



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING February 20, 2019

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

ABSENT: Ed Dec

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 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 January meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report for January was reviewed by the Board. Bob Amberg made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The District received a voice mail, via the Somerset County's Administrator's office, from Robert Field of the Governor's office concerning FSA assistance for farmers in disaster designated areas in Somerset County.

Frank Calo presented to the Board an article from the February addition of NJ Farmer about the NJ State of Agriculture issuing the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award to John Dreyer from Dryer Farms in Union County.

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 had reposted the position due to a lack of qualified applicants. The posting is due to close at the end of February. In March, a review of the applications submitted will take place and then the District will begin the interview process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Regional Supervisor Meetings – The Board was informed that the District had received a notice concerning this year's NJACD Regional Supervisor Meetings. The Board, as it did last year, decided that the District would attend the northern meeting, which is scheduled to be held on April 11th in Mountain Lakes.

Exempt Municipalities Annual Report – Frank Calo reported to the Board that he had met with Bernard's Township Engineer, Tom Timko, and Engineering Technician, Peter LaGola. At the meeting the Bernards Twp. policies and procedures of enforcing Chapter 251 were reviewed and found to be in compliance with the State requirements. The Board was reminded that due to a mutual agreement, the District only reviews and certifies plans; Bernards Twp. handles the inspection and enforcement of the erosion control. Bernards Twp. is the only exempt municipality doing erosion control on their own. A motion was made by Jim Laine to approve the annual review. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The Board directed the District Manager to submit the Report of Exempt Municipalities to the State Committee.

2019 Business Auto & General Liability Insurance Renewal – The Board was informed that the District had received an invoice from La Fontaine & Budd Insurance for the Districts auto and general liability insurance. Frank Calo reported that the cost for both had increased by approximately \$1,637.00 dollars over last year's invoice. This was partially due to the District's new vehicle. The insurance agent was contacted by the District and after some discussion; the invoice amount was reduced to \$9,832.00, an increase from last year of \$1,099.00 dollars. This was partially accomplished by increasing the deductible on all the vehicles from \$250.00 to \$500.00 dollars. The invoice was reviewed by the Board and after some discussion; a motion was made by Bob Amberg to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved for payment.

2019 NJ Envirothon – Frank Calo informed the Board that this year’s NJ Envirothon would be held in Camden County. It is also the time of year when the District makes its annual donation in support of the Envirothon. The District’s budget, for FY 2019, does include a contribution of \$500 dollars for the Envirothon. Bob Amberg made a motion for the District to make the \$500.00 donation to the NJ Envirothon. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

Chapter 251 Surcharge Fee FY 2019 2nd Quarter – The Board was presented with an invoice for the Chapter 251 Surcharge fee for FY 2019 2nd quarter. The invoice was in the amount of \$3,275.00. A motion was made by Bob Amberg and seconded to pay the invoice. The Board unanimously approved the payment of the invoice to the NJDA-SSCC.

District Supervisor Compensation – The Board discussed the issue of re-establishing supervisor entitled expenses and per diem in the performance of his duties, as per section 4:24-19 of the Chapter 24 of Title 4 NJ State Statute. . After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the District would reach out to the other District’s throughout the state for their opinions on the matter.

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 2018-3473. A motion was made by Matt Loper to approve the completed plans on the attached list. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

REPORTS:

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. Also, that he would be continuing with the hiring process for the Erosion Control Specialist position.

NEXT MEETING:

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager