

# Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

October 23, 2019

## ***MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AND PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT***

Chairman, Allen Carter, Jr. called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension in Cape May Court House, NJ.

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, Richard Dovey and Cormac Morrissey

Staff: David Reilly, Michael Kent, Glenn Ward and Arianna Efstatos

Rutgers Coop. Ext.: Jen Sawyer

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Michelle Pedano

## ***MINUTES***

### ***A. Minutes of September 25, 2019 meeting***

After Board review, a motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve minutes from the September 25, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## ***FINANCES***

### ***A. Treasurer's Reports – September 2019***

After review of the District's September 2019 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 \$57,645.70. The motion passed unanimously.

After review of the Plant Materials Center (PMC) monthly expense report for September 2019, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve report and account balance of \$26,369.19. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans**

#### **1. September 2019 Certifications**

A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton approving all Plan Certifications listed on the September 2019 Application Report. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **2. September 2019 Re-certification**

A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving applications listed on the September 2019 Re-Certification Application Report. The motion passed unanimously.

### **B. Farmland Program**

#### **1. Conservation Agreement**

After board review and discussion, a motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Richard Dovey approving the following Conservation Agreements;

- a. Arthur Handson, 200 acres, Egg Harbor Township-Conservation Technical Assistance.
- b. William Osborn, 150 acres, Egg Harbor Township-Conservation Technical Assistance.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **C. New Jersey Agricultural Society**

Renewal membership cost of \$50. A motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Richard Dovey approving payment for annual membership. The motion passed unanimously.

### **D. NJACD Annual Meeting**

Meeting to take place on December 2, 2019 at the EcoComplex in Bordentown, NJ. Cost of \$70 per person for staff and supervisors to attend. A motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving attendance and payment for all supervisors and full-time staff to attend. The motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton nominating Nicholas Saunweber for Outstanding Professional Conservationist. The motion passed unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Education**

Glenn Ward reported that the Cape May County and Atlantic County earth day events have been announced. Cape May County earth day will be held Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> and Atlantic County earth day will be held Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>. The District plans to participate in both events.

### **B. Seasonal Position-Cape May Plant Materials Center (CMPMC)**

David Reilly stated that management staff of the PMC would rather utilize funds in February 2020 to assist with seed operation rather than hire a seasonal employee now. Working on a 1 year extension for the seasonal employee grant. By January

1<sup>st</sup> 2020, funds will be available to continue the existing BLM/PMC position and hire an additional employee.

**C. Insurance**

After discussion, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton for additional liability insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Basin Inspection Service**

Michael Kent reported that basin inspection reports were delivered to Port Republic. An invoice has been sent to Port Republic for District services. Richard Dovey commented that the District should promote basin inspection services at the League of Municipalities convention.

**COMMENTS**

**A. Staff**

**Glenn Ward**

-Reported that working at the Ocean County Soil Conservation District once a week is going well and will continue until no longer needed by the District.

**Arianna Efstatos**

-Continues working on projects with staff and independently.  
-Attended and completed Cultural Resources training in Woodstown.

**Michael Kent**

-Reported on 251 activity throughout the District and distributed Chapter 251 quarterly report.

**David Reilly**

-David Reilly reported that inspections on preserved farms in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties, as outlined in the State Agricultural Development Committee (SADC) agreement, will begin soon with reporting to be completed by June 2020. District staff training will take place in November.  
-Mileage vouchers were distributed to supervisors.  
-Technical Assistance grant money for round 1 to be used by December.  
-Grant reporting's for the quarter are complete. David Reilly thanked Arianna Efstatos for assisting with the preparation of the report for the Civil Engineer Technician (CET) position, and noted the thoroughness of the reports.  
-Congressional tour on October 8<sup>th</sup> was a success.  
-Update on John Showler.

**B. Supervisors**

**Robert Fenton**

-Attended Farm Bureau meeting. Discussed issues with drainage ditches on private and public property and seeking the Bureau for a resolution to the problem.

**Cormac Morrissey**

-Inquired how the District can get involved in the farm to table movement/program at schools.  
-Commented that the Estell Manor cemetery project will be starting soon.

**Richard Dovey**

- Stated that the sewer leaks along a bike path in Hamilton Township are being repaired.
- The landfill wall at the Atlantic Counties Utilities Authority is being constructed.
- There is a proposed sewer replacement project at Bader Field.

**Allen Carter, Jr.**

- Commented that the Congressional tour on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> was very effective. Congressman Van Drew walked away with a better understanding of agricultural issues in southern New Jersey.
- Attended Farm Bureau meeting.
- Deer report was released with findings and recommendations to control deer population.
- Cape May County Board of Agriculture election for officers took place.
- Thanked District staff for organizing the Congressional tour.

**C. NRCS**

**Michelle Pedano**

- Distributed monthly activity report for review and comments.
- Serving as Acting District Conservationist. District Conservationist position has not yet been advertised.
- Participated in a brainstorming session to improve customer service to irrigation customers on October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- CMCPMC field day is scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Joint FSA/NRCS CPR Training is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>.

**D. Rutgers**

**Jen Sawyer**

- Started on October 1<sup>st</sup> and is working two days a week. Working on some of the programs started by both her and Jenny Carleo.
- Attending a poison ivy seminar on October 24<sup>th</sup> held Rutgers Extension.

**E. Public**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Allen Carter, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday November 20, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office in Mays Landing, NJ.

Glenn Ward  
Site Inspector III