

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
February 11, 2015

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Charles Buscaglia

x

Bob Dreyer

x

Don Patterson

x(medical)

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Laura Coover, Natural Resources Conservation Services

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 January 14, 2015, regular meeting. Wayne VanHise 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 (read by Wayne VanHise)

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Roger Gravatt made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VII. Bills for Payment

The board reviewed the bills for payment for January (in the amount of \$161,609.58, list attached). Wayne VanHise made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

Education Report

- January 20, 2015 This Week in Farm Bureau newsletter
- January 20, 2015 Copy of letter from Mercer County SCD regarding a joint site visit
- January 23, 2015 Letter confirming the full-term appointment of Robert Dreyer to June 30, 2017
- January 26, 2015 Copy of Right of Entry Agreement for the Manalapan Brook Grant
- January 29, 2015 Copy of Resolution confirming reappointment of members to the Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee

The 2008 Permit Extension Act was revised on December 26, 2014, and extended until June 30, 2016.

Secretary Fisher signed an executive order for a mass demolition permit of unsafe structures in Monmouth, Ocean, and Cape-Atlantic counties. Keep an eye out for large areas at a time, but no one plans over 5,000 sq ft.

Attorney, Doug Widman, is currently in litigation for the Buck Mining project in Millstone. Will keep the Board updated as necessary. Mr. Widman has also been working on access agreements with Monroe and Manalapan Townships for the Manalapan Brook Grant.

Bill Brash (Mercer SCD), Mark Alliston (FSCD), and Doug Kauffman (NRCS) had a joint inspection of the Twin Rivers housing project in East Windsor. The lake on the project extends into Middlesex County.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee

1. Outreach:

- *Stewardship:* The 2015 Stewardship theme is “Local Heroes: Your Hardworking Pollinators” and orders are coming in from teachers for the materials which will they will receive in April.
- *Plants for Pollinators:* We are in the process of selecting new schools for 2015.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Mid-project reports are due by the end of February. Trout Release Day at the Forest Resource Education Center will take place on May 13th.

- *Scholarships*: The 2015 Scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to the newspapers.
- *Annual Report*: Agency reports are trickling in.

2. NJ Conservation

- *NJ Flower Show*: The NJ Conservation Partnership display of “The Conservation Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” is February 12-15 at the NJ Convention Center, in Edison.
- *Envirothon*: The next planning meeting is set for March. Fundraising continues. The 2015 Envirothon is set for May 2nd at the 4-H fairgrounds in Cape-Atlantic County.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest*: Holly created the NJ brochure for the 2015 Poster Contest – *Local Heroes: Your Hardworking Pollinators,*” and was distributed to schools.

X. District Manager’s Report

1. *Financial Manual Comments*: a revised draft has been created and circulated addressing audits and budgets.
2. *National Conference*: The conference was well attended. Some negative feedback was that session and tours were scheduled at the same time. The 2016 conference will be in Reno, NV.
3. *Budget Planning*: We are gathering quotes for fiscal year 2016 and should have a better account of what will be needed by mid-March with three-quarters of the current fiscal year completed.
4. *Exempt Municipality Reports*: The reports were received from the state office and will be presented to the Board for approval at the April meeting.

XII: *Old Business*

- There was no old business to be discussed this month.

XIII: *Other Agency Reports*

Laura Coover, NRCS

- There are two conservation plans ready for District signature:
 - In Howell, on tract 2927, for forestry. Wayne VanHise made a motion to sign the conservation plan, Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
 - In Monroe, on tract 207, for forestry. Roger Gravatt made a motion to sign the conservation plan. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
- Ranking for the new programs is almost complete, should have final decisions soon

XIII: New Business

1. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the attached list of certified plans. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed.
2. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the attached list of denied plans. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed.
3. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the attached list of authorized stormwater permits. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is Wednesday, March 11th, 2015, at 1:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary