

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
January 9, 2013

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 Grimm and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Gabor Grunstein, Farm Service Agency

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 November 9, 2012, regular meeting. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

The Board members reviewed the notes of the December 12, 2012, meeting. Since there was no quorum at this meeting, these are notes only and they will be added as an addendum to this month's minutes.

VI. Bills for Payment

The list of bills that were paid at the December meeting per the Executive Subcommittee policy was reviewed. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the bills for payment from December. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

The list of January bills for payment was reviewed. 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. Patterson – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report from the December meeting. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

VIII. Reports from other agencies

Gabor Grunstein: FSA

- He attended the district board meetings in his area to introduce himself and let everyone know if they need anything to just reach out to him.
- The Emergency Conservation Program closes on January 15, 2013. This program was started to assign with damage caused by Superstorm Sandy. It is to provide assistance for farmland obstruction issues that would hinder farmland production or to provide fencing for livestock.

IX. Correspondence

Education Report

December 6, 2012	2013 Annual State Agricultural Convention registration for February 5-7, 2013. No one is planning to attend at this time.
December 10, 2012	Copy of the revised FSCD Addendum to Application to reflect more accurately the potential penalty provision. The next step is to present the form to the SSCC for approval.
December 12, 2012	Updated version of the Supervisor Training /Orientation planned for January 14, 2013, after the SSCC meeting
December 14, 2012	District Review and Appraisal Sub-committee copy of the Administrative Bulletin for website transparency. At this time only three of the fifteen were in compliance (the Freehold SCD was one of the three).
December 17, 2012	Copy of request for update of operation and programs to USDA-NRCS for the Cape May Plant Material Center
	Quote from Wells Fargo for payroll services
	Thank you note from Karen Rowe

X. Committee Reports

Holly Reynolds is officially the new Public Information Specialist

A. Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *Plant for Pollinators:* We have received six applications so far for the PPIC 2013 program. The release has appeared in several newspapers and the application is available on our website. The application deadline is January 31, 2013.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* We will be working with Trout Unlimited and NJ Fish & Wildlife to replace fish at the schools who lost all their fish due to Superstorm Sandy and any other schools who may have had fish loss over winter break. Our tank has about thirty fish.
- *Scholarships:* The 2013 Scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to newspapers.
- *Annual Report:* Requests for agency reports went out early this month with a requested deadline of February 8th.

2. NJ Conservation

- *Flower Show:* Staff scheduling for the show will be set this month. The plants are at the Mercer County Community College greenhouse for forcing for the "Farm to Festival" display. The show is February 14th-17th at the NJ Convention Center in Edison.
- *Envirothon:* A planning meeting is set for mid-February. Fundraising continues. The 2013 event is set for May 4th at Camp Kettle Run Girl Scout Camp in Medford, hosted by the Burlington SCD.
- *Poster Contest:* The contest brochures have been mailed to the schools and are posted on our website.

XI. District Manager's Report

1. Sub-committee updates:

- Each committee is supposed to turn in their plan of work at the January 14th SSCC meeting.
- The review committee plans to review three districts each year.
- The fee schedule reviews will be done by a panel, not an individual.
- Training is planned for the Supervisors as well as the technical and clerical staffs.

2. Fee Schedule update:

- Ines is completing a comparison of fee schedules around the state
- Will have more information at the next meeting including comparisons of 2012 actual to new proposed fees

3. Superstorm Sandy update:

- Discussions are taking place on how to approach and handle areas affected by the storm
- In Manasquan Township, requested that all damages, irreparable homes be demolished by end of December 2012; therefore causing an influx of demolition only exemption requests.

- Union Beach has reached out to the DCA as well as the District for assistance. Property owners are bringing in truckloads of dirt. As of today, there have been no adaptations or revisions made to the Chapter 251 regulations for Sandy clean-up and rebuilds.

XII: Old Business

None to discuss at this time

XIII: New Business

1. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of certified plans. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion passed.
2. There were no denied plans this month.
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.
4. Wells Fargo Bank came in to give Ines and Christina a presentation on the payroll system they offer. The presentation sounded fine, but the cost saving was very minimal and would require moving the payroll checking account. After reviewing the proposal, it was determined it was in our best interest to stay with our current payroll company (ADP) and keep all accounts at our current institution (The Provident Bank).
5. A resolution was presented for a watershed grant stating that the Freehold Soil Conservation District is the grant recipient and will be acting as the grant administrator. The total grant is \$500,000. FSCD will receive \$50,000 as the administrator. Roger Gravatt made a motion to sign the resolution naming FSCD as the grant administrator. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Dryer – yes, Mr. Van His – yes and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at 1:30 pm.