

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
April 9, 2014

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Bob Dreyer called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Charles Buscaglia x (arrived at 7:47)

Bob Dreyer x

Don Patterson x

Roger Gravatt x

Wayne Van Hise x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Doug Widman, FSCD attorney (arrived at 8:35)

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 March 12, 2014, regular meeting. Wayne Van Hise 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. Wayne Van Hise made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Bills for Payment

The list of bills for payment was reviewed. Bob Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

Education Report

A request was received from the South Jersey RC&D Council for sponsorship donation for the Tours Des Farms in September. Bob Dreyer made a motion to sponsor/donate \$200 and have the District's name on the sponsorship shirt. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia.

A request was received from the NJACD for the membership dues. After some discussion as to the amount due (last year was \$300 and this year they request \$750), Bob Dreyer made a motion to pay \$300 at this time. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

IX. Committee Reports

Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *County Fair:* We have applied for space in both the County Fairs.
- *Plant for Pollinators:* Kits will be delivered to the 6 new schools and seeds and starter soil went to the 24 returning schools. All the teachers were excited to have their equipment.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* We started promotion for two new schools to join TIC for 2014-2015. Release permits from NJDEP have been delivered and are now good for 3 years. Trout Release Day at the FREC is set for May 21st.
- *Scholarships:* The 2014 Scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to the newspapers, colleges, and online scholarship sites. The deadline is April 18th.
- *Annual Report:* Agency reports are being submitted.
- *Stewardship:* The 2014 Stewardship “Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil” materials have been delivered and will be used by 2,900 students.
- *Soil Tunnel:* The soil tunnel was brought to Raritan Valley Elementary School in Hazlet. Holly ran a program for 170 third and fourth graders. The students enjoyed the tunnel.

2. NJ Conservation Partnership

- *NJ Flower Show*: The bills were submitted to NJACD for reimbursement and a check was issued to the District.
- *Envirothon*: 34 teams are registered. Fundraising continues. The Central Jersey Team Training will be held this month at the Forest Resource Education Center (FREC) for 25 students. The 2014 event is May 3rd at the School of Conservation in Sussex County.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest*: District winners were selected and 1st place entries will be sent to Trenton for the State level competition.

Nominating Committee

- The committee met here in the FSCD office on April 7th.
- The terms of Robert Dreyer and Wayne Van Hise are due to expire on June 30, 2014.
- The committee re-appointed each of the current members to another term.
- Roger Gravatt made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and to send copies the approved minutes from the 2013 Nominating Committee meeting, a draft of the 2014 meeting minutes and the signed re-nomination forms and self-evaluation to the SSCC for final approval. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

X. District Manager's Report

1. Budget Highlights

- Would like to trade-in the 2007 Ford Ranger for a 2015 Ford Escape. This will still leave one pick-up truck in the District's fleet.

2. Manalapan Brook Grant update

- Have been working closely with the County of Middlesex in various agencies
- Moving forward with a few of the projects
- Some of the project will require signage to explain what work is being done and why. The sign can also be used to promote the partnerships of the grant.
- The Middlesex Planning Board is getting estimates for the signs at this time. The signs will be about 24"x36".
- At this time, Ines would like to recommend that the \$3,500 in the current FSCD budget line item for demonstrations be used for these signs.
- The Board asked if there will be any acknowledgement of the contribution made by the District. Also, before they would make a decision to use the District funds, they would like to see a sample of the signs.

3. Education Purchases

- We would like to make two purchases out of the current year's budget under the Education line item:
 - a) We would like to purchase a new Enviroscope. We have had the current one for quite a while and have gotten a lot of use out of it. A new Enviroscope will cost \$1,270. Bob Dreyer made a motion to purchase a new Enviroscope with funds from the Education line item. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

4. Computer Server unit

- One of the current servers is no longer working properly and is out of warranty. There is money available in the current year's budget to purchase the new server.
- We have received three quotes and the best one is from Intellec of New Jersey (formerly 3B Networks) for \$4,200 including installation.
- Bob Dreyer made a motion to purchase the new server in the current budget year not to exceed \$4,200. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

5. Exempt Municipality Reports

- The exempt municipality reports have been completed by the District staff. Both Sayreville and Piscataway have been given Satisfactory rating this year. Roger Gravatt made a motion to accept the exempt municipality reports as presented and forward copies same to the SSCC. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

XI: Reports from other agencies represented

Doug Widman

- Mr. Widman, the District's attorney, was here
- The group explained to Mr. Widman how another district was having some legal issues with a landfill and they were trying to obtain assistance from the NJ Department of Agriculture Attorney General. Doug said if they needed, he could send some informational material.
- Ines has been working/discussing solutions with Doug in regards to the Manalapan Brook Grant gaining access on private property

XII: Old Business

There was no old business to discuss at this time

XIII: New Business

1. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of certified plans. Roger Gravatt 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. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is Wednesday, May 14, 2014, at 7:30 pm

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary