



State of New Jersey

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 24, 2022

(Wednesday)

Public meeting notice was certified by communication on August 18, 2022.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by giving written notice of the time, date, 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, Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey; mailed to the Newark Star Ledger; the Camden Courier Post; the Philadelphia Inquirer and filed with the Office of the Secretary of State.

President David DeFrance called the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture to order at 1:35 pm. Board members in attendance included President David DeFrance; Vice President Dr. Ernest Beier, Paul Hlubik, Debbie Norz, Warren Hollinger, Holly Sytsema Kurt Alstede and Lisa Specca. The meeting was held at Riverview Plaza, Trenton, NJ.

Also in attendance were Secretary Douglas Fisher; Dr. Manoel Tamassia, Division of Animal Health; Rose Chamberlain, Director, Division of Food & Nutrition; Nancy Wood, Division of Marketing & Development; Susan Payne, Executive Director, SADC; Christina Rasiewicz, Robert Vivian, Jeff Wolfe and Jeff Beach, Office of the Secretary. Also in attendance were Ashley Kerr, Peter Furey, NJ Farm Bureau; Dr. Brian Schilling, Rutgers University; Executive Director Bob Andrzejack, Sarah Fenwick, Farm Service Agency, Bruce Eklund, National Agricultural Statistics Service and Linda Walker, NJ Department of Agriculture.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

ON the MOTION of Paul Hlubik, seconded by Barney Hollinger, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2022, regular meeting with a minor correction.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Fisher made the following comments:

He introduced the new Chief of Staff, Christina Rasiewicz, to the members of the State Board. She stated that she looks forward to working with the State Board and the agricultural community.

Secretary Fisher announced that he had attended a meeting that was organized by Rutgers with US Senator Cory Booker. Speakers were given three minutes to discuss a topic of importance to them. Secretary Fisher talked about the importance of Specialty Crop monies. He stated that the meeting was well attended and very informative. He reported that he looks forward to the discussion that Brian Schilling will be making today on Farm Viability. He noted that the Policy Committee had met and that they had provided the Board members with a comprehensive list of the policies that were developed as a result of the State Agricultural Convention; the ranking of importance and updates of where we are. He reported that the Special Occasion Events (SOE) legislation is on the Governor's Desk, the Governor is aware of the feelings of the agricultural community. He reported that the recent passage of legislation for youth farm workers is already in effect. No rules will need to be developed as the information needed is in the bill signed into law. The process regarding changing the working papers will begin in 2023.

Rose Chamberlain, Director, Division of Food & Nutrition, reported to the Board that the Summer Food Service Program was winding down, the School Nutrition Program is gearing up for the start of a new school year and creating different trainings for school staff. Food Distribution is getting ready for schools to come for their September pick-ups of their USDA foods from the warehouse and the Child and Adult Care Program opened up their online applications system.

Joe Zoltowski, Director, Division of Plant Industry, reported that the SLF reimbursement treatment funding opportunity has been offered to all county governmental agencies to help provide additional treatments against SLF infestations. To date, a total of eight county agencies in Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris and Union Counties have applied and been accepted to participate. In addition, he reported that Gypsy Moth (LDD) notifications were sent to the 50 affected municipalities to schedule fall egg mass surveys. To date, a total of 26 municipalities have requested that surveys be performed. The nursery inspection staff continued traceback inspections for the plant disease *Phytophthora ramorum* at 28 residential properties during the last week of July and into early August. These inspections were in addition to the 11 traceback inspections conducted in June. He noted that the Hemp Program has documented 221 acres of outdoor grow and 20 acres of indoor grow. The program has received a total of 37 seed requests, 38 planting reports and four harvest reports. Finally, he reported that they have been doing bio-control releases for Emerald Ash Borer, since 2016 they have done 231,880 bio-control releases. They are being established in the hope of helping to save the lives of ash trees.

Nancy Wood, Division of Marketing & Development, reported that Director Joe Atchison and Christine Fries were attending the New England Produce Council Show in Boston. In addition, she reported that the Division was on the boardwalks of Seaside, Wildwood and Atlantic City earlier in the week for National Eat A Peach Day distributing more than ten thousand Jersey Fresh peaches. It was a huge success!

