

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
March 8, 2017

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 Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Laura Coover, 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 15th, 2017, regular meeting. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report (read by Wayne VanHise). Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VII. Bills for Payment

The board reviewed the bills for payment for March (in the amount of \$97,661.67, list attached). Wayne VanHise made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

Education Report

IX. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee

1. Education Outreach:

- *Plants for Pollinators:* New schools for 2017 have been selected and the teachers have returned their letters of agreement. The kits will be assembled and delivered next month.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Mid-project reports have been received. Trout Release Day at the Forest Resource Education Center will be May 17th.
- *Aquaponics in the Classroom:* New high schools in the Trout in the Classroom program will now add aquaponics to their tanks for the new Aquaponics in the Classroom.
- *Scholarships:* The 2017 scholarship applications are available on our website and a release has gone out to newspapers, colleges and online scholarship sites.
- *Annual Report:* Reports are being worked on.
- *Stewardship:* The 2017 Stewardship “*Healthy Soils Are Full of Life*” materials will be ordered and will be distributed by Earth Day.

2. NJ Conservation

- *NJ Flower Show:* Over 23,000 people attended the NJ Flower & Garden Show. The NJ Conservation Partnership display “Conservationfest” was very well received and we distributed our entire supply of seeds and literature. The display won 5 ribbons. Two 1st place awards for Most Educational and Best Environmental Focus, three 2nd place awards for Most Colorful, Best Plant Material and Best Interpretation of Theme and one 3rd place award by the Association of Professional Landscape Designers. Excess plant material was donated to the Edison Township Environmental Commission.
- *Envirothon:* Teams are registering. A planning meeting is set for the end of March. The 2017 event is May 13th at Schooley’s Mountain County Park in Morris County.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest:* Posters are due and will be judged this month. First place winners will be submitted to Trenton for the state level contest.

X. District Manager’s Report

1. New Hire

- Joseph Serio started on March 1st.
- He is set up to train with another inspector for eight weeks then take over his own route
- Joe will be attending a training session for contractors given by the Burlington SCD tomorrow.

2. Cost Share Table for State Agriculture Funding

- Roger Gravatt has been working on a schedule/price list for work to be done in this area
- Once the table is completed, we hope to add it to the current NRCS cost table

3. Manalapan Brook Grant Update

- Ines completed paperwork for another 319 grant, but since the District has an active 319 grant it was turned down at this time.

Bob Dreyer made a motion to accept and file the District Manager's report as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XI. Reports from other agencies represented

Laura Coover – NRCS

- Ranking has been completed
- There will be a Soil Health training session on May 10th for farmers. Not sure of location yet, but if interested, please contact Laura.

XII: Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss this month.

XIII: New Business

1. Bob Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
2. There were no denied plans for January or February.
3. The Board has acknowledged the list of Authorizations to Discharge permits granted by the NJ DEP.
4. The Regional Supervisor meeting for the central area is set for Monday, March 27th at 6:00 at Villa Mannino in Bordentown. Charlie, Bob and Wayne all plan to attend. Christina will reach out to Roger and Don for their availability.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12th, 2017, at 7:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary