

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
November 12, 2014

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Charles Buscaglia

x

Bob Dreyer

x (7:50)

Don Patterson

x

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Nicole Ciccaglione, Natural Resources Conservation Service

IV. Compliance Statement

Christina F. LaBianca confirmed that the Open Public Meetings Act had been satisfied by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Home News, and Monmouth and Middlesex County Clerks.

V. Approval of Minutes

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the October, 2014, regular meeting. Don Patterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Roger Gravatt made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Don Patterson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

VII. Bills for Payment

The board reviewed the bills for payment for November (in the amount of \$148,438.66, list attached). Roger Gravatt made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Don Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Reports from other agencies represented

Nicole Ciccaglione , NRCS

- EQIP – conservation activity plans – applications are being accepted for the following sign-up dates on a monthly basis: 11/21 and 12/19 2014, 1/16, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, and 5/15 2015.

IX. Correspondence

Education Report

October 9, 2014

Thank you for NJ Ag Leadership donation and picture of sponsor sign

Draft of SSCC Single Family Exemption bulletin

U.S. Drought Monitor

X. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee

1. Outreach:

- *Monroe Green Fair:* Mark and Brian attended the Green Fair in Monroe Township where over 2,000 visitors went through the Soil Tunnel.
- *Fall Festival:* Holly attended the Fall Festival at the Jackson Forest Resource Education Center with education materials on Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil. Many people visited the event even with the rainy weather.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Eggs were delivered to all the schools. Eggs have hatched across the state. This year we are raising rainbow trout instead of brook trout due to the bacteria issue at the Pequest Hatchery, where thousands of trout had to be euthanized.
- *Photo Contest:* Thirty-six entries were received. The winners will be selected and notified by the end of the month.
- *Plants for Pollinators:* Reports are coming in from teachers on their fall garden activities and observations.

2. NJ Conservation

- *Poster Contest:* Holly is finishing the brochure for the poster contest this year. The theme for the 2015 Poster Contest is “Local Heroes – Your Hardworking Pollinators”
- *Envirothon:* The first meeting has taken place. The 2015 event will be held at the Cape May County 4-H Fairgrounds in Cape May Court House, NJ. Holly is editing the Envirothon annual newsletter.
- *Flower Show:* We had our first planning a meeting for the 2015 Flower Show, which will be February 12-15. The theme is “The Great American Novel.” We will be making our garden from the novel “Huckleberry Finn.”

XI. District Manager's Report

1. *Vehicle Bid Opening:* The District received two dealership bids that included the purchase of a new 2015 Escape and the trade-in of the 2007 Ranger. We also received three separate bids for just the purchase of the 2007 Ranger. After a review of all the bids received, Bob Dreyer made a motion that in the best interest of the District, the bid for the sale of the 2015 Escape be awarded to Hertrich Fleet Motors for the price of \$16,058.00 and the 2007 Ranger purchase bid would be awarded to Liberty Motors, Inc. for \$4,339.99. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.
2. *NACD National Conference:* Ines, Roger and Wayne plan on attending the meeting in New Orleans, LA in 2015. Charlie, Bob and Don do not plan to attend. Ines explained that Tim Thomas (the current Northeast Regional Employee Association President) will be a presenter at the conference. Ines mentioned that the Association will cover his register fee and asked if the District could assist with his other expenses (travel, lodging, food). Bob Dreyer made a motion to reimburse Tim Thomas for his NACD expenses not to exceed \$1,000. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.
3. *Manalapan Brook Grant:* Within this grant there are funds for technical assistance. Ines has spoken to John Showler, (NJDA/SSCC) regarding this non-Chapter 251 overview. Ines has created a Memorandum of Agreement between the Freehold Soil Conservation District and the NJDA to pay the Department of Agriculture \$53.00 an hour for Mr. Showler's time for technical assistance related to the Manalapan Brook Grant. The work will be on an as needed basis. Bob Dreyer made a motion to enter into the MOA with the NJDA for technical assistance not to exceed 140 hours at \$53.00 per hour. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

XII: Old Business

- The NJACD Annual Conference will be held on Monday, November 24, 2014 at the Rutgers Eco Complex in Burlington County. The following plan to attend and will be registered: Mr. Buscaglia, Mr. Dreyer and Mr. Patterson, Ines, Holly, Stacy (25-year recognition), Christina (15-year recognition), and Donna (10-year recognition).

XIII: New Business

1. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of certified plans. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion passed.
2. There were no denied plans.
3. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of authorized stormwater permits. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XIV: Adjournment

After some discussion regarding availability for the next scheduled meeting of December 10th, it was decided it would be in the best interest to assure a quorum that the regular monthly meeting be moved. Bob Dreyer made a motion to move the December regular Board Meeting to Wednesday, December 17th, 2014, at 1:30 pm. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. A 48-hour notice will be sent to all necessary newspapers and clerks as well as posted on the District board and website.

Roger Gravatt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously carried.

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 17th, 2014, at 1:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary