reminded that the Supervisor Performance Standards had been revised and the new standards would now be in effect and that as of 2019 all requirements of the new policy would need to be fulfilled. The Board and the District Manager, once again reviewed the performance standards required.

Soil & Water Conservation Project Cost Share – Frank Calo reported that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:90 – 2:25, each District is required to approve an average cost table for the installation of eligible conservation practices on lands within their Districts participating in a farmland preservation program. After some discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Jim Laine for the District to adopt the 2019 NRCS Cost Data Table. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board.

Executive Session - 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 12:52 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 1:02 p.m. A motion was made by Ed Dec to approve the conservation plan and Request for Assistance applications 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. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on application 2018-3461. Ed Dec recused himself from voting on applications 2018-3480, and 2018-3486. A motion was made by Ed Dec 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 applications 2017-2726, 2017-2655, and 2017-2682. Ed Dec recused himself from voting on application 2016-2489.

REPORTS:

NRCS – Jessica Henry reported that NRCS was conducting site inspections of applications and were working on rankings and cost estimates.

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. Also, that he would be meeting with the Bernards Township engineer next month for their annual exempt municipality review. Also, the District is scheduled to meet NJ DEP water compliance and enforcement to discuss 5G3 permit enforcement, exchange contact information, and discuss areas of conflict or concern.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 12 noon at the District office.

The meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager