

Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

August 26, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AND PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Allen Carter, Jr., called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. via video conference.

Chairman Allen Carter, Jr. stated that in review of the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 PL 1975 adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mail to The Press of Atlantic City and Gazettes of Atlantic and Cape May County specifying time and place this meeting is to be held.

FLAG SALUTE

Chairman, Allen Carter, Jr. led the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Supervisors: Allen Carter, Jr., Robert Fenton, Joseph Lomax, Cormac Morrissey and Richard Dovey

Staff: David Reilly, Michael Kent, Glenn Ward and Marie Rogowski

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Michelle Pedano

MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 22, 2020 meeting

Copy of minutes were email to Board prior to meeting. After Board review, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Joseph Lomax to approve minutes from the July 22, 2020 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCES

A. Treasurers Reports – July 2020

July 2020 District and Plant Materials Center (PMC) Treasurer's reports were emailed to the Board for review.

After review and discussion a motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve the Districts July 2020 treasurer's report, balance sheet and expenses in the amount of \$50,599.58. The motion passed unanimously.

After review of the PMC monthly expense report for July 2020, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve treasurer's report, balance sheet and account balance of \$29,725.45. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans

1. July 2020 Certifications

July 2020, 251 Certification report was emailed to the Board for review.

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton approving all Plan Certifications listed on the July 2020 Application Report except for application 252-20. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Richard Dovey approving application 252-20. Joseph Lomax recused having a conflict of interest. Joseph Lomax abstained from motion. The motion passed.

B. Coastal Resources Conservancy Board of Directors

David Reilly stated that Daniel Galletta will need to be removed from Board of Directors. A motion was made Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to remove Daniel Galletta from Board of Directors. Joseph Lomax recommended a letter of acknowledgement be sent to Mr. Galletta. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Richard Dovey to add Cormac Morrissey to the Board of Directors. Cormac Morrissey abstained from motion. The motion passed.

C. Farmland Program

1. Conservation Plans

After board review and discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton approving the following Conservation Plans;

- a. Dennis Township, 2.7 acres - High Tunnel, Cover Crop & Pollinator Habitat
- b. Middle Township, 11.9 acres – High Tunnel, Cover Crop, Pollinator Habitat and Windbreak
- c. Estell Manor, 10 acres – Forest Stewardship Plan
- d. Hamilton Township, 10.8 acres – Forestry Activities & Proposed High Tunnel.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. NRCS

Michelle Pedano

-Commented on NRCS monthly activity report that was emailed to staff and board.

-Reported that Luis Almeyda has transitioned to the position of Agriculture Conservation Specialist in the Vineland field office on August 3, 2020.

-Briana Nagengast will be participating in the Northeast Regions Virtual Basic Boot Camp August 25-28, 2020.

D. Bank Signatures

The following motions were made regarding bank signatures;

- 1. Parke Bank - David Reilly was removed as signatory, Michael Kent and Cormac Morrissey were added as signatories to account. A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to ratify actions. The motion passed unanimously

2. OceanFirst Bank - A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Richard Dovey to remove David Reilly and add Glenn Ward as signatory on the District and Plant Materials Center accounts. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Farm Bureau Bank - A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to remove David Reilly and add Glenn Ward as signatory on CDARS account and Certificate of Deposit. Allen Carter, Jr. and Michael Kent will remain on accounts. The motion passed unanimously.

E. County Agricultural Development Boards

1. Atlantic County

A motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to have Michael Kent replace David Reilly as the District representative on the Atlantic County Agricultural Development Board as a non-voting member and to continue to offer administrative support. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Cape May County

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to have Michael Kent replace David Reilly as the District representative on the Cape May County Agricultural Development Board as a non-voting member. The motion passed unanimously.

F. South Jersey Resource Conservation and Development Council (SJRC&D)

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to have Michael Kent replace David Reilly as the District representative on the SJ RC&D Council. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Financial Sub-Committee

Michael Kent updated the board on the status of the District fee schedule. Michael Kent, Richard Dovey and Cormac Morrissey will form a sub-committee to review fee schedule options.

