

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
April 14, 2021

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 (via phone)

Roger Gravatt

x (via phone)

Wayne VanHise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: none

IV. Compliance Statement

Christina F. LaBianca confirmed that the Open Public Meetings 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 March 10, 2021, regular meeting. Roger Gravatt made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Treasurer's Report (read by C. Buscaglia)

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

VII. Bills for Payment

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for April (in the amount of \$416,407.95, list attached).). Robert Dreyer made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Wayne VanHise seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Dreyer – yes, Mr. VanHise – yes and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

March 30, 2021

Email regarding the 2021 Poster Contest

April 5, 2021

This Week in Farm Bureau

IX. Committee Report

A. Education Committee

1. Outreach:

- *County Fairs:* The status of the 2021 Fairs has not been determined yet.
- *Plants for Pollinators:* Due to COVID-19, schools are on hold for the program this year. We hope to resume the program in spring 2022
- *Trout in the Classroom:* Due to COVID-19, schools are on hold for the program this year. We hope to resume the program in fall 2021.
- *Scholarships:* The 2021 Scholarship applications will be available on our website and a release will go out to newspapers, college and online scholarship sites. The deadline is May 30th.
- *Annual Report:* Is a work in progress.
- *Stewardship:* The 2021 Stewardship “Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities” materials will be printed.

2. NJ Association of Conservation Districts

- *Envirothon:* Due to COVID-19, the NJACD has decided the 2021 NJ Envirothon will be held virtually on May 22nd and June 5th (team presentations).
- *Poster Contest:* District winners will be selected via online voting and 1st place entries will be sent to Trenton for the State level competition.

X. District Manager’s Report

1. Computer Transition Proposal

- The vendors have been narrowed down to two that can possibly complete the work we need to complete the transition.
- Final items are being reviewed as to what can be done internally and what the outside vendor needs to complete.
- We have outgrown our current system that we have been utilizing since April 1999.

2. Civil Rights Partner Agreement

- This is an agreement between the District and USDA/NRCS. The agreement is periodically updated and renewed as needed.
- Wayne VanHise made a motion to sign and renew the agreement with USDA/NRCS. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

3. Regional Supervisors' Meetings

- The Regional Supervisors' Meetings have been changed to virtual meetings. Each District can pay \$50 and have as many registrants as they would like. Each attendee will still need to register to receive an email invitation.

4. Construction Projects

- A report was disbursed showing a few high level engineering projects including a damn in Matawan and a drawbridge in Sea Bright in which the DEP and Damn Safety as involved (report attached)

5. Staffing

- Beginning July 1st, the office will be back to be fully staffed everyday with COVID-19 protocols still be followed.
- All but one staff member is fully vaccinated.

XI: Reports from other Agencies

- There are none this month

XII: Old Business

- The supervisor standard changes have been tabled for now

XIII: New Business

1. Robert Dreyer made a motion to approve the attached list for November of certified soil erosion and sediment control plans. Wayne VanHise 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 NJ DEP.

XIV: Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12th, 2021 at 7:30 pm. Please see District website for more information.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary