

STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Department of Agriculture
Market and Warren Streets
1st Floor Auditorium
Trenton, NJ 08625

REGULAR MEETING

November 12, 2015

Chairman Fisher called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Ms. Payne 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
Brian Schilling (rep. Executive Dean Goodman)
Pamela Weintraub (rep. DCA Commissioner Richman)
Cecile Murphy (rep. DEP Commissioner Martin)
Ralph Siegel (rep. Acting State Treasurer Scudder)
Alan Danser, Vice Chairman
Denis C. Germano, Esq.
Peter Johnson
James Waltman
Jane Brodhecker

Members Absent

None

Susan E. Payne, Executive Director
John Doyle, Deputy Attorney General

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

Patricia Riccitello, SADC staff; Michael Collins, Esq., Governor's Authorities Unit; Daniel Pace, Mercer County Agriculture Development Board; Brian Wilson, Burlington County Agriculture Development Board; Tom Beaver, New Jersey Farm Bureau; and Donna Rue, Rue Brothers Farm, Warren County.

Minutes

- A. SADC Regular Meeting of September 24, 2015 (Open and Closed Sessions)

It was moved by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Danser to approve the Open Session and Closed Session minutes of the SADC regular meeting of September 24, 2015. The motion was approved. (Mr. Germano, Mr. Schilling and Ms. Weintraub abstained from the vote.)

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

- Allocation of Corporation Business Tax (CBT) Funds for Farmland Preservation, Historic Preservation and Open Space

Chairman Fisher stated that now that the elections are over and the Legislature is back in session, discussions regarding allocations for CBT funds for farmland preservation, historic preservation and open space are expected to continue.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Payne made the following comments:

- American Farmland Trust 2015 Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easements Report

The American Farmland Trust issued its 2015 Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) survey, comparing the 28 states with state-level farmland preservation programs. It is a great report and staff will make it available via the SADC's website. New Jersey is ranked third in the nation in the number of farms eased as of January 2015 with 2,300-plus easements, fourth in acres preserved at more than 212,000 at the time of the report, and first in terms of public investment in farmland preservation. These are impressive statistics for a small state.