Frank Minch, Director, Division of Agricultural & Natural Resources, announced that New Jersey is currently under a drought watch. He stated that is the lowest threshold that is designated by DEP. The steps include watch; warning and emergency. His division will continue to monitor the situation and coordinate with DEP staff. He reported that the designations are based on drinking water, not irrigation water.

He reported that the Aquaculture Advisory Council has been working on proposed legislation on Right to Farm, after discussions with the Council, growers and Farm Bureau that they have provided language suggestions to Senator Smith and Assemblyman Thompson and hope that when the Legislature is back from their break that the language may be included in the legislation. The commercial shellfish aquaculture website that has been established by DEP launched earlier today. The website provides information for shellfish aquaculture and hopes to be a resource that the industry can use. In addition, he reported that the Stormwater Rules that were put on hold have had no action. He noted that the Department continues to work with DEP to go through some of the concerns that our department has. On the potable water matter, they (DEP) have reached out to/met with 16 farmers related to paperwork concerns, administrative issues, he noted that 12 of the 16 have been cooperative, some have asked for extensions and a few have been moving slowly.

Secretary Fisher announced that today would be Dr. Manoel Tamassia's last State Board meeting as he is leaving the Department to join the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) in Paris, France. Dr. Tamassia stated that it has been a pleasure to work for the Department of Agriculture and the State Board of Agriculture for the past 13 years and feels that a great deal has been accomplished during that time. He reported that Dr. Sebastian Reist has been named Acting Director. He reported that there has been a new case of HPAI reported in Pennsylvania, an import permit and 72-hour testing requirement is in effect for birds moving into Live Bird Markets (LBM).

Susan Payne, Executive Director, SADC, noted that the SADC had formed a Farmland Preservation Policy subcommittee and the goal is re-examine the program and talk to all the partners in the 18 counties and 45 municipalities. She explained that the SADC is hoping to hit 250,000 acres preserved next year, that is great progress, but there is a long way to go. She reported that the working group has developed an online survey with responses due back in early September. A second survey will be sent more broadly to help the SADC staff see what else can be done to enhance the program. In addition, she reported that the Soil Protection Standards is expected to be on the September agenda if they receive the required sign off from the Attorney General's office.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Lisa Specca reported that there had been no County Board meeting this past month however, there was correspondence from Camden County regarding crop losses due to rainfall shortages. She reported that there was some relief from the hot weather and lessening the need for irrigation. She stated that the Soil Protection Standards issue is very controversial and that she hopes that we can work together as an industry to get to a place where we can find some consensus. She is very concerned that the if we don't, the rulemaking process for this will be taken out of our hands.

Holly Sytsema reported to the Board that in her area there is great concern about the crops. She reported that due to the weather-related issues, most of the crops are experiencing some areas of spotty progress or lack thereof. In addition she noted that some farmers are even concerned about feeding their animals. She announced impacts will be felt on the yields as well. She reported that another concern she was made aware of was the Farmland Preservation Program and the values that are being set for lands to be preserved.

Farmers have noted that the way the land is appraised currently is antiquated, farmers considering applying to the program hope that process will be updated. Finally, she reported that Sussex County held their Annual Farm & Horse Show. She reported that Bergen County met and heard a presentation regarding food insecurity. She is looking for ways to connect those that need food to farmers in the area.

Holly reported that the Livestock Committee had met to discuss issues that will be addressed when meeting with representatives. Points of information will be prepared prior to these meetings. She noted that the livestock processing issue continues to be discussed and groups are being matched with possible investors. She reported that the Wildlife Committee also met, continuous efforts are being made to document bear damage, deer damage is also being monitored. She asked that as you enter fields, please record the damage. They are meeting with different groups to try to have some type of bear management. Finally, she reported that Nominations Committee would be meeting prior to the September 28 State Board meeting beginning at 10:00. That will be followed by the regular September 28 State Board meeting at its new time of 12:30.

Barney Hollinger noted that their sales have been strong, and everything was working well.

Paul Hlubik reported that they are still in dire need of rain. He reported that the Policy Committee had met, and it was very productive. He provided Board members with a copy of the ranking of the Policies and what action had been taken as of that meeting and what was still pending. He noted that we have made great strides in the work being done. He reported that Farm Viability and Right to Farm were ranked as the two most important Policies. He reported that Brian Schilling would be giving an update on the Farm Viability report. He reported that the following week he had made arrangements for the local police to shut down a road near him in order to film a Highway Safety video that can showed on the Department's social media pages.

He asked Brian Schilling to present the Board with some pertinent information regarding Farm Viability. He provided the Board with a written update but shared some of the following information:

- New Jersey – challenges facing small (and mid-size and large) farms have intensified and are exceeded only by the essentiality of a sustainable and prosperous agricultural industry. Recent years have starkly demonstrated the vulnerability of the state's agricultural industry not the persistent and intensifying challenges of rising costs, low market prices for wholesale commodities, labor costs and availability, land access and affordability, transportation and logistics challenges, and the costs of regulatory compliance.
- No NJ farm large or small is unaffected by these stresses.
- According to federal data, New Jersey's agricultural industry—currently comprising 9,883 farms of all scales who operate and manage more than 730,000 acres of land – produces and sell more than \$1.1 billion of agricultural products. New Jersey's 104 largest farms generate 50% of the total farmgate value of agricultural products sold. Only 383 farms account for 75% of agricultural products sold in the state.

ON the MOTION of Paul Hlubik, seconded by Debbie Norz, the Board voted unanimously to form a Commission to work on this issue.

There was a lengthy discussion on the topic.

Debbie Norz reported that Union County Board of Agriculture did not meet, and that Somerset County held their annual 4-H Fair. The heat wave broke just days before and the Fair was well-attended. She reported that recent rains continue to be hit and miss which is very frustrating. In addition, she reported that the Legislative Committee has been meeting and will continue to do so. She welcomed the new Chief of Staff, Christina, and thanked Dr. Tamassia for his years of dedicated service to the Department and wished him well in his new endeavors.

Kurt Alstede reported that he was travelling home from a three-day planning session with Farm Credit East, he stated that the entire three-day session was dedicated to the reviewing the future of agriculture in the Northeast, New Jersey, New York and New England from the perspective of producers, viability, what producers need to be viable and how Farm Credit East supports the mission of ag viability. He stated that the information from Brian about the 383 operations contributing to 75% of the economic output in the state and thinks it ties directly to constituents and county boards regarding the Soil Protection Standards. No one is opposed to appropriate stewardship of natural resources however, everyone that he speaks with is gravely concerned about what those protections standards mean if applied retroactively to the future of their operation. He feels that those economic concerns that many producers have and is contributing to some of the decisions to sell. They feel that they do not have the options and that the SADC is intended to support ag viability and producers feel that is being lost in the discussion. In addition, he reported that local crop conditions are very spotty as they are in several adjoining states. He stated that farmers in Warren and Morris County are waiting for word on the Governor's action on SOEs and hopes that it will be signed. He noted that the ash tree situation is a concern for many, the cost of removing trees, damage to fencing, etc. It is hoped that some type of cost share / grant program could be established to assist. He reported that Risk Management has expanded their coverage of crops in New Jersey, the Board had previously sent a letter requesting this change and the expanded coverage for 2023 was announced recently to include apples, grapes and peaches for New Jersey to counties that were previously not covered. He noted the importance of technology for the future and that we (the Board) have to be thought leaders and learn to think outside the box. He stated concern for the stormwater rules and the cost of labor this year has really hurt the bottom line.

Vice President Beier announced that the Gloucester County Fair was held for the first time in two years and felt that it had been successful with strong attendance but noted that it will be a rebuilding process. He reported that the Salem County Fair had a record turn out for attendance! He reported that Salem County had 150 high school students participating in barrel racing which is tremendous. He reported that South Jersey is extremely dry and crispy, many are concerned about hay for the fall without the third cutting. In addition, he reported that the animals have been distressed by the heat as well. Finally, he reported that Gloucester and Cumberland County Boards of Agriculture would meet again in September.

President DeFrange reported that the Hunterdon County Fair was opening today! He stated that he was encouraged by the information that was presented by Brian Schilling.

He stated that coming out of Covid and getting back to normal. Students are grasping for technology, that is what is driving employment and on our farms. Everything is moving at the speed of light! How do we move forward together! Finally, he reported that the Personnel Committee had met to review some of the recent retirements and vacancies and what is next. He stated that the Right to Farm Committee would be meeting soon because of its importance and asked the Board to agree to allow the Committee to reach out to County Boards and ask them what is going on, what can we do, how can we help.

ON the MOTION of David DeFrage, seconded by Paul Hlubik, the Board voted unanimously to have the Right to Farm Committee reach out to poll the members of the county boards and the CADBs to see what their concerns are. Board members will be sent a copy so that they can be sure that the counties they visit have the information and are responding to it.

Board member Debbie Norz asked about the draft correspondence that they were given regarding the recently discussed concern with the software programs for the FMNP and the Senior FMNP. Secretary Fisher stated that he would like to reach out to the Department of Health & Senior Services Commissioner to set up an interagency meeting to see if the programs could be aligned to have the same payment methods to make the process easier for all involved. We would like to include all the farmers that have been participating in the pilot program to date.

NEW BUSINESS

Amendment to NJAC 2:20-10.4, Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine

Joe Zoltowski, Director, Division of Plant Industry, asked for permission from the Board to publish in the NJ Register the Department's proposed action to expand the quarantine to cover the entire state.

ON the MOTION of Debbie Norz, seconded by Paul Hlubik, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Amendment to NJAC 2:20-10.4, Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.

State Board Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for the coming year for the Board were presented and there was discussion amongst the members about the dates of the meetings.

ON the MOTION of Debbie Norz, seconded by Barney Hollinger, the Board voted to approve the dates as presented, moving the meeting start time to 12:30.

REPORT OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA)

State Executive Director Bob Andrzejczak commented that there is a definite need for technology. He commented about the ash tree issue and stated that FSA is aware that the problem is getting worse. He stated that FSA does have programs that will help once the trees have fallen.

Sarah Fenwick reported the following:

Loss Adjusters

New Jersey FSA is still looking for Loss Adjusters. The Farm Service Agency is seeking Loss Adjusters (LAs) for the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Loss Adjusters are required to have knowledge of field crops and specialty crops, as well as a thorough understanding and execution of crop adjusting guidelines and program provisions, as applicable to FSA programs.

Loss Adjusters are self-employed; therefore, health and retirement benefits are not provided. LAs are responsible for paying all taxes on earned income. LAs are also responsible for obtaining equipment necessary to perform required inspection/appraisal duties. Some equipment such as cameras and GPS measuring devices may be available through the FSA county office.

Loss adjusters should expect that hours available are highly variable depending on season and frequency of weather-related events during the growing season.

Contact: Contact Aly Dyson, NJ FSA Farm Program Disaster Specialist, Alyson.Dyson@usda.gov, with any questions

Emergency Relief Program-ERP

Approximately 165,000 commodity and specialty crop producers impacted by natural disaster events in 2020 and 2021 have received emergency relief payments totaling about \$6.4 billion through the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) new Emergency Relief Program (ERP) to offset crop yield and value losses.

ERP covers losses to crops, trees, bushes, and vines due to a qualifying natural disaster event in calendar years 2020 and 2021. Eligible crops include all crops for which crop insurance or NAP coverage was available, except for crops intended for grazing. Qualifying natural disaster events include wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture, qualifying drought, and related conditions.

Organic Programs OCCSP & OTECP:

Agricultural producers and handlers who are certified organic, along with producers and handlers who are transitioning to organic production, can now apply for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Organic and Transitional Education Certification Program (OTECP) and Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP), which help producers and handlers cover the cost of organic certification, along with other related expenses.

OTECP covers:

- Certification costs for organic producers and handlers (25% up to \$250 per category: crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling).
- Eligible expenses for transitional producers, including fees for pre-certification inspections and development of an organic system plan (75% up to \$750).
- Registration fees for educational events (75% up to \$200).
- Soil testing (75% up to \$100).
- Meanwhile, OCCSP covers 50% or up to \$500 per category of certification costs in 2022.

Both OTECP and OCCSP cover costs incurred from October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022. Producers have until **October 31, 2022** to file applications, and FSA will make payments as applications are received.

Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops –FSCSC

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to provide up to \$200 million in assistance for specialty crop producers who incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses to obtain or renew a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 or 2023. USDA's new Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops (FSCSC) program will help to offset costs for specialty crop producers to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements, which is part of USDA's broader effort to transform the food system to create a more level playing field for small and medium producers and a more balanced, equitable economy for everyone working in food and agriculture.

To be eligible for FSCSC, an applicant must:

- Have obtained or renewed a:
 - o 2022 food safety certification that was issued between June 21, 2022, and December 31, 2022; or
 - o 2023 food safety certification issued during the 2023 calendar year, **and**
- Have paid eligible expenses. Expenses that have been incurred by the applicant, but have not yet been paid, will not be eligible.
 - o Eligible expenses include costs to develop Food Safety Plan, Maintaining or updating a Food Safety Plan, food safety certification fees, certification upload fees, microbiological testing and training expenses.
Ineligible expenses include infrastructure improvements, equipment, supplies, salaries and benefits, and fees or penalties for late payment.
- Be a specialty crop operation; and meet the definition of a small business or very small business.
 - o A small business means an applicant that had an average annual monetary value of specialty crops the applicant sold during the 3-year period preceding the program year of more than \$250,000 but not more than \$500,000.
 - o A very small business means an applicant that had an average annual monetary value of specialty crops the applicant sold during the 3-year period preceding the program year of no more than \$250,000.

The FSCSC application period for program year 2022 will be **June 27, 2022, through January 31, 2023**. The application period for program year 2023 will be announced at a later date.

For more information, please contact your local county office, crop insurance agent, or go to: <https://www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance/food-safety>

Important Dates:

- **September 1st**– NAP Value Loss (aquaculture, flowers) crop coverage
- **September 30th**– NAP Coverage Deadline for subsequent year's small grains, grasses, mixed forage, aquaculture, Christmas trees, flowers, sod and garlic
- **September 30th**– Acreage Reporting

Deadline for value loss crops except nursery value loss crops except nursery (i.e. aquaculture, Christmas trees, flowers, sod)

- **October 31st**– Application deadline for OTECP and OCCSP covering fees paid October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022.
- **November 20th**– NAP Coverage Deadline for all fruit trees, caneberries, grapes and blueberries.
- **January 31, 2023**– Application deadline for FSCSC

Fact Sheets:

- ELAP– Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm–Raised Fish Program
- ELAP– HONEYBEE ASSISTANCE/Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm–Raised Fish Program
- Emergency Relief Program (ERP)
- ELAP– Farm Raised Fish Assistance

Farm Loan Program

Disaster Declarations

The Farm Service Agency has no active disaster designations.

American Rescue Plan Act

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, signed into law on March 11, 2021, is a package of financial assistance meant to contain the pandemic, provide millions of households with immediate relief, and build a bridge towards economic recovery. The American Rescue Plan Act includes provisions for USDA to pay up to 120% of loan balances, as of January 1, 2021, for Farm Service Agency (FSA) Direct and Guaranteed Farm Loans and Farm Storage Facility Loans debt relief to any socially disadvantaged producer who has a qualifying loan with FSA. This includes producers who identify as one or more of the following: Black/African American, American Indian, Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American, or Pacific Islander. Since this debt payment will qualify as income, Congress determined the 20% additional payment is intended to help mitigate liabilities that occur when clearing a debt, which may include tax liabilities, among others.
- A federal judge issued a preliminary injunction that halts the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) from making debt relief payments under Section 1005 of the American Rescue Plan Act. At this time, debt relief letters are still being processed and eligible borrowers are encouraged to continue to complete and return the letter. Debt Relief Payments are not being processed at this time due to the preliminary injunction. To learn more about this, visit <https://www.farmers.gov/americanrescueplan/litigation-update>.
- Details about how to request a meeting with FSA are in each offer letter. For more information related to the Act and its provisions, please go online to www.usda.gov/arp and for information specific to the Debt Payments, please visit www.farmers.gov/americanrescueplan to find FAQ's, how to participate, eligible borrowers and loans, and additional resources.
- Borrowers who are waiting for ARPA debt relief payments are still encouraged to make timely installments or apply for servicing on their account(s). Payments will still be calculated in

accordance with ARPA Section 1005 based on the borrower's outstanding indebtedness on January 1, 2021. Direct borrowers will be reimbursed for any loan payments made after January 1, 2021.

Loan Interest Rates for August 1, 2022

- Farm Ownership– 4.250%
- Operating– 4.000%
- Emergency– 3.750%

ON the MOTION of Kurt Alstede, seconded by Paul Hlubik, the Board voted unanimously to send a letter from the Board to support FSA's efforts to designate the Emerald Ash Borer invasion of New Jersey as a devastating infestation.

REPORT OF NJ FARM BUREAU

Ashley Kerr represented the NJ Farm Bureau, a written report was sent:

- SOE: Awaiting results of the Governor's review; need correction for exception areas in the Legislature's compromise bill; took note of Sen. Sarlo's comment on NJTV news clip "hoping for a CV by the Governor and quick action in September by the Legislature."
- SPS: Farm community solidly opposed to the retroactive application of the rule; SADC members can find a remedy if they would agree with that; State Board can facilitate a solution for this.
- Deer: Drought making crop damage by deer worse; venison donation refrigerated trailer being used in central NJ; working with legislators to create pilot project for enhanced deer hunting incentives.
- Aquaculture/RTF: NJDA-assisted draft bill looks good; Sen. Smith looking for producer sign-off. Bill awaits review by Assembly Ag and Food Security Committee.
- Neonics: NJ Conservation Foundation is now publicly criticizing the ag exemption in the recent state law restricting use of neonic pesticides. See op-ed piece by Tom Gilbert.
- Ag viability: Time to act. Follow the lead of Dr. Brian Schilling at Rutgers. Urgently need summary assessment of each commodity sector's economic challenges; followed by survey and development of recommended actions. Seek share of Murphy administration's leftover funds from American Rescue Plan?
- Sen. Booker/hunger and nutrition: NJFB appeared with Sec. Fisher at the August 11 "listening session" on food-nutrition-hunger that was co-hosted by Sen. Booker and Assembly Speaker Coughlin, held at Rutgers Cook College campus. Praised state budget expansion of funds to food banks through Hunger Initiative, opportunity for sale of local produce from local cooperatives.
- Plastic bag ban: Found little, if any, legislative support to contest DEP opposition to farm use of "t-shirt bags"; may be discussed again in policy development process this fall.
- Heat/drought update: Outlook for non-irrigated crop harvest is poor at best; irrigation costs stressed already aggravated seasonal expenses.

- Seasonal labor: Ag employers should be vigilant in maintaining compliance with all state and federal labor management rules, even with all the other challenging conditions in this growing season. Labor costs this year are astronomical.

REPORT OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Dr. Brian Schilling represented the College and made no additional comments.

REPORT OF NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS)

Bruce Eklund reported that the Census of Agriculture will be released soon and encouraged all to submit their information and to encourage others to do the same.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lori Jensen reported that the NJNLA will be hosting a workshop on September 14 - all are invited to attend.

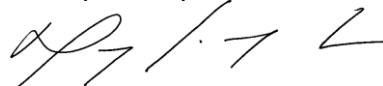
MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Agriculture will be held on Wednesday, September 28 beginning at 12:30 at Riverview Plaza, Trenton.

ADJOURNMENT

ON the MOTION of Paul Hlubik, seconded by Barney Hollinger, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas H. Fisher