



## **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 July 28, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Mark Kirby, Ed Dec, Jim Laine, Robert Amberg, Matthew D'Alessandro

**ABSENT:** Matthew Loper

#### **CALL to ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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 Jim Laine to approve the June, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ed Dec and unanimously passed.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The report for June, 2021 was reviewed by the Board. Ed Dec made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Hunter Farms- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the SESC certification on record for Hunter Farms regarding storm water management improvements is about 95% completed. The district has had correspondence with the SADC and Montgomery Township regarding the status of the project. Vincent

Serafino, inspector for the project met with the owner and contractor onsite to discuss the steps needed to finalize the project.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

District Action on Ch. 251- Ed Dec recused himself from SUSCD File #2021-4814 and SUSCD File #2021-4839 on the certified list and recused himself from SUSCD File #2020-4332 on the completed list. Jim Laine made a motion to approve the plans on the certified and completed list for the month. The motion was seconded by Ed Dec and was unanimously approved.

SUSCD staffing needs- Matthew D'Alessandro reported there is an immediate need for additional staffing. There has been an enormous increase in SESC applications and there has been difficulties providing office coverage and meeting statutory obligations with the amount of staff currently in place. The Board discussed and granted the approval to move forward with placing an ad for an additional full time staff member.

ID badges- Alphagraphics, the company who has been communicating with Matthew D'Alessandro and Frank Minch, Executive Secretary of the SSCC for the design and issuance of id badges statewide held a virtual seminar for all districts to properly order the badges for their staff members. Several id badges have already been issued statewide and have assisted in gaining access to secure sites.

New hire- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that Nick Chaballa who was recently hired as a reviewer/inspector has been doing an excellent job and his previous experience with the Hudson Essex Passaic SCD has provided a smooth transition. He has been very helpful and is greatly appreciated.

Quality Assurance Review- The Board performed the annual NRCS Quality Assurance Review which consisted of 12 questions and discussion. Matthew D'Alessandro will use the information and discussion with an upcoming meeting with the NRCS.

Conservation Plans- Bianca Diaz Deliz of the NRCS could not attend the meeting but did forward a conservation plan request. A motion was made by Jim Laine to enter closed session. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed. The Board entered into closed session at 8:20 p.m and entered discussion regarding the request. A motion was made to exit the closed session by Jim Laine and was seconded by Ed Dec and unanimously passed. The regular meeting resumed at 8:24 p.m. A motion was made by Jim Laine to approve the conservation plan request. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed.

### **REPORTS:**

NRCS – Bianca Diaz Deliz forwarded her report for the month of July which included her being chosen as the District Conservationist and mentioned the Quality Assurance Review and NHQ Leadership hot topics. We are pleased she was chosen to represent our office and look forward to a bright future dealing with Bianca.

SCD – Matthew D’Alessandro reported there has been an enormous increase in SESC applications in all areas of construction but noticed a large increase in single family dwelling projects including demo/rebuilds but also site plans including pool/grading projects on existing single family homes. Matthew has been working closely with Frank Minch, Executive Secretary of the SSCC to continue to improve all aspects of the office and our service to the public.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. at the district office.

Jim Laine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew D’Alessandro  
District Manager