Joseph Lomax thanked David Reilly and Michael Kent for all their efforts.

H. Strategic Plan

David Reilly updated the Board on the status of the Strategic Plan. Draft copy will be forwarded to Richard Dovey and Joseph Lomax for final comments. Final document will be presented to the Board at next meeting for Board action.

I. NJ Business Industry Alliance (NJBIA)

District received annual NJBIA membership. After discussion, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Joseph Lomax to renew annual membership in the amount of \$305.00. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Stockton University Intern Program

Michael Kent discussed the benefits of continuing intern program. After Board discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to move forward with Connor Smilon as the District intern for the fall semester. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Martin Pagliughi, Director, Cape May County Office of Emergency Management

Cape May County is updating their Hazard Mitigation Plan which takes place every 5 years. The District was asked to participate in survey. Joseph Lomax updated the Board on the process and will complete survey on behalf of the District.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Education

Glenn Ward

-Quiet summer. Nothing new to report.

B. Cape May PMC Seasonal Employee

David Reilly reported that Ashley Hines has returned to the PMC to replace Luis Almeyda. A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to ratify the hiring of Ashley Hines. The motion passed unanimously.

David Reilly stated there may be an opportunity to also have Dustin Welch return as a seasonal employee. A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize Michael Kent to have Dustin Welsh return when PMC sees fit and subject to the availability of funds. The motion passed unanimously

C. Postage Meter Contract

District's postage meter rental contract is up for renewal. Received new customer agreement from Servicing Dealer, 360 Business Solutions. New agreement is for a 48 month contract at a cost of \$28.95 per month.

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to enter into agreement at the terms listed above. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS

A. Staff

Glenn Ward

-Reported on work detail with Ocean County SCD.

-Thanked David Reilly for years of service and time spent working together on Envirothon, Flower Show and other District events.

Michael Kent

-Commented on 251 activity throughout the District.

-Reported on Permit Extension Act.

-Updated the Board on Regional Conservation Planning Partnership (RCP) grant opportunity. Sub-committee of Joseph Lomax, Robert Fenton and Michael Kent will meet to explore options and will be present to Board at next meeting.

-Thanked David Reilly for his mentorship throughout the years.

David Reilly

-David Reilly presented Robert Fenton with his Certificate of Appreciation for five years of service to the Conservation of Natural Resources in New Jersey.

-Thanked the Board for the opportunities they provided throughout the years.

-Thanked the staff for the years spent working together.

-FY-2020 audit is underway. Field portion of audit had been completed.

-National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) grant extension is complete. Grant has been extended to March 25, 2021.

-District was not awarded latest NFWF grant proposal.

-Letter of interest was submitted for Restore America's Estuaries Coastal Grant.

- Update on status of County building. Remains closed to public.
- Luis Almeyda has transitioned to new position working at the NRCS Vineland field office.

B. Supervisors

Joseph Lomax

- Thanked David Reilly for his years of service and contributions made to the District.
- Annual meeting in November will be virtual. Still working out logistics.
- Supervisor performance standards are back up for review.

Cormac Morrissey

- Thanked David Reilly for his professionalism and dedication to the District.

Richard Dovey

- Thanked David Reilly for his leadership and dedication to the District, and looking forward to working with him in the future.

Robert Fenton

- Thanked David Reilly for his insight and contributions to the farmland program and to the District.
- Atlantic County is the largest hemp grower in the state.

Allen Carter, Jr.

- Attended Farm Bureau meeting on August 25, 2020. Farm Bureau is keeping their eye on a bill that deals with solar on farmland. Also reviewing state budget and its effects on farmers.
- Rutgers will be hosting an Ag. Tourism webinar next Monday and Tuesday.
- Update on the Spotted Lanternfly.
- Commented in the impact of Covid-19 on Rutgers campuses and fairgrounds.
- Thanked David Reilly for making the District what it is today and for his many years of service.

C. Public

- Opened meeting to public comment.
- No comments from public.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Allen Carter, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday September 23, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office in Mays Landing, NJ.

Marie Rogowski,
Administrative Assistant