

Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

October 26, 2016

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman, Joseph Lomax called the meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. at Rutgers Cooperative Extension office in Cape May Court House, NJ.

ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

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

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

NRCS: Nicholas Saumweber

PMC: Chris Miller

Rutgers Coop. Ext.: Jenny Carleo

MINUTES

After Board review, a motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve minutes from the September 28, 2016 meeting.

After Board review, a motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve executive session minutes from the September 28, 2016 meeting.

FINANCES

A. Treasurer's Report – September 2016

After review of the September 2016 Treasurer's Report a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve treasurer's report and expenses in the amount of \$42,440.32.

After review of the Plant Materials Center monthly report September 2016, a motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to approve report and expenses in the amount of \$40.60.

B. FY-16 Audit

Copy of FY-16 Audit was distributed to board. Motion to accept audit tabled until November meeting giving board time to review audit.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans

1. September 2016 Certifications

A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter Jr. approving all Plan Certifications listed on the September 2016 Application Report.

B. Farmland Program (Board Action Required)

1. Conservation Agreements

After board review and discussion, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to approve the following Conservation Agreement:

- a. Mark Newcom, Galloway Township, 30 acres, Forestry & Christmas Trees

C. New Jersey Farm Bureau Membership

A motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize payment of annual membership in the amount of \$60.00.

CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

A. Education

Glenn Ward

-Sat for the Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control test on October 13th at the Burlington County Soil Conservation District. Will hear back on test results within the next 3 weeks.

-Presented a soils power point and lecture to approximately 30 Atlantic County master gardeners on October 14th. Talk included general soil properties and focused on Atlantic County soils.

-The 2017 NJ Envirothon will held at Schooley's Mountain County Park and hosted by the Morris County Soil Conservation District. It will take place on Saturday May 13, 2017. The Envirothon planning committee will be meeting next month.

-Working on a newsletter to be distributed in December.

David Reilly

-Discussed providing mini grants to schools who participate in Envirothon. A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to offer five (5) \$100.00 mini grants to first 5 schools that register and participate in event.

B. RCPP-NFWF

David Reilly

-Program is moving forward well.

-Submitted quarterly reimbursement request.

-Sent out mailing to approximately 75 farmers as part of an outreach program.

Nicholas Saumweber

-Commented on mailing. Had 2 farmers from Cape May County and 3 from Atlantic County respond. 3 out of the 5 farmers were able to meet the deadline for submitting appropriate paperwork.

D. Cape May Plant Materials Center Seasonal Employees

David Reilly

- First phase complete. Next two phases will have one employee working March 15th through May, 2017 and 2 employee's May through August, 2017.
- Will be submitting payment reimbursement request for phase one of the agreement.

Chris Miller

- Commented on how well Luis Almeyda assisted staff and the tasks he performed.

COMMENTS

A. Staff

David Reilly

- Attended liaison meeting on October 20th with Michael Kent. Discussed soil restoration standards.
- Discussed 2 bills in Senate and Assembly with regards to use of native vegetation on DOT, NJTA and SJTA projects.
- Attended State Committee meeting October 17th. Training subcommittee sent survey to board members for review and comments.
- Discussed banking issues with the merger of Cape Bank and Ocean First Bank.
- Distributed copy of revised overtime policy and budget that was approved at the last meeting.
- Will be working on display for NJ Flower & Garden Show that takes place February 23-26, 2017.
- Workers compensation audit rectified.
- Discussed soil health champion. Has a meeting scheduled this afternoon with Jeremy Sahl and Nicholas Saumweber.
- Commented on mileage and per diem for board members. Conducted survey of District managers regarding their Districts policies for mileage reimbursement for District Supervisors. A consensus was to monitor the mileage reimbursement that is being reviewed by the SSCC at this time.

Michael Kent

- Distribute 251 Quarterly Report for review and comment.
- Reported on Stockton University project in Atlantic City and Next Gen project in Egg Harbor Twp.
- Reported on internship program.

Glenn Ward

- Theme for 2017 Envirothon will be Agriculture & Water Conservation Stewardship.

B. Supervisors

Allen Carter, Jr.

- Cape May County Board of Agriculture submitted candidate for State Board of Agriculture.
- Bear season ended. 560 bears taken.
- Farm Bureau convention next month. Draft agenda available.
- New Jersey Farm Bureau hosted Kentucky Farm Bureau.
- Farm Bureau Service award is going to Glen Van Olden.
- Commented on gas, estate and sales tax.

Robert Fenton

-Farming community stressed about \$15.00/hour minimum wage.

Joseph Lomax

-Commented on teleconference with David Reilly and Richard Dovey to review District's 5 year plan.

-National Conservation Foundation business plan is in its first draft.

-NJACD notice was sent to district supervisors for call for resolutions. Submit proposed resolutions to David Reilly as soon as possible.

C. NRCS

Nicholas Saumweber

-Distributed NRCS Monthly Report for review and comment.

-Financial program cutoff date was October 21, 2016. Round 2 deadline will be March 17, 2017.

-State technical committee meeting scheduled for November 16, 2016 at the State office in Somerset.

-Celia Rodrigues received an employee shout out from NRCS Engineer, Hilary Trotman for her work on a tough RCPP waterway project.

-Discussed conservation training boot camp for Celia Rodrigues.

David Reilly stated that he continues to research boot camp training and funding opportunities. After discussion a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to submit Celia Rodrigues' name as a candidate for next boot camp training.

D. Cape May Plant Materials Center

Chris Miller

-Update on land lease agreement. Preparing report for State.

-PMC employee accepted manager position in Michigan.

-Leaf compost has been delivered and spread for Peoples Garden. Area will be planted with a cover crop.

E. Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Jenny Carleo

-Hops and Crops program was a big success with over 50 farmers in attendance.

-Commented on two new weed specialists with Rutgers, Thierry Besancon and Matt Elmore.

-Rutgers lost 7 Agricultural agents mostly due to retirement.

-Discussed and distributed information on programs and upcoming workshops.

-Displayed new website.

F. Public

Opened meeting to public comment.

No comments from public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Richard Dovey to adjourn meeting at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting will be November 16, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office, Mays Landing, NJ.

Unless otherwise indicated, all actions were taken by unanimous vote of all members present.

Marie Rogowski,
Administrative Assistant