

## FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting  
June 10, 2020

4000 Kozloski Road  
Freehold, NJ

### Conference Call per CoVid-19 Protocol

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **III. Roll Call**

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Charles Buscaglia	x	
Bob Dreyer	x	
Don Patterson	x	
Roger Gravatt		x
Wayne VanHise	x	
Staff Present:	Ines M. Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca	
Others Present:	none	

#### **IV. Compliance Statement**

Christina F. LaBianca confirmed that the Open Public Meeting Act has 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 13, 2020, regular meeting. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Don Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

#### **VI. Treasurer's Report (read by Charlie Buscaglia)**

The Board members reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Don Patterson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **VII. Bills for Payment**

Before the bills were presented, resolution 2020-009 was discussed. This resolution allowed the movement of funds within budget categories. Wayne VanHise made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-009. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Dreyer – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for May (for \$189,791.31, list attached). Bob Dreyer made a motion to accept the listing as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, Mr. Dreyer, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

**VIII. Correspondence**

Education Report

Applications received comparison. Even with the current conditions the amount of applications is close to last year at this time. Most of the plans received in the District office have been in the planning stages for months

**IX. Committee Reports**

A. Education Committee

1. Outreach:

- *Plants for Pollinators:* The program did not continue in the spring due to COVID-19. Schools in NJ are closed for the rest of the school year.
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Trout were released early this year due to the pandemic. We will look to continue the program in the fall.
- *Scholarships:* No applications have been submitted this year.
- *Annual Report:* The annual report is a work in progress and will be posted on our website.
- *Photo Contest:* The brochure is being created. Promotion of the contest begins this month. The deadline is October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- *County Fairs:* Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, both Monmouth and Middlesex County Fairs have been cancelled this summer.

2. NJ Association of Conservation Districts

- *Envirothon:* Due to COVID-19, the event has been cancelled. The District will host the 2021 NJ Envirothon in May 2021 at Camp Topanemus, Monmouth County.
- *NJ Conservation Poster Contest:* Each of our first place winning posters were sent to Trenton for the State level contest in the 10-12, 7-9, 4-6 and 2-3 grade divisions.

B. Nominating Committee

- The State Soil Conservation Committee has renewed the terms of Robert Dreyer and Wayne VanHise for another three years. These terms will now expire on June 30, 2023.

**X. District Manager's Report**

1. Staff Updates

The District staff is continuing to work from home and are distanced when in the office. Also, the field staff are conducting no contact inspections. There may be an opportunity for increased staff in the office after July 6<sup>th</sup>, but we are waiting for more guidance from the State and County before any changes are made. The Agricultural building remains closed with the sheriff's department at the main doors for now.

2. Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

- The Administrative Committee held a conference call to discuss the conclusion of the FY20 budget and the proposed FY2021 budget. It was determined that the computer purchased proposed for FY2021 could still be made within the FY2020 budget, due to a budget surplus.
- The overall increase for FY2020 to FY2021 is 1.69% to a total of \$2,326, 964. The biggest changes were in the following four categories:
  - Category 5, Building and Utilities, went up 17% partly due to the rent increase
  - Category 6, Public Outreach, went down 18% partly due to the cancellation of the Northeast Regional Conference
  - Category 8, Scholarships, went down since the scholarships to be awarded was changed to two at \$2,500 each
  - Category 11, Vehicle and Equipment Purchase, went up 21% due to the data migration line item

Bob Dreyer made a motion to accept the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget as presented and to send a copy to the State Soil Conservation Committee. Don Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. Patterson – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

**XI. Old Business**

- There was no old business to discuss this month

**XII. New Business**

1. Wayne VanHise made a motion to approve the attached list of certified soil erosion and sediment control plans. Don Paterson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
2. There were no denied plans this month.
3. The Board has acknowledged the list of Authorizations to Discharge permits granted by the NJDEP.

**XIII. Reports from other Agencies**

None

**XIV. Adjournment**

Wayne VanHise made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 pm. Bob Dreyer seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8th, 2020. The time and location to be determined based on the working restriction still in place at that time.