

# Cape-Atlantic Conservation District Minutes

July 27, 2022

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

Chairman, Allen Carter, Jr. called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District office in Mays Landing, 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, Joseph Lomax and Cormac Morrissey

Staff: Michael Kent, Glenn Ward, Chelsea Steffes, Marie Rogowski and Joseph Girnius

USDA-NRCS: Rebecca Watson, Malik Baker-Gore and Zachary Lenzi

## **MINUTES**

### **A. Minutes of June 22, 2022, Meeting**

After Board review, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton to approve minutes from the June 22, 2022, meeting. The Motion passed unanimously.

## **FINANCES**

### **A. Treasurers Reports**

#### 1. District Financials – June 2022

After Board review and discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to approve the District's June 2022 treasurer's report, balance sheet and expenses in the amount of \$56,128.31. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 2. PMC Financials – June 2022

After review of the PMC monthly expense report for June 2022, a motion was made by Robert Fenton and seconded by Joseph Lomax to approve treasurer's report, balance sheet and account balance of \$24,096.83. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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

#### **1. June 2022 Certifications**

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving all Plan Certifications listed on the June 2022 Application Report except for application 294-22. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Robert Fenton approving application 294-22. Joseph Lomax recused. The motion passed.

#### **2. June 2022 Re-certifications**

A motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey approving all applications listed on the June 2022 Re-Certification Application Report. The motion passed unanimously.

### **B. Farmland Program**

#### **1. Conservation Agreements**

After board review and discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Robert Fenton approving the following Conservation Agreements. The motion passed unanimously.

- a. Natali Vineyards, LLC – 22 acres, Middle Twp., New Ownership
- b. Cooperwood, LLC – 12.62 acres, Dennis Twp., New EQIP Applicant
- c. Ira Neidweske – 32.75 acres, Dennis Twp., New EQIP Applicant

#### **2. Conservation Plans**

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

- a. Hamilton Twp., 10.8 acres, High Tunnel, FSP (previously contracted)
- b. Lower Twp., 22 acres, High Tunnel System
- c. Middle Twp., 5.46 acres, High Tunnel System
- d. Middle Twp., 11.89 acres, High Tunnel System

### **C. Partnership for Delaware Estuary**

Partnership for Delaware Estuary annual gala fundraiser will take place October 13, 2022, in Philadelphia. After Board discussion, a motion was made by Joseph Lomax and seconded by Cormac Morrissey to contribute \$1,500 as a Non-Profit/Government sponsor. The motion passed unanimously.

### **D. NACD Northeast Regional Meeting**

NACD Northeast Regional Meeting will be held August 28-31, 2022 in Cambridge, Maryland. A motion was made by Cormac Morrissey and seconded by Robert Fenton to authorize three Board members and one Staff to attend meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Education**

Chelsea Steffes

-On August 22, 2022 the District will participate in The Inland Family Success Center summer camp event in Egg Harbor Twp.

#### **Grants**

Michael Kent

-Update on Civil Engineer Technician (CET) grant being filled by Ashley Hines at the NRCS Woodstown field office and NACD Technical Assistance (TA) grant being filled by Zachary Nixon at the NRCS Vineland and Columbus field offices. Both Ashley and Zachary were offered position with NRCS. Start dates are unknown. CET grant will end. However, the TA grant will need to be filled.

-Discussed forming a sub-committee to expedite future District plans. A motion was made by Robert Fenton and second by Cormac Morrissey to form HR Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Allen Carter, Jr. appointed Joseph Lomax, Cormac Morrissey, and Michael Kent to server on committee.

## **COMMENTS**

### **A. Staff**

#### **Glenn Ward**

-Update on 251 activity throughout the District.  
-Distributed and commented on 251 Quarterly Report.  
-Thanked Joseph Girnius for his help in the office.

#### **Chelsea Steffes**

-251 update. Staying busy with plan review and increased number of inspection requests.

#### **Marie Rogowski**

-Assisted Frank Minch in preparing for NJ Aquacultural Advisory Council meeting on July 15, 2022.  
-Update on daily office activity.

#### **Joseph Girnius**

-Continuing to assist Glenn Ward and Chelsea Steffes with plan review and site inspections.

#### **Michael Kent**

-Staff COVID-19 update.  
-Reported that Nicholas Saumweber has accepted a new position as Assistant Director for Programs in the Pacific Island area and will be relocating to Hawaii.  
-Was invited to assist in conducting interviews for Atlantic County Youth Leadership positions. Interviews will take place July 28, 2022.  
-Update on NJ Aquacultural Advisory Council meeting held on July 15, 2022.

**B. Supervisors**

**Robert Fenton**

- Attended and commented on NJ Aquacultural Advisory Council meeting held on July 15, 2022.
- Update on farming and fishing activities.

**Cormac Morrissey**

- Reported on a document that was released following the June 28, 2022 meeting that discussed flood hazard and stormwater rules.
- Update on the States Tier A & B Municipal Stormwater General Permits and possible grant opportunity for the District.

**Joseph Lomax**

- Attended the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Summer meeting July 16-19, 2022. Reported on major topics of discussion, breakout sessions and field trips.
- Setting up an invite to have NRCS Chief Terry Cosby visit New Jersey.
- Distributed and commented on NJ Conservation network flowchart.

**Allen Carter, Jr.**

- Hosted DEP representatives at dredge material site in Tuckahoe, NJ on July 26, 2022.
- Cape May County 4-H Fair update.
- Update on Tuckahoe Turf farm sales and the increasing costs for supplies.
- Reported on crop loss due to heat. Official numbers will be announced shortly.
- Cape May County Agricultural Agent, Dr. Claudia Gil Arroyo started July 1, 2022.
- Commented on labor issues throughout the state.
- Commented on upcoming Farm Bureau conferences.

**C. USDA-NRCS**

**Rebecca Watson**

- Distributed and commented on NRCS Monthly Activity report.
- Update on service center staffing.
- Invited the District to participate in an online questionnaire. Deadline is August 5, 2022.
- September 8, 2022 NJ Audubon will be hosting an outreach even "Working Lands for Wildlife".
- Update on programs, their sign-up and cut-off dates.

**D. 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 August 24, 2022, 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