

Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

October 25, 2017

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

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

Staff: David Reilly, Michael Kent, Glenn Ward, and Celia Rodrigues

NRCS: Nicholas Saumweber

Rutgers Coop. Ext.: Jenny Carleo

MINUTES

After Board review, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve minutes from the September 27, 2017 meeting.

FINANCES

A. Treasurer's Report – September 2017

After review of the September 2017 Treasurer's Report a motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Richard Dovey to approve treasurer's report and expenses in the amount of \$44,184.15.

After review of the Plant Materials Center account monthly financial report for September 2017, a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve report.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans 1. September 2017 Certifications

A motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton approving all Plan Certifications listed on the September 2017 Application Report. Joseph Lomax, chairing the meeting, did not vote or participate in discussion on certifications.

2. September 2017 Re-Certification

A motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. approving the Plan Re-certifications listed on the September 2017 Application Report. Joseph Lomax, chairing the meeting, did not vote or participate in discussion on re-certifications.

B. Annual Conservation Partnership Meeting

Meeting will be November 2ND at the EcoComplex in Bordentown. A motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize registration for supervisors, staff and guests.

C. Farmland Program (Board Action Required)

1. Conservation Agreements

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

- a. Lee Parisi, Hammonton, 6 acres, Blackberries

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Jeremy Peters, NACD, Annual Survey

Survey emailed to board members. Survey to be completed by board members and submitted to David Reilly.

B. Conservation Investment

A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize payment in the amount of \$775.00, as budgeted, for NACD Conservation Investment for 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Education

Glenn Ward reported on the following:

2018 poster contest theme was released as “Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home”. A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to authorize purchase of gift cards for winners in the amount of \$300.00 as budgeted.

2018 NJ Envirothon site will be Camp Grice in Elmer, Salem County and will be held on May 5th. Event will be co-hosted by Salem Cumberland and Gloucester conservation districts. A motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to offer five (5) \$100.00 mini grants to first 5 schools that register and participate in event.

Finalizing winter spring newsletter. Will be distributed in mid-November.

B. RCPP-NFWF

David Reilly

-Up to date for reimbursement. Soil health conference was attended by Celia Rodriques last week. Nicholas Saumweber reported that Maria Collazo put forth possible additional grant money available to districts.

C. CMPMC Seasonal Employees

David Reilly

-Seasonal employee, Glenn Thompson, is working under current agreement until money for grant is exhausted. District still working on extension of grant for

\$26,000 to extend for 1 year to December 31, 2018. Current grant carries until December 31, 2017 with \$1,200 remaining.

-A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize payment of \$648.00 for Ecological Restoration publication in electronic format for 3-years. Funds to come from PMC account.

D. Soil & Water Cost Share Schedule

David Reilly

-NRCS and State cost share schedule would utilize same schedule. Schedule needs approval every year. A motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Allen Carter, Jr. to accept schedule as presented.

COMMENTS

A. Staff

David Reilly

-Department of Agriculture rules and state cost share was reviewed by Frank Minch. Rules are going to be presented for adoption as-is with no changes by December 7, 2017 deadline.

-Registration for NJACD meeting taking place. Marie Rogowski will be presented with the Outstanding District Administrative Achievement Award and Chris Miller will be presented with the Outstanding Professional Conservationist Award at meeting.

Michael Kent

-Reported on interns ongoing training/work at the district.

-Updated board on municipal basin inspections (MS4).

-Distributed 251 Quarterly Report for review and comment.

-Reported on 251 projects

Celia Rodrigues

-St. Mary's church installed high tunnels. Plans on installing pollinator garden next. Requested letter of support from the district to Pinelands Nursery for plant donation. Consensus given by board to issue letter.

-State soil scientist visit on November 9 to work with interns.

-Attended soil health conference.

B. Supervisors

Joseph Lomax

-NACD resolutions due and should be submitted within 2 weeks.

-Sits on 2 NACD resource policy groups; coastal conservation and invasive species. Reported on both groups.

-Reported on NACD \$50,000 capacity building grant for 12 Northeast states.

-Discussed topics associated with Farm Bill.

-NACD is working with NRCS to enhance conservation district technical assistance by securing a \$10 million grant. Suggested district research grant opportunity.

Allen Carter, Jr.

-Attend Farm Bureau meeting last night. Commented on topics discussed.

-Farm Bureau convention will be in Princeton.

-American Farm Bureau Convention will be in January.

-Reported on farmland restoration project in Estelle Manor.

-Reported on Fairleigh Dickinson Survey.

-Farm Bureau bank now open to public.

Richard Dovey

-Discussed issues with a forced main leak at Bader field. By-pass installed. Final repair will be completed next week.

Robert Fenton

-Attended Farm Bureau meeting with Allen. Commented on topics discussed.
-Commented on clamming in bay.
-Harvesting corn.

C. NRCS

Nicholas Saumweber

-Carrie Lindig on detail in Washington DC working on farm bill.
-Christine Hall is serving as acting State Conservationist.
-Discussed different NRCS programs.

D. Rutgers Coop. Ext.

Jenny Carleo

-Commented on upcoming workshops, Beach Plums, November 8, 2017 and Farming Asparagus December 12, 2017.
-Dan Kluchinsky passed away on October 16. Nick Polanin acting chair until replacement found.
-Commented on Upper Township Green Team
-Working with farmers on better water practices.
-Update on non GMO corn field trial.

E. Public

Opened meeting to public comment.
No comments from public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Allen Carter, Jr. and seconded by Robert Fenton to adjourn meeting at 10:35 a.m. The next meeting will be November 15, 2017 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.

Glenn Ward,
Site Inspector III