

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
June 11, 2014

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Charles Buscaglia

x

Bob Dreyer

x (via telephone)

Don Patterson

x

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne VanHise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Nicole Ciccaglione, Natural Resources Conservation Service

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 May 14, 2014, regular meeting. Bob Dreyer 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. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Bills for Payment

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

VIII. Committee Reports

Administrative Committee

- The Administrative Committee convened via telephone conference.
- The Fiscal Year 2015 proposed budget was sent out in the meeting packet for review by all board members.
- The total proposed budget is up 2.5%
- Don Patterson made a motion to accept the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget as presented and to send a copy to the SSCC office. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia - yes.

Scholarship Committee

- Thirteen applications were received and copies have been sent to the committee for review and ranking.
- Recommendations are requested back by July 1st.

Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *Plants for Pollinators:* We gave each of the nine new schools 15 potted plants (azalea, buddleia, coreopsis, verbena, butterfly milkweed, and parsley) to jumpstart their pollinator gardens.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Trout Release Day was held at the Forest Resource Education Center. 105 students released hundreds of trout into the Toms River and then participated in soil, watershed, wildlife and forestry activities. We are going to select two new schools this month for the 2014-2015 program.
- *Annual Report:* Has been sent to the printers and will be mailed out by the end of the month.
- *Enviroscape:* The Monmouth County Junior Master Gardeners program borrowed the unit. We also provided soil-themed activity booklets. The Holmdel Earth Day Committee also borrowed the unit for their event. The Land O'Pines School borrowed the unit as well for their 4th grade gifted and talented class.
- *Photo Contest:* The brochure is being created and promotion of the contest begins this month. The deadline is October 11th.
- *County Fairs:* We have reserved spaces for this year's Monmouth and Middlesex County Fairs. Monmouth County is July 23rd-27th and Middlesex County is August 4th-10th

2. NJ Conservation Partnership

- *Envirothon*: The event went well with the MATES team #1 from Ocean County winning for the 5th year in a row. 33 teams participated and 130 students and advisors camped on Friday night. The event received coverage by local news media.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest*: Each of our 1st place winning posters were sent to Trenton for the State level contest and placed in the 7-9 grade, 4-6 grade and 2-3 grade divisions. The NJ Conservation Awards Program was held mid-month and all 3 of our winners attended.

IX: Reports from other agencies represented

Nicole Ciccaglione, NRCS

- Moving forward with the new Farm Bill
- A Conservation Plan in Cranbury on a preserved farm is ready for District signature. Don Patterson made a motion to sign the Plan, Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- A Conservation Agreement for Teng Teng Chin Kleiner in Freehold is ready for District signature. Don Patterson made a motion to sign the Agreement. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
- A Conservation Agreement for Tom Lobrow in Howell is ready for District signature. Wayne VanHise made a motion to sign the Agreement. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- An Animal Waste Plan was review and approved by Dave Clapp and sent to District for approval. Since the plan was already reviewed and approved, Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the plan. Don 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.

Mr. Dreyer left the meeting via phone at 8:20 pm

X. Correspondence

Education Report

Draft of NJ Department of Agriculture SSCC Administrative Bulletin

XI. District Manager's Report

1. Manalapan Brook Signage

- After some additional discussion, Wayne VanHise made a motion to provide the funds for one interpretative sign in Thompson Park in Monroe Township explaining the “floating island” that is being installed this month. Roger Gravatt seconded them motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

XII: New Business

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

XIII: Old Business

- Hotel rooms have been secured in Newport, RI for Sunday to Wednesday.
- Registration will be discussed at the July meeting.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is Wednesday, July 19, 2014, at 7:30 pm

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary