

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MINUTES
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
JUNE 8, 2015**

The May meeting of the State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Monique Purcell at 9:39 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.

Call of the Membership Roll indicated the following:

Members Present Associate Members and Others

Monique Purcell

Sylvia Kovacs

John Kocubinski

Charlie Buscaglia

Dr. Stephanie Murphy (rep. R. Goodman)

Ray Cywinski

Carrie Mosley

Tony DiLodovico

Brian McLendon (rep. R. Martin)

Michael Rigolizzo

Sean Moriarity, Deputy Attorney General

Frank Minch, Executive Secretary

Rich Belcher, SSSC, NJDA

John Showler, SSSC, NJDA

Tim Fekete, SSSC, NJDA

Dr. Ferdows Ali, SSSC, NJDA

Dan Galletta, C/A SCD

Ines Zimmerman, Freehold SCD

Dave Reilly, C/A SCD

Bob Reitmeyer, Burlington SCD

Christine Raabe, Ocean SCD

Dennis Dougherty, Camden SCD

Jay Kandle, Gloucester SCD

Desiree Dunn, NJACD

Paul Hlubik, FSA

MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2015 MEETING

Mr. Cywinski indicated that the training which will be held at the next Conservation Partnership meeting will not be ethics training since that training was covered last year. On motion by Mr. DiLodovico, second by Mr. Kocubinski, the amended minutes of the May 11, 2015 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Purcell reported on the following:

1. On May 18th Secretary Fisher appeared before the legislative Budget Committee. The session went well.
2. NJDA has started a new social media campaign “# Jersey Fresh love”. This includes photos, recipes etc.
3. Triple Crown Winner, American Pharaoh is stabled in Hackettstown, NJ

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. **Correspondence-** EPA has come down hard on a national builder for deficiencies regarding record keeping and failure to maintain erosion control. Mr. Minch has contacted the districts with projects by this builder for additional information.

A letter was received from the Ocean County Agriculture Development Board with a copy of state statute which indicates that SCDs are non-voting (advisory) members of their C.A.D.B. (County Agriculture Development Board).

2. **Supervisor Appts.-** The recommendations of the SSCC Supervisor Nomination Review Committee, which consisted of Dave Clapp, Dr. Stephanie Murphy, Elizabeth George-Cheniara, Esq. and Frank Minch as the Chairman's designee, were as follows:

- **Category 1- Supr Re-nominations that Met Supr Performance Standards for 3 year terms ending 6/30/18.**
On motion by Mr, Rigolizzo, second by Dr. Murphy, the following supervisors were re-appointed. R. Cywinski & H. Rohsler (Bergen), T. Budd (Burlington), D. Dougherty (Camden) R. Dovey & D. Galletta (Cape/Atlantic), R. Sickler (Cumb/Salem), C. Buscaglia (Freehold), J. Furfari (Gloucester), J. Sarnas (HEP), John Van Nuys (Hunterdon), E. DiPolvere & S. Ellis (Mercer), P. Roehrich & R. McEwan (Morris), W. Pollock & A. DiLodovico (Ocean), M. Loper & S. Needle (Som/Union), J. Kilduff & F. Hough (Sussex), W. Jarvis & S. Kovacs (Warren). Messrs. Cywinski, Buscaglia & DiLodovico & Ms. Kovacs all recused from voting on their nominations.
- **Category 2- New Supr. Appts for 1 Year Term ending 6/30/16.**
On motion by Mr. Kocubinski, second by, Mr. Cywinski, Gina Berg (Burlington) was chosen to fill the balance of the unexpired term.
- **Category 3- New Supr Appts. For 2 Year Term ending 6/30/17**
On motion by Mr. Cywinski, second by, Mr. Rigolizzo, Robert Amber (Som/Union) was chosen to fill the balance of the unexpired term.
- **Category 4- New Supr Appts for 3 Year Terms ending 6/30/18**
On motion by Ms. Kovacs, second by Mr DiLodovico, the following individuals were chosen to fill 3 year terms, D. Caldwell (Burlington), M. Sheets (Cumb/Salem), G. Flach (HEP).

SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT

1. **Soil Restoration Standard-** Mr. Showler reported that he is working on a cost analysis spreadsheet for the soil restoration standard. A meeting of the full committee will be scheduled for late June or early July. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding this issue.

10:12 AM- Jay Kandle arrived

2. **Engineering Report-** Mr. Showler reported on his activities for the months of May and June which included an update of the Detention Basin Database Project, Riverbay Landing (Ocean SCD), Four seasons at Freehold (Freehold) and assumed datum in Atlantic County (Cape/Atlantic SCD).
3. **New Jersey Conservation District Sub-Committee Reports**
 - **Training-** Dan Galletta, Cape/Atlantic Supervisor has volunteered to co-chair this committee with Christina LaBianca of the Freehold SCD.
 - **Policies & Procedures-** The appendices of the Policy and Procedures Manual has been distributed for comment. Another meeting of this sub-committee is in the process of being scheduled.
 - **Fee/Fiscal-** Mr. Minch indicated that some of the comments received on the draft Audit Manual require a more in-depth analysis. The subcommittee is scheduled to meet and review.
 - **Review/Appraisal-** Mr. Minch indicated that this sub-committee will be meeting in the near future.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mr. Belcher reported on the following activities:

- **Awards Ceremony-** The awards ceremony recognizing the 2015 poster winners and NJ Envirothon winners took place May 19th at the State House Museum. After the ceremony a statehouse tour was provided.
- **Envirothon-** The 2015 NJ Envirothon winners are preparing for the national contest which will be held in Missouri at the end of July. A host facility is still needed for the 2016 NJ Envirothon. Duke Farms is a possibility but they will not allow teams to camp the Friday night before the competition.
- **Teachers Workshop-** Ms. Raabe, Ocean SCD Manager, provided a brief overview of a highly successful program sponsored by the Ocean SCD for area educators which has run for 18 consecutive years.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Ms. Mosely updated the Committee regarding NRCS programs including the Regional Conservation Partnership Program which has an application deadline of July 8th.

A discussion was held regarding SCDs signing NRCS Conservation Plans, Stemming from an incident in Warren County. Ms. Mosley indicated that the plans should be reviewed in detail by district supervisors and never just “rubber stamped”. Further discussion should be held to establish uniform process.

10:30 AM- Dennis Dougherty arrived.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA)

Mr. Hlubik provided an update on FSA programs.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mr. McLendon provided an update on the activities of the department including the following:

- “Barnegat Bay Blitz”, this annual event took place Wednesday, June 3rd. There were approximately 3,000 volunteers that helped remove a great deal of trash from the watershed.
- The Flood Hazard Regulations were published for public review and comment. All comments are due by July 31st.
- The deadline for all districts to input information regarding the H&H database is June 30th.

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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

NJ ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Mr. Cywinski reported on the activities of the NJACD including planning for the annual conference & the 2016 Northeast Regional NACD meeting which will be hosted by New Jersey. NJACD Executive Director met with NRCS last month to discuss funding opportunities. She is also researching various grant opportunities. In addition, Ms. Dunn will be reviewing the NJACD by laws regarding dues to the association.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

On motion by Mr. Buscaglia, second by Mr. Cywinski, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 AM. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

The next SSCC meeting will be held August 10, 2015 in Trenton.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Minch

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