



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
308 Milltown Road • Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(908) 526-2701 Fax (908) 575-3977

SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING January 22, 2020

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

ABSENT:

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 Bob Amberg 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. Jim Laine made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The District received a thank you card from Rich Belcher, former education coordinator with NJDOA, for the gift card presented to him on his retirement.

The District received the 2020 NJACD policy book and forms for submitting a resolution at the national level.

OLD BUSINESS:

NJHMD Basin Inspections – Frank Calo reported that the District is moving forward with the NJDOA program to offer municipalities Stormwater Basin Inspections. With the new NJDEP Stormwater regulations, municipalities to comply will need to have all stormwater basins mapped and inspected to ensure they are operating as designed and being maintained. This program would offer the District's services in helping municipalities in meeting these requirements. The Board discussed the idea, and reviewed the inspection process and checklist. It was agreed that this could be a potential future revenue source for the District and should be pursued.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCD Operating Procedures – Frank Calo reported that the District had received copies of 2 letters, one from Steven V. Orotho, Senator, 24th District, and a response letter from Douglas H. Fisher, NJ Secretary of Agriculture. The Senator was concerned with various operating procedures of certain Soil Conservation Districts. First, the process of submitting applications to the Districts, and secondly, the time frame for review and certification of plans. Also, the potential for applicants to submit applications electronically. Secretary Fisher's response letter correctly addressed both of Senator Orotho's concerns and explained the difficulties in instituting an electronic submission process. The Board reviewed the District's policies and application process. The Board was satisfied that the District's policies and procedures for applications comply with all the state regulations.

Executive Session - A motion was made by Ed Dec 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 12:58 p.m. A motion was made by Jim Laine to approve the Request for Assistance application presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

District Action on Chapter 251 – Jim Laine made a motion to approve the plans on the attached certified and completed lists. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Matt Loper recused himself from voting on applications 2019-4074, and 2019-4075, on the certified list and applications 2019-3838, and 2018-3113, on the completed list. Ed Dec recused himself from voting on applications 2019-4082, and 2019-4058 on the certified list.

REPORTS:

SCD – Frank Calo reported on his chapter 251 activities. Also, that the District was going to discuss with Somerset County the possibility of accessing the County’s GIS system for the purpose of mapping new projects.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 12 noon at the District office.

Jim Laine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Calo
District Manager