

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MINUTES
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**

The September meeting of the State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairman Secretary Fisher at 9:38 A.M. at the Health and Agriculture Building, Trenton, New Jersey. Mr. Minch stated that the Open Public Meetings Act requirements have been met. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. adequate notice of this meeting was provided by giving the time, date, and location and to the extent known the agenda of this meeting. At least 48 hours in advance this notice has been posted on the third floor bulletin board, Health and Agriculture Building in Trenton; mailed to The Star Ledger, the Courier Post and filed with the Office of Secretary of State.

The Flag Salute was recited.

A moment of silence was held to commemorate the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Call of the Membership Roll indicated the following:

Members Present Associate Members and Others

Douglas Fisher

Sylvia Kovacs

Michael Rigolizzo

Charlie Buscaglia

Dr. Stephanie Murphy (rep. R. Goodman)

Ray Cywinski

Carrie Lindig

Tony DiLodovico

John Kocubinski

Brian McLendon (rep. R. Martin)

Jill Denyes, Deputy Attorney General

Frank Minch, Executive Secretary

Sandy Howland, SSSC, NJDA

John Showler, SSSC, NJDA

Tim Fekete, SSSC, NJDA

Dave Reilly, C/A SCD

Paul Schiariti, Mercer SCD

Dennis Dougherty, Camden SCD

Bob Reitmeyer, Burlington SCD

Mike DePalma, Hunterdon SCD

Dan Galletta, C/A SCD

Cliff Lundin, Sussex SCD

Kerry Jennings, Ocean SCD

Edwin Munoz, USDA-NRCS

E. George-Cheniara- Builders Assn

MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2016 MEETING

On motion by Mr. Cywinski, second by Mr. Buscaglia, the minutes of the June 13, 2016 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Secretary Fisher commended NJACD for organizing the North East Regional NACD meeting in Seaview last month. The conference was well attended and the feedback has been excellent. The Soil Restoration Standards have been published in the NJ Register for a 60 day comment period, which expires in mid-November. There is no money in the NJDA budget for supervisor per diem, which was suspended in 2010.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Minch introduced Sandy Howland, Research Scientist. Ms. Howland was hired in June to replace Dr. Ali who retired. Ms. Howland provided a brief biography and spoke of some of the goals she hoped to accomplish.

SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT

1. **Soil Restoration Standards-** A lengthy discussion was held regarding this issue, addressing the potential comments which will be received and implementation of this standard.
2. **District Supervisor Appts.-**
 - **Camden SCD-** Due to heat and drought conditions this summer which have severely impacted Louis Parzanese's farm he could not attend the NE Regional NACD meeting. On motion by Mr. Buscaglia, second by Mr. Cywinski, Mr. Parzanese has received a probationary period extension until the next annual conference to afford Mr. Parzanese the opportunity to fulfill the obligation of attending one annual conservation conference in a three year period. Mr. Rigolizzo recused himself from voting.
 - **Freehold SCD-** Roger Gravatt attended the NE Regional NACD meeting and thereby fulfilled his requirement of attending at least one annual conference in a three year period. On motion by Mr. DiLodovico, second by Mr. Rigolizzo, Mr. Gravatt has been re-appointed to a three year term expiring 6/30/19. Mr. Buscaglia recused himself from voting.
 - **Morris SCD-** David Welch, Chair, has chosen not to seek another term on the Morris SCD Board. The Morris SCD Supervisor Nominating Committee has put forth two names for consideration. On motion by Mr. Rigolizzo, second by Mr. Cywinski, Nicolas Platt has been appointed to a three year term expiring 6/30/19. Ms. Kovacs recused herself from voting.
 - **Sussex SCD-** The Sussex SCD Supervisor Nominating Committee has put forth four names to fill two unexpired terms (James Kilduff and Fred Hough). On motion by Mr. Rigolizzo, second by Mr. Buscaglia, Natalie Burger and Richard Vohden were appointed to fill terms which expire 6/30/18.

10:25 AM- Mr. Galletta arrived.

3. **Engineering Report-** Mr. Showler reported on some of his work activities over the last several months. They include the following: an update of the Detention Basin Database Project, Soil Restoration Standards and the Apple Ridge Development (Bergen SCD).
4. **New Jersey Conservation District Sub-Committee Reports**
 - **Training-** Mr. Minch recommended the training committee meet to discuss OPRA (open public records act) and various other training opportunities.
 - **Policies & Procedures-** No update
 - **Fee/Fiscal-** Mr. Cywinski indicated that the audits covering the fiscal year that just ended, 6/30/16, should have a component that measures the amount of funds the districts have in reserve. Staff will send a reminder to districts regarding this issue.
 - **Review/Appraisal-** No update

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Ms. Lindig provided an update regarding various programs, personnel and meetings involving NRCS including the revised Flood Hazard Rules which have a provision that does away with the requirement for a \$1,000 permit fee for farmers working with NRCS or SCDs on implementing conservation practices which meet the permit-by-rule requirements.

Edwin Munoz, State Soils Scientist, provided an overview of acid soils in New Jersey. The last map of acid soils in the state was produced in 1988. NJ-NRCS is updating and re-issuing the map with new interpretations of acid soils.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA)

Mr. Hlubik provided an update on FSA programs and personnel.

NJ ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Mr. Cywinski reported on the activities of the NJACD including the following:

- He thanked everyone who worked to make the NE-NACD Regional conference in Seaview a success. There was a great deal of positive feedback regarding the conference.
- It is anticipated that all conference expenses will be covered by registration fees.
- The new slate of NJACD officers are as follows, President- Tony DiLodovico (Ocean SCD), 1st VP- Dan Galletta (Cape- Atlantic SCD), 2nd VP- Dennis Dougherty (Camden SCD), Secretary- Bob Carter (Camden SCD). The position of Treasurer remains vacant. Mr. Dougherty will fill in until a Treasurer is in place.
- Mr. Cywinski (Bergen) and Mr. Rigolizzo (Camden) were voted to represent the Northern and Southern NJACD counties respectively.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mr. McLendon reported that the Navasink River, a large shellfish resource area in the state, has experienced a significant increase in fecal coliform which, in turn, has downgraded the shellfish classification to prohibitive. DEP is making every effort to identify and eliminate the sources of fecal coliform.

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Dr. Murphy provided an update regarding various programs, personnel and meetings involving the University and co-operative Extension.

Recently, Dr. Murphy attended a conference in Maryland concerning acid producing soils. Dr. Murphy also gave a talk at the conference regarding regulations pertaining to acid soils in New Jersey.

On motion by Mr. Cywinski, second by Mr. Rigolizzo, the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

The next SSCC meeting will be held October 17, 2016 in Trenton.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Minch