

**STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Department of Agriculture**  
**Market and Warren Streets**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor Auditorium**  
**Trenton, NJ 08625**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**August 27, 2015**

Chairman Fisher called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. SADC staff person Patricia Riccitello read the notice indicating the meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll call indicated the following:

**Members Present**

Douglas H. Fisher, Chairman  
James Requa (rep. DCA Commissioner Richman)  
Brian Schilling (rep. Executive Dean Goodman)  
Renee Jones (rep. DEP Commissioner Martin)  
Ralph Siegel (rep. Acting State Treasurer Romano)  
Peter Johnson  
James Waltman  
Jane Brodhecker

**Members Absent**

Alan Danser, Vice Chairman  
Denis C. Germano, Esq.

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Susan E. Payne, Executive Director  
Jason Stypinski, Deputy Attorney General

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**Others present as recorded on the attendance sheet:** Heidi Winzinger, Cindy Roberts, Stefanie Miller, Paul Burns, Dan Knox, Jeffrey Everett, Hope Gruzlovic, Brian Smith, Esq., David Kimmel, Charles Roohr, Alison Reynolds, Esq., Pat O'Connell, Matthew DiStaulo, Hector Weah, Steven Bruder and Patricia

Riccitello, SADC staff; Michael Collins, Esq., Governor's Authorities Unit; Harriet Honigfeld, Linda Brennan and Michaela Kramer, Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board; Daniel Pace, Mercer County Agriculture Development Board; Brian Wilson, Burlington County Agriculture Development Board; Tom Beaver, New Jersey Farm Bureau; Eric Zwerling, Rutgers Noise Technical Assistance Center; Donna Rue, Rue Brothers Farm, Warren County; Bridgitte Sherman, Cape May County Agriculture Development Board; Amy Hansen, New Jersey Conservation Foundation; Jenny Jimenez and Mark Villinger, Ocean County Agriculture Development Board; Glorianne Robbi, Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee, East Amwell Township, Hunterdon County; and Bill Merkler, Down to Earth Farm, LLC, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County.

### **Minutes**

#### A. SADC Regular Meeting of July 23, 2015 (Open and Closed Sessions)

It was moved by Mr. Siegel and seconded by Mr. Schilling to approve the Open Session and Closed Session minutes of the SADC regular meeting of July 23, 2015. The motion was approved. (Mr. Johnson abstained from the vote.)

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Secretary Fisher noted that the SADC had a record year in farmland preservation in terms of acreage preserved – 7,500 acres, which is close to the target goal of 8,000 acres.

He stated that fruits and vegetables in New Jersey are having a banner year but other sectors are having difficulty because grain prices are low.

### **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Payne stated that it had been a good year for farmland preservation, thanks to the efforts of partners and staff. There were 95 closings, and our goal is still to close 100 farms per year. She stated that while the SADC will re-examine its goals in the future once it knows how much funding farmland preservation will be allocated, for now the 8,000-acre and 100-farm goals remain the same since we are still spending down 2007 and 2009 bond funds. She stated that in terms of acreage preserved during FY15, the

