

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
February 17, 2016

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

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Carrie Lindig and Laura Coover, NRCS

Bill Coover, Earth Team Volunteer Group

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 13, 2016, regular meeting. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report (Read by Wayne VanHise)

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

VII. Bills for Payment

The board reviewed the bills for payment for February (in the amount of \$191,471.77, list attached). Bob Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Award Presentation/Recognition

Carrie Lindig, the NJ State Conservationist was here to award the Group Platinum Hall of Fame Awards to Ines Zimmerman for her coordination of Freehold Soil Conservation District employees and to Bill Coover, the head of the Earth Team Volunteer Group for a gleaning project. On October 15, 2015, the Feed Families Program worked with the Farmers Against Hunger in our area and gleaned over 6,000 pounds of apples and squash to be distributed to local food banks. Normal recognition is 1,000 pounds. Thank you to all of those that participated in this project and keep us in mind if there is another opportunity in our area.

IX. Correspondence

Education Report

February 8, 2016

Invitation from Monmouth County Board of Agriculture for Annual Dinner. Charlie Buscaglia is already attending as a member of that board.

Salary Table 2016 for New York

X. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *Stewardship:* The 2016 Stewardship theme is “We All Need Trees” and orders are coming in from teachers for the materials which they will receive in April.
- *Plants for Pollinators:* We have applications and are in the process of selecting the new schools for 2016.
- *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 25th.
- *Scholarships:* The 2016 Scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to newspapers, as well as online on Fast Web and Wintergreen Orchard House (college scholarship websites).
- *Annual Report:* Agency reports are coming in slowly.

2. NJ Conservation

- *NJ Flower Show:* The NJ Conservation Partnership display of “Happy Earth Day Celebration” is Feb 11th-14th at the NJ Convention Center in Edison.
- *Envirothon:* The next planning meeting is set for mid-March. Fundraising continues. The 2016 Envirothon is set for May 14th at North Branch Park in Somerset County.
- *Poster Contest:* The brochure for the 2016 Poster Contest has been sent out with the theme of “We All Need Trees.”

XI. District Manager's Report

1. Revised By-laws for the CIG Grant (Conservation Innovation Grant):

- Doug Widman took copy of the proposed by-laws from last month's meeting and made a few revisions and additions. Added all five Freehold Soil Conservation District supervisors as officers as well as indemnifying them.
- If a member sits on the FSCD board, they also sit in the Conservation Cooperative.
- Bob Dreyer had a few questions, such as: why does it say the Cooperative covers all of New Jersey when the District only covers Monmouth and Middlesex Counties? Ines stated that there are areas in Mercer County as well. This statement will need to be amended.
- Mr. Dreyer had more concerns and felt it was in the best interest of the board members that he and Ines meet to discuss these and speak with Doug Widman and report back to the District board at the March meeting.

2. Retirement:

- Mark Alliston has given his formal notice of retirement. His last full day of work will be May 31, 2016. Mark has been with the District over eleven years, but had previous PERS eligibility with the Meadowlands Commission. He qualified for the twenty-five years of coverage benefits in October 2015.
- Ines would like to hire another full-time inspector, if possible in April to have an overlap of duties and training.

XII: Old Business

- It looks like due to prior engagements, no one from the District will be able to attend the NACD National Conference in Reno, NV for 2016.

XIII: Reports from Other Agencies

Laura Coover – NRCS

- There are two (2) conservation plans and one (1) cooperator's agreement ready for District signature.
 - a) Forestry Cap conservation plan in Cream Ridge on tract 119. Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the plan. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
 - b) Livestock and Hay conservation plan in Allentown on tract 1720. Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the plan. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
 - c) Cooperator Agreement in Marlboro on Conover Road. Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the plan. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

XIV: New Business

1. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
2. There were no denied Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans.
3. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of authorized stormwater permits. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XV: Adjournment

- Wayne VanHise made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2016, at 1:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary