

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DRAFT MINUTES
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
MARCH 14, 2016**

The March meeting of the State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairman Douglas Fisher at 9:56 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

Douglas Fisher

Sylvia Kovacs

John Kocubinski

Charlie Buscaglia

Dr. Stephanie Murphy (rep. R. Goodman)

Ray Cywinski

Michael Rigolizzo

Tony DiLodovico

Joe Lomax

Sean Moriarity, Deputy Attorney General

Frank Minch, Executive Secretary

Rich Belcher, SSSC, NJDA

John Showler, SSSC, NJDA

Tim Fekete, SSSC, NJDA

Dave Reilly, C/A SCD

Paul Schiariti, Mercer SCD

Dennis Dougherty, Camden SCD

Ines Zimmerman, Freehold SCD

Bob Reitmeyer, Burlington SCD

Christine Raabe, Ocean SCD

Sandy Myers, Warren SCD

E. George-Cheniara, NJBA

Desiree Dunn, NJACD

Colleen McGarrity, FSA

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2015 MEETING

On motion by Mr. Cywinski, second by Ms. Kovacs, the minutes of the December 14, 2015 meeting were approved.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Minch reported on the following:

1. **Correspondence-** A letter was sent to NJ State Senator Kyrillos regarding a property in Holmdel Township, Monmouth County. The certification on this property expired. The Freehold SCD acted within their authority regarding the soil erosion and sediment control plan, review, certification and site inspection. The applicant was contacted numerous times regarding the expiring certification but the applicant allowed the certification to lapse. Correspondence was sent to the Ocean SCD from Mr. Showler detailing recommendations regarding the Great Adventure solar array project.
2. **Regional Supervisors Meetings-** The Northern regional meeting is scheduled for April 7th, the Central region is scheduled for March 30th and the Southern regional meeting is scheduled for April 5th.
3. **Henry Dreyer Posthumous Resolution-** On motion by Ms. Kovacs, second by Mr. Buscaglia, a resolution was passed honoring Mr. Dreyer's 36 years of dedicated service as supervisor for the Somerset-Union SCD.
4. **Supervisor Nominating Committees-** Forms and information will be sent to District Chairmen/women and District Managers this week to initiate the process and reconvene the Supervisor Nominating Committees.

SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT

1. **Soil Restoration Standards-** Mr. Minch reported that SSCC staff is awaiting a response from the Governor's office regarding the Soil Restoration Standards. These standards were sent to the Governor's office for review approximately 7 weeks ago.
2. **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, FEMA Dam Safety Training, assisting the Bergen, Ocean and Warren SCDs.
3. **Soil Amendment Product-** A discussion was held regarding the new product, Terreplenish, which utilizes a blend of beneficial microbes to condition the soil. Dr. Murphy provided an in depth power point presentation on soil properties and soil amendments.
4. **H & H Database-** Mr. Showler provided a power point presentation demonstrating the workings of the H & H Database. A lengthy discussion was held regarding this issue. It was noted that the Cumberland- Salem SCD was the only office which had not completed data entry. On motion by Mr. Buscaglia, second by Ms. Kovacs, a resolution was passed requiring the Cumberland-Salem SCD make all its basin summary records and associated plans available to the Department so that the data may be entered by a third party, which is yet to be determined, and the district must return all funding received in conjunction with this effort to the Department.

10:28 AM- Mr. Kocubinski arrived.

10:30 AM- Mr. DiLodovico arrived.

10:35 AM- Mr. Dougherty arrived.

5. New Jersey Conservation District Sub-Committee Reports

- **Training-** No report.
- **Policies & Procedures-** Mr. Lomax reported that the comments received on the 251 manual appendices are being reviewed and incorporated into the draft manual.
- **Fee/Fiscal-** Mr. Cywinski reported on the numerous different fiscal tracking systems utilized by the districts.
- **Review/Appraisal-** No update

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mr. Belcher reported on the following;

- **Poster contest** - Of the 4 posters sent to the National competition, 3 placed first and 1 placed second in their respective categories.
- **NJ Envirothon-** The competition is scheduled for May 14th. To date, 35 teams are registered. 3 separate training sessions are scheduled to prepare the students for the event. Funding is down from last year. To date there is approximately \$5,200 in the bank. Traditionally the Envirothon has received a \$5,000 grant from PSE&G. Mr. Belcher is still awaiting word from PSE&G regarding those funds.
- **NJ Flower & Patio Show-** Mr. Belcher presented a power point presentation of the Conservation Partnership display. This display won numerous awards. Mr. Belcher thanked all who helped work on the display, especially the Freehold & Cape- Atlantic SCDs.

11:25 AM- Ms. George-Cheniara left.

11:27 AM- Mr. Schiariti left.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA)

Ms. McGarrity provided an update on FSA programs and activities including recruitment to fill several vacancies.

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 the following:

- The regional Supervisor meetings.
- The North East NACD meeting in August.

Mr. Showler reviewed the specifics regarding the background, concept, protocol and process for the Hydrologic Modeling Database. On motion by Mr. Rigolizzo, second by Dr. Murphy, this protocol was approved.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Mr. Cywinski, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 AM. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

The next SSCC meeting will be held May 9, 2016 in Trenton.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Minch

SSCC MINUTES – MARCH 14, 2016 – PAGE 4

L:\SSCC\STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS\2016 MEETINGS\Draft March\Minutes