

FREEHOLD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 1, 2026

4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ

I. Call to Order

Vice Chairman Dreyer called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Special comment

The Board recognizes the passing of Chairman Charles Buscaglia and former Supervisor, Donald Patterson and extends its deepest sympathy to their families.

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

VI. Approval of Minutes

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the June 10, 2026, regular meeting. Supervisor Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Van Hise moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Bills for Payment

The Board reviewed the final bills for payment for June (end of fiscal year 2026) as approved by the Committee of Purchase (in the amount of \$132,978.27, list attached). Supervisor Gravatt moved to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Taylor, Supervisor Dreyer – yes.

The Board reviewed the bills for payment for July (in the amount of \$ 97,893.35, list attached). Supervisor Taylor moved to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt - yes, Supervisor Van Hise - yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes.

IX. Correspondence

The District received correspondence from Rick Dovey, President of the New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts (NJACD) announcing the formation of a Strategic Planning Subcommittee and inviting interested individuals to serve on the subcommittee.

The District received an email from Ray Cywinski, NJ NACD Board Member, providing the latest updates from the National Association of Conservation District (NACD) Chief Executive Officer, Jeremy Peters. These updates included a summary of the history of the Farm Bill and encouraged contacting congressional representatives in the Senate to voice support for passage of a Farm Bill.

X. Committee Report

None to be discussed

XI. District Manager's Report

1. Fiscal Year 2027 Reorganization:

Authorization of Annual Cash Management Plan

- ❖ **Resolution 2027-001** was presented to the Board authorizing an annual cash management plan. Supervisor Dreyer moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The resolution passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

Authorization of Bank Accounts

- ❖ **Resolution 2027-002** was presented to the Board designating the financial institutions authorized for opening District bank accounts during the fiscal year. Supervisor Dreyer moved to approve the resolution, with an amendment authorizing the District Manager to open a bank account with approval of the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The resolution passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

Section one, page one, Board Members

- ❖ Supervisor Dreyer moved to elect Thomas Taylor as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Dryer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.
- ❖ Supervisor Gravatt moved that all remaining Board officers retain their current positions. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Dryer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

Section two, page one, Committees

- ❖ Supervisor Dreyer moved to appoint Supervisor Taylor and Supervisor Gravatt to the Administrative Committee, with District Manager Thomas serving as staff liaison. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. Supervisor Dreyer moved to appoint Supervisor Taylor and Supervisor Van Hise to the Scholarship Committee with Assistant District Manager Paul Califano, and rotating staff members serving as staff liaisons. Supervisor Van Hise seconded the motion. Supervisor Van Hise moved to appoint Supervisor Taylor to serve as the District's representative on the Monmouth County Agricultural Development Board Committee. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. Supervisor Van Hise moved to eliminate the Water Resources Association (WRA) Committee as the WRA is no longer active. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Dreyer. All motions passed unanimously.

Section two, page two, Nominating Committee

- ❖ Supervisor Van Hise moved to have the Nominating committee remain as established. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The motion passed unanimously.

Section three, page one, Meeting Dates

- ❖ Supervisor Dreyer moved to establish the regularly scheduled meeting dates through July of 2027 as the second Wednesday of each month, with the exception of the November 2026 meeting due to the federal holiday, Veteran's Day falling on the second Wednesday. The November meeting will be scheduled for the second Thursday. All meetings will have a 1:30 pm start. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise and passed unanimously.
A copy of these dates and times will be provided to the Monmouth County Clerk and the Middlesex County Clerk, published in the *Asbury Park Press* and *Home News Tribune*, and posted on the District bulletin board and website.

Section seven, Vendors and Service Contracts

- ❖ **Legal Services:** Certification of availability of funds in the appropriation account known as "Professional Services" within the Fiscal Year 2027 budget was confirmed for legal services from Davison, Eastman, Munoz & Paone not to exceed \$7,900.00 (\$5,000.00 for retainer and \$2,900.00 for additional services). Retainer payments of \$1,250.00 will be made at the end of each quarter. Supervisor Dreyer moved to approve **Resolution 2027-003** for legal services. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise – yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

- ❖ **Annual Audit:** Certification of availability of funds in the appropriation account known as “Professional Services” within the Fiscal Year 2027 budget was confirmed for audit services provided by Suplee, Clooney & Company, not to exceed \$13,250.00 (to also include the CIG accounts). Supervisor Dryer moved to approve **Resolution 2027-004** for the District audit. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise - yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

 - ❖ **Computer and Network Maintenance:** Certification of availability of funds in the appropriation account known as “Building and Utilities” within the Fiscal Year 2027 budget was confirmed for computer and network maintenance services provided by Freehold Township, not to exceed \$18,000.00. Supervisor Van Hise moved to approve **Resolution 2027-005** for the District computer and network maintenance services. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise - yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.

 - ❖ **Computer Database and GIS Maintenance:** Certification of availability of funds in the appropriation account known as “Building and Utilities” within the Fiscal Year 2027 budget was confirmed for computer database and GIS maintenance services provided by Control Point Associates, at rates not to exceed \$250.00 per hour and a total not to exceed \$7,500.00. Supervisor Van Hise moved to approve **Resolution 2027-006** for the District database and GIS maintenance services from Control Point Associates, Inc. Supervisor Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Supervisor Gravatt – yes, Supervisor Van Hise - yes, Supervisor Dreyer – yes, Supervisor Taylor – yes.
- Notice of contracts awarded will be published in the Asbury Park Press and Home News Tribune and posted on the District website.*
- ❖ **Education Scholarships:** Whereas the District has funds designated for scholarship purposes within the Fiscal Year 2027 Scholarship Budget, Supervisor Dreyer moved to approve **Resolution 2027-008** authorizing the award up to two scholarships in the amount of \$5,000.00 each to eligible applicants recommended by the Scholarship Committee and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

XII: Old Business

None to be discussed

XIII: New Business

1. Supervisor Dreyer moved to approve the attached list of certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control plans. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Van Hise. 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 NJ DEP.
4. A conservation plan for a small scale regenerative farm in Rumson was presented for signature. Supervisor Van Hise moved to authorize the signing of the plan. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The motion passed unanimously.

XIV: Public Comment

None

XV: Adjournment

Supervisor Dreyer moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 pm. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gravatt. The motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, August 12th at 1:30 pm.