

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
August 14, 2013

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

Don Patterson

x

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Staff Present: Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Tim Fekete, State Soil Conservation Committee

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 July 10, 2013, 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. Roger Gravatt made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VII. Bills for Payment

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

VIII. Correspondence

Education Report

IX. Committee Reports
Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *County Fairs:* Our “Plant for Pollinators” displays included abelia, buddleia, coreopsis, Echinacea, lobelia, black-eyed-susan, verbena, and butterfly milkweed with “Where Does you Water Shed?” literature and multiple items as giveaways, such as gliders, water bottles, squeeze balls, and seeds. The Monmouth County fair went well and drew in 84,000 people and didn’t miss one minute due to weather. The Middlesex Fair is August 5-11.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* The two new schools have submitted their Letters of Agreement and the equipment for the 2013-2014 program is already in house and will be set-up by mid-September. We had three schools drop the program and return their equipment. Three more schools will be selected for the upcoming year.
- *Scholarships:* The three winners are: Peter Etsch of Monroe Township, attending Delaware Valley College for the William Schauer, Michelle Koehler of Middletown, attending Oregon State University for the Marvin Clark and Jeffrey Neyhart of Farmingdale, attending Cornell University for the Neal Munch.
- *Photo Contest:* The contest is being promoted at the county fairs and newspapers. Entries have already started to come in. The deadline is October 18th.

2. NJ Conservation

- The Poster Contest theme for 2014 is “Dig Deeper – Mysteries in the Soil.”

X. District Manager’s Report

1. *Equipment Surplus:*

- Ines has been researching possible ways gain compensation for surplus goods. She spoke to Monmouth County and was told we may add our surplus to theirs for the county auction. Don Patterson made a motion for Ines to use whatever means possible and the best option for the surplus to be distributed. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passes.

2. *Calculation of Reserve Balance:*

- Ines has devised a “long” and “short” calculation formula to best calculate the amount of reserve needed. Both version were reviewed and discussed. Don Patterson made a motion that the two totals would be averaged out to determine the reserve necessary, in this case the reserve balance used by the auditor will be \$3,389,488.89. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

3. *Vehicle Bid:*

- In the new budget, funds were set out for the purchase on one new vehicle. We will be trading in one 2007 Ford Escape. The budget amount is \$15,300. After some discussion, it was determined that the bid packets would have three options: (A) to purchase the new vehicle only, (B) to purchase the new vehicle using the 2007 Escape as a trade-in and (C) to accept private bids for the sale of the 2007 Escape. Wayne Van Hise made a motion to advertise the three types of bids to be accepted. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

4. *Training opportunity for Brian Governale:*

- There is an opportunity to send Brian Governale to Cortland, NY for the 2013 Conservation Skills Workshop. The District has sent employees to this workshop in the past. The classes are covered over five days. The cost of the workshop is \$10.00. The District would be responsible for the hotel and food expenses. Roger Gravatt made a motion to send Brian Governale to the Conservation Skills Workshop in Cortland, NY from September 23-27 and cover his hotel and food expenses not to exceed \$675.00. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

XI: Old Business

- The Northeast Regional Meeting is in Dover, DE from September 15-18. Charlie Buscaglia, Ines Grimm and Timothy Thomas plan on attending.

XII: New Business

1. Wayne Van Hise 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. Wayne Van Hise made a motion to approve the attached list of authorized stormwater permits. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XIII: Reports from other agencies represented

Tim Fekete, SSCC

- The fee schedule changes should be discussed at the September 9th meeting.
- The NJACD State Meeting will be October 27-28 in Avalon, NJ. A tentative agenda was given out for review.
- New Jersey placed 35th at the National Envirothon competition. The event was won by New York.

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XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 11, 2013, at 7:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary