



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

Somerset County 4-H Center  
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### **SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D. DISTRICT MEETING April 21, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Mark Kirby, Ed Dec Bob Amberg, Matthew Loper, Matthew D'Alessandro, Jim Laine, Bianca DiazDeliz (NRCS)

**ABSENT:**

**CALL to ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 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 Matthew Loper to approve the March, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The report for March, 2021 was reviewed by the Board. Jim Laine made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Bank account closure-Matthew D'Alessandro reported to the Board that an account with the Bank of America has been closed at our request. We deposited the money remaining from the Bank of America account into a new TD Checking account.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

District Action on Chapter 251- Mark Kirby, Chairman recused himself from SUSCD File #2021-4737. Ed Dec recused himself from SUSCD File #2021-4725. Bob Amberg made a motion to approve the plans on the attached certified and completed list for the month of March, 2021. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed.

Reviewer/inspector ad-An ad was placed on multiple websites for an additional reviewer/inspector for the district. Vincent Serafino, current employee applied for the position seeking additional responsibilities and a pay increase. A conversation ensued amongst the Board and District Manager and a pay increase along with additional responsibilities was suggested due to the 16 years of service and dedication to the job, however, he would not be fulfilling the position posted. He would retain his current position with additional job duties. A motion was made by Matthew Loper and it was seconded by Ed Dec to approve the increase and additional responsibilities. It was decided that the ad for an additional reviewer/inspector would need to be advertised again to replace the previous reviewer/inspector who is no longer with the district as of 3/16/21 regardless of the changes approved for Vincent Serafino.

2021 Poster Contest-Matthew D'Alessandro reported that there were multiple submittals from the district sent to the NJACD for statewide judging to take place. There was a good turnout from residents of multiple towns within the Somerset Union jurisdiction.

Regional Supervisors Dinner Meeting- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the Regional Supervisors Dinner meeting is scheduled for 5/11/21 from 5:00-5:45 pm and will be held virtually. A link will be sent from the NJACD and will be forwarded to all supervisors the night before the meeting.

Salary reimbursements- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the quarterly salary reimbursements are due to Somerset County as normal protocol, however, this payment will include unused time due payable to Frank Calo, former District Manager post retirement. The payment shall be included on next month's treasurer's report.

Hunter Farms- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the district has been in communication with the applicant, contractor and design engineer for a stormwater improvement project with a current SESC certification regarding the need for stabilization and completion of the project. This is partially due to an agreement with the SADC to be in compliance with the SESC certification for events to take place on the property. The board was informed that the Somerset Union SCD accepted an erosion control performance deposit in the amount of \$24,000. The four detention basins had the outlet control structures in place at the time the deposit was placed and were temporarily graded and provided seed and hay until the basins can be completed. The deadline for completion is 5/31/21 and all parties were informed that the basins must be fully completed, stabilized and functioning by that deadline. The Somerset Union SCD will advise the SADC of the progress being made throughout.

**REPORTS:**

NRCS – Bianca DiazDeliz, Acting District Conservationist was present at the meeting and thanked the board for the invite and warm welcome. Bianca gave an overview of herself and current workload including briefing the board on the Civil Rights Responsibilities for partners and upcoming opportunities for districts. She plans on attending the board meetings as the Acting District Conservationist until a permanent replacement is chosen.

SCD – Matthew D'Alessandro reported that he has been working closely with the developer(s) of a large project in Somerville on South Bridge Street that the district has been receiving multiple complaints on with offsite tracking taking place onto South Bridge Street and Route 206. He also has been working with Somerville Code officials and the Planning Board and Fire Marshall regarding an access road to Route 206 that has been contributing to the dust and offsite sediment loss. The project is being constructed by three developers and has needed special attention. Matthew will continue to closely monitor the project to ensure it gains compliance with the SESC certification and NJDEP 5G3 Stormwater Discharge Authorization.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at noon at the district office.

Jim Laine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Amberg and unanimously passed by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew D'Alessandro  
District Manager