

Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

August 23, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AND PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman, Robert Fenton called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office in Mays Landing, NJ.

Chairman, Robert Fenton 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 Counties specifying time and place this meeting is to be held.

FLAG SALUTE

Chairman, Robert Fenton led the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Supervisors: Robert Fenton, Joseph Lomax, Cormac Morrissey, and Richard Dovey (via teleconference)

Staff: Michael Kent, Glenn Ward, Haley Jackson, Lauren Tigue, Riley Blankenship, Daniel Bononcini and Marie Rogowski

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Michelle Pedano

MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 26, 2023, Meeting

After Board review, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve minutes from the July 26, 2023 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Executive Session Minutes of July 26, 2023, Meeting

After Board review, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve the executive session minutes from the July 26, 2023, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCES

A. Treasurers Reports

1. District Financials – July 2023

After Board review and discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve the District's July 2023 treasurer's report, balance sheet and expenses in the amount of \$57,850.09. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **PMC Financials – July 2023**

After review of the PMC monthly expense report for July 2023, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve treasurer’s report, balance sheet and account balance of \$23,175.79. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans

1. July 2023 Certifications

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving all Plan Certifications listed on the July 2023 Application Report except for 353-23 and 354-23. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Richard Dovey approving applications 353-23 and 354-23. Joseph Lomax recused. The motion passed.

2. July 2023 Re-certifications

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving all applications listed on the July 2023 Re-Certification Application Report. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Farmland Program

After Board review and discussion, a motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Joseph Lomax approving the following conservation plans. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Conservation Plans

- a. Galloway Twp., 5 acres, Silvopasture System
- b. Hammonton, 59.5 acres, Organic Management & Conservation Cover

C. District Meeting Schedule

Michael Kent discussed changing District meetings dates to the fourth Thursday of each month. After discussion a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Joseph Lomax to adopt the alternate meeting schedule. District meetings will now be held on the fourth Thursday of the month unless otherwise indicated. The motion passed unanimously.

D. New Jersey Business & Industry Association

The district received annual membership invoice. After discussion a motion was made by Richard Dovey and seconded by Joseph Lomax to not renew membership. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Coastal Resources Conservancy, Inc. (CRCI) Liability Insurance

The district received CRCI’s annual liability insurance policy. After discussion a motion was by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Joseph Lomax to temporarily suspend policy. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Partnership for Delaware Estuary Annual Report

Received copy of Partnership for Delaware Estuary Annual Report where District was named in report as a sponsor.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Education

Haley Jackson

- Update on District's display at the Atlantic County 4-H Fair that was held August 11-12, 2023.
- Connected with a homeschool group. The district will be conducting class presentations one Wednesday a month for six months.
- Update on District's social media accounts.
- Continuing to work on updating District website.
- Distributed and commented on most recent newsletter published.

B. Grants/Agreements

Michael Kent

- Update on grant submitted for Animal Waste Management. Award recipients are to be announced in September.
- Update on grant to hire three (3) Conservation Planners.
- Update on NRCS Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Grant.
- Reported on NACD Technical Assistance (TA) Grants.
- Meeting with William Angstadt to discuss grant planning strategies.

C. Meetings

Michael Kent

- Reported on several of the upcoming conferences supervisors and staff are scheduled to attend.
- Update on Partnership of the Delaware Estuary Gala schedule for October 12, 2023.
- Update on the NJACD annual conference schedule for November 20, 2023.

COMMENTS

A. Staff

Michael Kent

- District vehicle update. Researching options.

Glenn Ward

- Update on 251 program. Many larger projects are being submitted to the District.

Riley Blankenship

- Update on work being conducted at the District and NRCS.
- Update on first contract signing conducted.
- Reported on several training sessions attended. Will be attending NRCS staff training at the PMC next week.

Haley Jackson

- Keeping busy with all the education outreach events scheduled.

Lauren Tigue

- Enjoyed working at the Atlantic County 4-H Fair.
- Update on 251 work being conducted.

Daniel Bononcini

- Continuing to work alongside staff conducting plan review. Looking forward to being assigned municipalities for site inspections.

B. Supervisors

Richard Dovey

-Update on the NJACD annual conference schedule for November 20, 2023. Additional information forthcoming.

Cormac Morrissey

- Commented on large number of deceased horseshoe crabs spotted in Heislerville, NJ.
- Update on new stormwater rules and how reporting will be changing.
- Commented on how the District may be able to offer engineers and professionals training points through seminars and workshops.
- Update on Army Corps of Engineers grants being offered.
- Inquired about forest fires and erosion.

Joseph Lomax

- Commented on several of the upcoming conferences/meeting supervisors and staff are slated to attend.
- NJ Audubon Society office on Route 47 has closed.
- Update on 2024 Envirothon.
- Doug Tallamy, Professor of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Delaware will be speaking at the Avalon Community Center on Monday August 28th.
- NJ Shade Tree Federation's annual meeting is scheduled for October 26-27, 2023 in Cherry Hill.
- Recommended the District move forward with having subaqueous soils analysis performed in Atlantic and Cape May Counties.
- American Littoral Society looking to reestablish the beach by installing reefs along Kimbles Beach.
- Commented on dune development in Lower Township.

Robert Fenton

- Commented on clamming market.

C. USDA-NRCS

Michelle Pedano

- Distributed NRCS monthly activity report.
- Reported on several programs and their sign-ups and cut-off dates.
- NJ NRCS employees meeting schedule for September 13, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to adjourn meeting at 9:41 a.m. The next meeting will be Thursday September 28, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office, Mays Landing, NJ. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Marie Rogowski,
Administrative Assistant