

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting
March 11, 2026

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Buscaglia called the meeting to order at 1:39 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Buscaglia led the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

III. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Charles Buscaglia

x

Robert Dreyer

x

Roger Gravatt

x

Wayne Van Hise

x

Thomas Taylor

x

Staff Present: Timothy Thomas, District Manager, Paul Califano, Assistant District Manager and Andrea Farparan, Board Secretary

Others Present: None present

IV. Compliance Statement

Secretary Farparan confirmed that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., adequate notice of this meeting was provided at least 48 hours in advance by publishing in the Asbury Park Press and the Home News Tribune, mailing the Monmouth and Middlesex County Clerks and posting at the entrance to the District office, a notice giving the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting, and stating whether formal action may or may not be taken.

V. Reports from other Agencies

None to Report

VI. Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 11, 2026, regular meeting. Supervisor Dreyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting with the amendment to include attachments of the 2026 Middlesex County Farmland Preservation Agreement and the Shared Services Agreement. Supervisor Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Dreyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Supervisor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt - yes, Supervisor Taylor - yes, Supervisor Dreyer - yes and Supervisor Buscaglia - yes.

VIII. Bills for Payment

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for March (in the amount of \$ 190,917.70). Supervisor Gravatt made a motion to approve the action of the committee of purchase for payment of the bills as presented. Supervisor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt - yes, Supervisor Taylor - yes, Supervisor Dreyer - yes and Supervisor Buscaglia - yes.

IX. Correspondence

None to report

X. Committee Report

None to be discussed

XI. District Manager's Report

1. Annual Supervisors Meeting

- The 2026 Annual Regional Supervisor Meeting is scheduled for April 14th. Starting at 6:00pm. Please notify Secretary Farparan by April 6th if you will be attending.

2. Local Working Group

- The Local Working Group scheduled for February 25, 2026 was cancelled due to inclement weather. An online survey will take the place of the in-person meeting.

3. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Annual Meeting

- The 80th NACD Annual Meeting was well attended, with more than 900 attendees. There were over 60 break-out sessions covering a variety of topics. Attendees also had the opportunity to attend a tour of the San Antonio Food Bank that serves over 100,000 individuals a week. Mr. Joe Lomax, Supervisor from the DelAtlantic Soil Conservation District was inducted into the NACD's Hall of Distinction. Congratulations Joe!

4. The New Jersey Association of Conservation District (NJACD) is experiencing a financial deficit and plans to propose a dues adjustment. NJACD is also asking Conservation District's Board of Supervisors to consider an additional contribution.

5. The District is obtaining quotes for insurance coverages to compare to the current policies / rates.

6. Two sites under the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) contract were assigned to Courtney Davidson. Courtney is currently developing the conservation plans. Additional sites will be assigned.

7. The District is currently working on Community Forest Management Plans (CFMP) for six (6) towns. These plans will be funded by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

XII: Old Business

None to be discussed

XIII: New Business

1. Supervisor Dreyer made a motion to amend the Resolution of the Formation of Committee of Purchase to include the wording, "...or when payment of a bill becomes necessary prior to the next scheduled meeting date". As suggested by Secretary Farparan. Supervisor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Supervisor Taylor made a motion to approve the attached list of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans. Supervisor Gravatt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
3. There were no denied plans.
4. The Board has acknowledged the list of Authorizations to Discharge permits granted by the NJ DEP.

XIV: Adjournment

Supervisor Dreyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Gravatt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 8th at 1:30 pm.