

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
March 9, 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: Laura Coover, NRCS

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 February 17, 2016, regular meeting. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report

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

After some discussion, all agreed it in the best interest of the District to open another certificate of deposit. Donald Patterson made a motion to transfer \$500,000.00 from the Chapter 251 Money market to open a new CD at Freehold Savings for eighteen months at 1.4%. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia –yes.

An adjustment to the FY2016 budget needs to be made to cover the raising postal costs. Per Resolution 2016-008, \$5,050 will be transferred from category 6 (Professional Development and Public Relations) to category 3 (Materials and Supplies). Wayne VanHise made a motion to move the funds from category 6 to category 3. Donald Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VII. Bills for Payment

The board reviewed the bills for payment for March (in the amount of \$100,420.89, list attached). Bob Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

Education Report

- February 1, 2016 Thank you from the New Jersey Agricultural Society for the District's support
- February 24, 2016 Notice that Mark Alliston may be selected for Superior Court Jury Duty in Ocean County (he was not)

IX. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *Plants for Pollinators:* New schools for 2016 will be selected and the teachers have returned their letters of agreement. The kits will be assembled and delivered by next month.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Mid-project reports have been received. Trout Release Day at the Forest Resource Education Center will take place May 18th.
- *Aquaponics in the Classroom:* Two high schools in the Trout in the Classroom program will now add aquaponics to their tanks for our new Aquaponics in the Classroom program.
- *Scholarship:* The 2016 Scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to newspapers, college and online scholarship sites.
- *Annual Report:* Is a work in progress.
- *Stewardship:* The 2016 Stewardship “We All Need Trees” materials will be ordered and will be distributed by Earth Day.

2. NJ Conservation

- *NJ Flower Show*: Over 20,000 people attended the NJ Flower & Garden Show. The NJ Conservation Partnership display of “Happy Earth Day Conservation Celebration” was very well received and we distributed our supply of seeds and most of the literature. The display won six ribbons: two 1st place for Most Educational and Best Environmental Focus, two 2nd place for Most Colorful and Most Practical Backyard Design and two 3rd place for Best Plant Material and Most Creative Water Feature. It also won 3rd place for the People’s Choice Award, voted on by the public.
- *Envirothon*: Teams are registering. A planning meeting is set for the beginning of March. The 2016 Envirothon is set for May 14th at North Branch Park in Somerset County.
- *Poster Contest*: Posters are due and will be judged this month. First place winners will be submitted to Trenton for the state level contest.

B. Nominating Committee

The committee will need to be activated as the terms of Donald Patterson and Roger Gravatt are due to expire on June 30, 2016. An early April date will be chosen.

X. District Manager’s Report

1. *Budget Planning*:

- Request for quotes for the fiscal year 2017 budget have gone out and a few have been returned so far

2. *Open Space Conservation Cooperative (OSCC) By-Laws*:

- Ines, Bob Dreyer, and Stacy Abrahamsen-Brady met and discussed the by-laws and forwarded their comments to Doug Widman. A copy of the revised/updated by-laws was given to the members for review.
Bob Dreyer made a motion to adopt the present by-laws for the Open Space Conservation Cooperative (OSCC). Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.
- Bob Dreyer made a motion to allow the District to advance the OSCC \$5,000 to start up. Donald Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

3. *Manalapan Brook Grant:*

- The next set of projects are getting ready to start
- After the current quarter reports are submitted we will be getting the next draw down of funding.

4. *Possible New Grant:*

- Ines has been asked to act as the grant administrator for a second round of funding new grant: The Manalapan Watershed Project. The proposed grant request is between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000.
- Bob Dreyer made a motion for Ines to continue as a grant administrator for the Manalapan Watershed Project. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

5. *Compliant:*

- The owner of a project in the District's area was not satisfied with an action to expire a file. This site in the Middletown area, was inactive and deemed part of the "Sensitive Area" per the 2008 Permit Extension Act.
- The owner sent correspondence to Senator Kyrillos and copied Secretary Douglas Fisher at the Department of Agriculture. Secretary Fisher replied and upheld the District decision to expire the file based on the information. Mapping revealed the project was located in the sensitive area and therefore, not eligible for an extension.

XI: Old Business

- There was no old business at this time.

XII: Reports from Other Agencies

Laura Coover – NRCS

- There is one conservation plan ready for District signature in Marlboro on tract 2929 on Igoe Road. Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the conservation plan. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

XIII: 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 accept receipt the attached list of authorized stormwater permits. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 7:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary