

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MINUTES
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
MAY 9, 2016**

The May meeting of the State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairman Douglas Fisher at 9:40 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

Carrie Lindig

Tony DiLodovico

Joe Lomax

Brian McLendon (rep. R. Martin)

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

Tim Thomas, Freehold SCD

Mike Bonham, C/S SCD

Christine Raabe, Ocean SCD

Sandy Myers, Warren SCD

David Earl, NJDOT

Desiree Dunn, NJACD

Dan Galletta, C/A SCD

MINUTES OF MARCH 14, 2016 MEETING

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Mr. Cywinski, the minutes of the March 14, 2016 meeting were approved.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Minch reported on the following:

1. **Highlands Septic Density Standards-** Information was distributed regarding the upcoming DEP proposed science-based revisions to Highlands septic density standards.
2. **The Animal Waste regulations-** These proposed modifications to the regulations have been published in the NJ Register. The comment period has been extended through July 15th.
3. **Regional Supervisors Meetings-** The 2016 Regional Supervisor meetings were extremely well attended and generated good conversation.

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 3 months ago.
2. **Exempt Municipality Report- Washington Boro, Warren Co.-** Washington Boro has not taken corrective action to address the deficiencies noted in the previous reviews. This municipality has perpetually been deficient in administering their responsibilities involving the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control program.
On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Mr. Buscaglia, the SSCC voted to revoke Washington Boro's exempt status. Ms. Kovacs recused
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 H & H Database Project, Freehold SCD design review, PlanSmart NJ, Philipsburg High School construction site. This issue, the Philipsburg school construction site, elicited a lengthy conversation regarding issues which included the lack of maintenance and not following the certified soil erosion control plan.
4. **H & H Database Update-** Mr. Bonham, Cumberland/Salem SCD Manager addressed the SSCC to update the committee regarding H & H data input. Mr. Bonham hired an individual to input this crucial data and anticipated this task will be completed by the end of June.

9:55 AM- Mr. DiLodovico arrived.

5. **DEP MS4 Permit Amendments-** Mr. McLendon spoke regarding the preliminary draft renewal of the Tier A and Tier B MS4 NJPDES Permits. Mr. Galletta, C/A SCD Chair, addressed the SSCC regarding the C/A SCD concerns regarding protocol, direction and oversight if districts become involved in inspections of stormwater basins. This initiated a lengthy discussion.

6. New Jersey Conservation District Sub-Committee Reports

- **Training-** No update.
- **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-** No update
- **Review/Appraisal-** No update

10:30 AM- Mr. DiLodovico left the meeting.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mr. Belcher reported on the following;

- **Soil Stewardship Proclamation-** a copy of the proclamation (April 24- May1) was distributed.
- **Poster contest** – The 2016 Conservation Poster Contest winners was announced.
- **NJ Envirothon-** The competition is scheduled for May 14th at North Branch Park in Bridgewater. To date, 36 teams (180 participants and 52 advisors), representing 16 counties, are registered. 3 new schools are registered for this event.

10:59 AM- Ms. Dunn arrives.

11:00 AM- Mr. Schiariti left the meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Ms. Lindig reported that a new District Conservationist was hired for the Frenchtown Service Center, John Kluthe. Mr. Kluthe previously worked for NRCS in Arkansas. In addition, Ms. Lindig provided an update regarding various programs, personnel and meetings involving NRCS.

NJ ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

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

- A questionnaire will be sent to the attendees of the Regional Supervisor meetings.
- Many decisions regarding the North East NACD meeting in August will be finalized at the NJACD meeting which follows the SSCC meeting.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mr. McLendon reported that the Barnegat Bay Blitz, an annual environmental clean-up effort, will take place June 3rd. In an effort to integrate with US-EPA and their reporting system, NJDEP is initiating E-Permitting. In addition, Mr. McLendon provided an update regarding various programs, personnel and meetings involving DEP.

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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

10:59 AM- Desiree Dunn arrived.

11:00 AM- Paul Schiariti left.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Mr. Buscaglia, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

The next SSCC meeting will be held June 13, 2016 in Trenton.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Minch

SSCC MINUTES – MAY 9, 2016 – PAGE 4

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