



SOMERSET - UNION SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Somerset County 4-H Center
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**SOMERSET-UNION S.C.D.
DISTRICT MEETING
April 27, 2022**

PRESENT: Mark Kirby, Robert Amberg, Ed Dec, Jim Laine, Matthew D'Alessandro, Bianca Diaz Deliz (NRCS)

ABSENT: Matthew Loper

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 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 March 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report for March 2022 was reviewed by the Board. Ed Dec made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Intern/Rutgers Watershed Management Intern Program-Matthew D'Alessandro reported that he is working with Rutgers University to post the intern position throughout the campus. The position will most likely be for the Fall, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

District Action on Ch. 251- The SUSCD Board reviewed the certified and completed projects for the month of March 2022. Ed Dec recused himself from SUSCD File #2022-5185, SUSCD File #2022-5222, and SUSCD File #2022-5243 from the certified list and SUSCD File #2021-4972, SUSCD File #2021-4749, and SUSCD File #2020-4437 from the completed list. Robert Amberg made a motion to approve the plans on the certified and completed list for the month of March 2022. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed.

NRCS Workgroup (Northern NJ)-The Somerset Union SCD was informed that the NRCS Workgroup originally scheduled for 4/20/22 has been postponed and will be rescheduled to a later date that does not interfere with farmer's schedules and works best for all parties.

Seedling giveaway- Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the seedling giveaway event held on 4/22/22 was successful. The SUSCD coordinated the seedling giveaway with Somerset County and the NJDEP. The SUSCD will most likely participate again next year since there was a significant interest from the public.

Illegal dumping of soil-Matthew D'Alessandro reported that there was a significant amount of illegal dumping of soil on a property in Montgomery Township. He has been working with the land owner, the NJDEP, Somerset County, SCADB, SADC, Montgomery Township, law enforcement, etc. regarding this matter to see if the soil can be tested and removed. He will continue to report to the Board as progress is made.

2022 Poster Contest-Matthew D'Alessandro reported that the 2022 Poster Contest submittals have been sent to the State for judging since the deadline of 4/1/22 has passed. He will update the Board if any winners from our area are chosen.

Conservation Plans-Bianca Diaz Deliz presented 1 Conservation Plan to be discussed. A motion was made by Jim Laine to enter closed session. The motion was seconded by Ed Dec and unanimously passed. The Board entered into closed session at 8:07 p.m. and discussed the conservation plan request. A motion was made by Ed Dec to exit closed session. The motion was seconded by Robert Amberg and unanimously passed. The regular meeting resumed at 8:13 p.m. A motion was made by Ed Dec to approve the conservation plan request. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed.

REPORTS:

NRCS – Bianca Diaz Deliz of the NRCS provided her monthly report and informed the Board that the RCP sign up period has ended. She informed the Board that there have been changes in positions and that the NRCS is undergoing many changes for the future. She expressed her gratitude for attending the meeting.

SCD – Matthew D’Alessandro informed the Board that office has recently been painted. He stated that the office has been very busy and that staff is doing a great job keeping up with the amount of volume. Matthew reported that he is serving on a Training Committee for the SESC program and that there will be new opportunities and initiatives for the program in the near future as he is working closely with Mr. Frank Minch, Director of Ag & Natural Resources for the N.J. Department of Agriculture. Matthew is continuing to work with the insurance agent to update the policies. Matthew will update the Board accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Robert Amberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Laine and unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. at the district office.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew D’Alessandro
District Manager