

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
October 10, 2018

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

Robert Dreyer

x

Don Patterson

x

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman, Michael J. Hill and Andrea Farparan

Others Present: none

IV. Compliance Statement

Andrea Farparan 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 11, 2018, regular meeting. Robert Dreyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Treasurer's Report

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Wayne Van Hise made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Robert Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Bills for Payment

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for August as approved by the Committee of Purchase (in the amount of \$210,638.90, list attached). Robert Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for September as approved by the Committee of Purchase (in the amount of \$176,659.29, list attached). Robert Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for October (in the amount of \$160,627.20, list attached). Charles Buscaglia inquired about a check payable to Hovsons, Inc. in the amount of \$4,839.00. Ines Zimmerman explained the check was a refund for a cancelled project. Robert Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Van Hise – yes and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

Monmouth County Shared Services provided an informational brochure of the Shared Services Offerings available. Ines Zimmerman mentioned the possibility of utilizing the Records Management program in the future.

The District received a thank you card from the National Association of Conservation Districts for fiscal year 2018 membership.

The District received a thank you letter from the Sayreville Public Schools for the Plants for Pollinators in the Classroom Kit.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee - August

1. *Education Outreach:*

County Fairs: The Monmouth County Fair was July 25-29 and drew in 57,000 people. Our 'Education' display included abelia, buddleia, coreopsis, echinacea, lobelia, black-eyed-susan, verbena and butterfly milkweed. 'Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home' literature, activity booklets and giveaways were provided to visitors.

Trout in the Classroom: Schools submitted their Letters of Agreement. Equipment for the 2018-2019 program was ordered and set up mid-September. Three schools have dropped the program and returned their equipment. Five additional schools will be selected for the upcoming year.

Scholarships: The three scholarship winners were selected:

Bill Schauer Scholarship – Justine Smith, Old Bridge – Stockton University

Mac Clark Scholarship – Allyson Murray, Old Bridge – Stockton University

Neal W. Munch Scholarship – Alvin Chin, Highland Park – Rutgers University

Photo Contest: The contest was promoted at the county fairs and newspapers. Entries have already started to come in. The entry deadline is October 26th.

2. *NJ Conservation:*

Poster Contest: The theme for the 2019 Poster Contest is to be determined.

B. Education Committee – September

1. *Education Outreach:*

County Fairs: The Middlesex County Fair was August 6-12 and was well attended with more than 85,000 visitors. Our display included a small pollinator garden and an aquaponics setup. Visitors to our display were provided with 'Watersheds:

Our Water, Our Home' literature, activity books and other giveaways. Photo Contest and Tour de Farms information was also provided.

Birds, Bugs and Beyond: The Soil Tunnel was set up at Birds, Bugs & Beyond Day hosted by the 4-H and Master Gardeners. Over 300 visitors went through the tunnel as they entered the event.

Trout in the Classroom: Equipment and supplies were delivered this month. We have five new teachers joining the program this year.

Photo Contest: The release has been sent to newspapers and is on our website. Monmouth and Middlesex Parks along with the Forest Resource Education Center have received copies of the brochure. The entry deadline is October 26.

2. NJ Conservation:

Poster Contest: Holly Reynolds is creating the NJ brochure for the 2019 Poster Contest – Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper.

C. Education Committee – October

1. Education Outreach:

Marlboro Day: 'Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home' material was provided to the approximately 300 people that visited the event.

Wild Expo: The Soil Tunnel was at the NJDEP Wild Outdoor Expo. We provided information on 'Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home', education programs and the Photo Contest. We gave away bags, lip balms, bookmarks and seed pods. Approximately 2,500 people visited the event.

Trout in the Classroom: The equipment and supplies were delivered and all Letters of Agreement are in. Eggs will be delivered mid-October.

Photo Contest: Entries continue to be received. The entry deadline is October 26.

2. NJ Conservation:

Poster Contest: Holly Reynolds is creating the NJ brochure for the 2019 Poster Contest – Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper.

