

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
January 11, 2023

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 VanHise

x

Staff Present: Ines Zimmerman and Christina F. LaBianca

Others Present: Gabor Grunstein, FSA County Executive Director

Kevin O'Brien and Michael Stump, Colts Neck residents

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 November 2, 2022, regular meeting. Roger Gravatt made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Donald Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Treasurer's Report

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

VII. Bills for Payment

The Board reviewed the bills for payment from December 2022 as approved by the Committee of Purchase (in the amount of \$276,291.57, list attached). Roger Gravatt made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Donald Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson - yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for January 2023 (in the amount of \$189,904.16, list attached). Roger Gravatt made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Donald Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Mr. Gravatt – yes, Mr. Patterson - yes, and Mr. Buscaglia – yes.

VIII. Correspondence

November 10, 2022	Letter to Evan Madlinger, NRCS to thank him for including Freehold SCD staff in the NRCS training
December 2022	2022 Annual Partnership Meeting recap
December 12, 2022	Agenda and notes from State Soil Conservation Committee meeting
December 16, 2022	2023 NJ Conservation Poster Contest Flyer
December 19, 2022	Center for Learning and Improving Performance (CLIP) schedule of mandated courses for state employees
December 20, 2022	Email from John Showler regarding the NJDEP proposed revised and new rules within flood hazard protection program. There is a TEAMS meeting online tomorrow 1/12/23 with DEP regarding the revised program. The revisions will require additional review items for District staff. There will be a need to study six storm events instead of the current three events.
December 28, 2022	Email regarding NJ Unclaimed property. There were four items for the District. Ines completed the paperwork necessary and replied to the notice.
December 30, 2022	This Month in Farm Bureau newsletter Final application received comparison for 2022 List of 2023 Holidays

IX. Committee Report

- A. Education Committee
No report this month

X. District Manager's Report

1. Annual National Conference

- The Northeast Regional Association asked for volunteers to moderate a session or two and Ines has volunteered to do so.

2. Audit Status

- The auditor just received the final numbers from the state needed to complete the audit. Once a draft is ready he will forward it to Ines and Christina for review.

3. Assistance Request from Mercer SCD

- The Office Administrator, Linda Sandusky, at the Mercer SCD will be out of the office for 2-3 week in March.
- District Manager, Paul Schiariti, has requested office support from the Freehold SCD with Christina, per the agreement for assistance currently in place.
- Donald Patterson made a motion to have Christina assist the Mercer SCD in Linda's absence. Roger Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

4. Work Hours for Courtney Davidson

- Courtney has requested to keep her 3-day a week schedule until the end of March (25 hours).
- Roger Gravatt made a motion to grant Courtney the 3-day (25-hour) work week until the end of March. Donald Patterson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Active Stop Work Order

- The District has issued an active project (500 Halls Mill Road), a Stop Work Order.
- Working closely with Doug Widman to resolve the issues of the order.
- A revised sequence of construction has been received and deadlines were listed.
- Per the contractor, there has been a delay on the equipment needed for the stormwater elements of the construction.

XI: Reports from other Agencies

Gabor Grunstein, FSA County Executive Director

- Working on a Cost Share project on Battleground Road in Millstone, originally signed in 2020 regarding a waterway that was originally planned to be half grassed and half lined.
- The project turned into being totally lined since the grassed area washed out during a storm.
- The amount of funds due was adjusted due to the type change.
- The original contract is considered complete and requires a signature for payment. Roger Gravatt made a motion to sign the original contract. Donald Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

- A signature from the board is needed for the additional contract for the difference between what was originally approved and the new cost (\$36,305 additional). Roger Gravatt made a motion to sign the original contract. Donald Patterson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

Clare Flannagan, NRCS (as reported by Mr. Grunstein)

- There will be a local working group meeting in person at the Columbus office on February 3, 2023.
- There are two (2) new programs to be implemented.
 - Emergency Relief Program for weather losses in 2020 and/or 2021 with insurance on crops. The second phase is for those that did not have crop insurance.
 - Pandemic Program uses 2020 gross revenue compared to 2018 and/or 2019 revenue. It requires at least a 15% loss.

XII: Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss this month.

XIII: New Business

1. Donald Patterson made a motion to approve the attached list for January of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans. Roger Gravatt 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.
4. Kevin O'Brien and Michael Stump are concerned residence of Colts Neck. There is a project at 42 The Enclosure that is currently under review in the District. The gentlemen are concerned because the lot has already been cleared of all trees and there is runoff going into a category one waterway during storm events. Their concerns were heard and the project will continue in the District's normal review stages.

XIV: Adjournment

Roger Gravatt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Donald Patterson seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously carried. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 8th, at 1:30 pm.

Charles Buscaglia
Chairman

Christina F. LaBianca
Secretary