

## FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting  
March 20, 2013

4000 Kozloski Road  
Freehold, NJ

*I. Call to Order*

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 1:43 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, Christina F. LaBianca and Mike Hill

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 February 13, 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. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

*VII. Bills for Payment*

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

*VIII. Correspondence*

Education Report

- February 21, 2013      Records indicate that the terms of Donald Patterson and Roger Gravatt as supervisors will expire on June 30, 2013
- February 20, 2013      This Week in Farm Bureau
- February 27, 2013      Copy of letter to Mario Tridente, NJACD Treasurer requesting reimbursement for the 2013 Flower Show
- February 28, 2013      Copy of request from PSE&G for exempt status to the SSCC response
- March 3, 2013          Copy of OPRA requests made for Agricultural Registrations & Certifications process for January and February 2013
- February 28, 2013      Copy of Animal Waste Management Plan Statistics from SSCC
- March 2013              Comparison worksheet of existing and proposed fee schedule from the HEP District
- Report of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control program statistics for October to December 2012 from the SSCC and other reports for same time period for various programs
- Save the Date: September 15-17, 2013 for the NACD Northeast Regional Conference in Dover, Delaware

*IX. Committee Reports*

**A. Education Committee**

1. Education Outreach:

- *Plants for Pollinators:* Twelve new schools for 2013 have been selected and teachers have returned their letters of agreement. The kits will be assembled and delivered by the end of the month.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Mid-year reports have been received. Trout Release Day at the Forest Resource Education Center will take place on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- *Scholarships:* The 2013 scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to the newspapers, colleges and online scholarship site.
- *Annual Report:* Is a work in progress
- *Stewardship:* The 2013 Stewardship “Where Does Your Water Shed” materials are ordered and will be distributed by Earth Day.

## 2. NJ Conservation

- *Flower Show*: Over 25,000 people attended the NJ Flower & Garden Show. The NJ Conservation Partnership display of "Farm to Festival" was very well received and we distributed our supply of seeds and most of the literature. The display won many awards.
- *Envirothon*: Thirty-two teams are registered. A planning meeting is set for mid-March. The 2013 Envirothon is set for May 4<sup>th</sup> at Camp Kettle Run, in Medford.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest*: Posters are in and will be judged this month. First place winners will be submitted to Trenton for the State level contest.

## **B. Nominating Committee**

- The supervisor terms of Donald Patterson and Roger Gravatt are due to expire June 30, 2013. We will reach out to current nominating committee members to set up a meeting as soon as possible. Since Warner Thurlow has moved out of Monmouth County a new member will need to be named. After some discussion, Richard Obal of Freehold (is a former Monmouth County Ag Agent for Rutgers Cooperative Extension) and William Potter of Middletown (is a business owner and farmer) were named and are available as new candidates. Roger Gravatt made a motion to reach out to both of these candidates and appoint one or both to the committee if they so choose. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

## X. Reports from other agencies

### **Nicole Ciccaglione , NRCS**

- An updated conservation plan for a project in Howell is ready for District signature. Don Patterson made a motion to sign the plan. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
- There are two conservation Agreements ready for District signature:
  1. In Cranbury (request for assistance): Wayne Van Hise made a motion to sign the agreement. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
  2. In Middletown: Bob Dreyer made a motion to sign the agreement. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

## XI. District Manager's Report

### 1. Fee Schedule Justification Status:

- The proposed fee schedule was presented to the review committee, then onto the SSCC. No comments have been received yet.
- Ines will be prepared at the April SSCC meeting to answer any questions and request its approval.

- Bob Dreyer would like to make a motion to acknowledge the work done to complete the fee schedule presentation and the overall appearance of the binder presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
2. Audit:
    - Have not received it from the auditor yet. Hope to have it soon and will present at the next board meeting.
  3. Travel Request from Tim Thomas:
    - The Northeast Employees' Association's leadership meeting will be held in Portsmouth, NH on March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Tim Thomas is the current President of the Northeast Employees' Association. At this time Tim is requesting to use District time and a vehicle to attend the meeting. His registration will be covered by the Association. Bob Dreyer made a motion to allow District time and vehicle to be used to attend. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
  4. Sandy Applications:
    - A draft of a proposed executive order that would shorten the application process for Hurricane Sandy rebuilding was given out for review. The draft proposes a two-day turn around, but a few districts have requested up to five days because of limited staff.
    - The fee for all qualifying applications will be \$200.
  5. Rain Garden:
    - In conjunction with Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Ines would like to request to use monies in category six for the training and demonstrations projects to create a rain garden in the Ocean Grove/Bradley Beach area. The total cost should not exceed \$4,000. The garden will have signage reflecting the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Freehold Soil Conservation District. Wayne Van Hise made a motion to use the demonstration/training funds not to exceed \$4,000 to create the rain garden to appropriate signage. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Van Hise – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

#### *XII: Old Business*

The Regional Supervisors' meeting for the central locations is set for April 11<sup>th</sup> at Villa Romanza. All five supervisors and Ines plan to attend.

#### *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. The District will be celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The supervisors felt that since we had a celebration for the 70<sup>th</sup> that we will just use the rain garden as a way of acknowledging this accomplishment. Bob Dreyer also suggested adding a message to our letterhead for one year.

*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, April 10, 2013, at 7:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia  
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca  
Secretary