Envirothon: The 2019 event will be held at Great Times Day Camp in Camden County. Holly Reynolds is creating the Envirothon annual newsletter.

Flower Show: A meeting is being planned this month for the 2019 Flower Show, being held April 25-28.

X. District Manager's Report

1. *Fee Schedule Amendment:* The fee schedule refers to "high rise apartments" in the commercial portion of the rates. Applicants have challenged that their apartment building plan is not a "high rise" and therefore should be considered under the multi-unit residential portion of the fee schedule. Ines Zimmerman would like to send a request to the State Soil Conservation Committee to modify the fee schedule and remove the reference to "high rise" for clarification. Robert Dreyer made a motion to send a request to the SSCC to modify the fee schedule. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion.

2. *National Conference Registration:* The Conference will be held February 2-6, 2019 in San Antonio, Texas. Ines Zimmerman will be presenting at the conference. The 30-minute Power Point presentation is on creating a non-profit for open space management. Robert Dreyer made a motion to register any board member, Ines Zimmerman, District Manager and Courtney Davidson, Resource Conservationist II to attend the conference. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. *Audit Fiscal Year 2018:* The preliminary draft of the report has been provided by Brian Logan, Suplee, Clooney & Company. The report will be reviewed and the final copy is expected to be presented at the November meeting.
4. *Chapter 251 Program Compliance:* The number of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Applications received by the District has increased in comparison to 2017. Field inspections have increased due to increase in project starts and field activity in preparation for the fall. The first Report of Compliance inspection requiring the new soil restoration measures has been performed.
5. *Projects of Note: Sayreville* – The SSCC has asked that we set up a meeting with Sayreville for early November.
Mocci Properties Woodbridge – After clearing two streams without NJDEP stream encroachment approval, the properties found in violation have been restored.
Restoration of Greenbriar Basin, Tinton Falls – This site was purchased by Lennar Properties. The previous owners defaulted on the project and had not restored the temporary sediment basin to be converted to a permanent detention basin with a forebay. The sand bottom had to be restored and the permanent gabion structures were installed.
MacDowell Sand-Blueberry Acres – We received a call about an emergency repair for an exposed sanitary line owned by Wall Township. A lawsuit had been filed by an environmental group in the area. At the request of our office, John Showler, P.E., SSCC Erosion Control Engineer came into the field with us and provided guidance on rip rap sizing and calculating the stormwater runoff.
Rainfall Emergencies – Due to heavy rainfall in the Wall, Howell, Spring Lake area on August 13, several emergency repairs have occurred.
6. *Other Business: Conservation Innovation Grant* – We have been working with Middlesex County to execute their conservation plan. We anticipate that the pollinator strips will be installed this November and we should begin to receive payment for the first phase of work at the Davidson's Mill Park project.
Manalapan Grant - We are awaiting the receipt of the advance payment from NJDEP. They have had staffing changes and are asking that we wait to proceed with the next phase.

XI: Old Business

There was no old business to discuss this month.

XIII: New Business

1. Robert Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached lists of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans for August, September and October. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
2. There were no denied Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans this month.
3. The Board has acknowledged the list of Authorizations to Discharge permits granted by the NJDEP.
4. Public Notice has been posted that sealed bids will be received and publicly opened and read at 10:00 am Tuesday, October 30, 2018 for the purchase and delivery of one 2019 Ford Escape. The District is accepting bids for purchase of the 2009 Ford Escape XLS.
5. The Board acknowledged and thanked Andrea Farparan for filling in for Christina LaBianca who has been out on extended medical leave.

XIV. Reports from Other Agencies

A soil conservation plan for an irrigation pipeline at Down to Earth Farms in Upper Freehold was presented for approval. Robert Dreyer made a motion to approve the plan. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XV: Adjournment

Robert Dreyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 pm. Wayne Van Hise seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Andrea Farparan
Acting Secretary