

**STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (SADC)
REGULAR MEETING**

**REMOTE MEETING DUE TO CORONAVIRUS
EMERGENCY**

March 25, 2021

Chairman Fisher called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Ms. Payne read the notice stating that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.

Ms. Payne advised that anyone wishing to make a public comment at this meeting should email their comments to SADC@AG.NJ.GOV. All public comments will be read during the public comment portions of the meeting.

Roll call indicated the following:

Members Present

Chairman Fisher
Martin Bullock
Scott Ellis
Denis Germano
Pete Johnson
Roger Kumpel
James Waltman
Gina Fischetti
Cecile Murphy
Brian Schilling
Ralph Siegel

Members Absent

Richard Norz

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

Minutes

A. SADC Regular Meeting of February 25, 2021 (Open Session)

Mr. Siegel moved to approve the Open Session minutes of the SADC regular meeting of February 25, 2021 with an amendment to the minutes to reflect the discussion that occurred at the last meeting concerning the 6-acre provision of the Soil Protection Standards (SPS). Mr. Siegel stated that he made a lengthy statement that was followed by discussion involving Mr. Waltman and Mr. Schilling and he would like it added to the minutes so it is reflected in the records of the SADC. Ms. Payne asked Mr. Siegel if there was a particular amendment that he would like included. Mr. Siegel stated that he made a statement that the 6-acre rule was unacceptable and there was discussion following his statement which was not included in the minutes.

Mr. Waltman stated that his proposed amendments address, in part, Mr. Siegel's concerns. Ms. Payne stated that Mr. Waltman sent recommended edits to the Open Session minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting. Ms. Uttal read the proposed amendment which stated, "Mr. Waltman referred to the letter he wrote to Secretary Fisher on February 19 that was distributed to the committee. He pointed out that the proposed standards would allow as much as 60% of a 10-acre preserved farm and 30% of a 20-acre preserved farm to be damaged by cut and fill activities. He reminded the committee that Quaker Valley Farms was found to be in violation of its Deed of Easement for cut and fill activities that impacted 16.7% of that farm's land. Mr. Waltman pointed out that the proposed standards would allow as much as 60% of a 10-acre preserved farm, 30% of a 20-acre preserved farm and 20% of a 30-acre preserved farm to be covered with buildings and pavement and that such farms can be covered by an additional 5% of gravel for parking and travel lanes under the proposal. He stated that he is aware of a number of towns that have limited lot coverage in their rural and agricultural zones to a much lower percentage."

Chairman Fisher stated that, generally speaking, the minutes are known to reflect the discussions at the meetings unless it was just general conversation. Mr. Waltman stated that he was not allowed to get a vote on an amendment that Chairman Fisher requested at the previous meeting and he is troubled with the process that took place at the last meeting. He noted that at the very least the minutes of last month's meeting should reflect the core of the debate which is whether it's appropriate to allow up to 60% of a smaller preserved farm to be impacted by cut and fill activities and/or covered with pavement and buildings and it was not mentioned in the minutes.

Ms. Payne stated that Mr. Waltman's proposed amendments are accurate and she asked Mr. Siegel if Mr. Waltman's proposed amendments to the minutes satisfies his request for changes as well. Mr. Siegel stated that he would like it mentioned that he also made a statement objecting to the 6-acre minimum and otherwise felt that Mr. Waltman's proposed amendment would be a satisfactory amendment to the minutes. Ms. Payne stated that a motion can be made to approve the minutes with amendments as submitted by Mr. Waltman with the addition of making reference to Mr. Siegel's agreement on that same point.

It was moved by Mr. Siegel and seconded by Mr. Germano to approve the Open Session minutes of the SADC regular meeting of February 25, 2021 with amendments as submitted by Mr. Waltman with the addition of making reference to Mr. Siegel's agreement on that same point. Cecile Murphy abstained from the vote. The motion was approved by the remaining members.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fisher stated that the committee has many sizeable initiatives that it is working on for current and future farms and farmers which involve Special Occasion Events (SOEs), Soil Protection Standards (SPSs), and solar. Chairman Fisher shared a video with the committee that was produced by Michelle Infante-Casella, Agricultural Agent and Professor at Rutgers University. The video is dedicated to New Jersey Farmers for their outstanding contributions and shows many interesting farm operations, some of which include the farmer committee members. He noted that the video is a reminder of the breadth and depth of farming in NJ. Mr. Schilling thanked Chairman Fisher for showing this video to the committee. He noted that Ms. Casella did a wonderful job on the video and it makes him proud to be a part of the agricultural industry. Ms. Payne stated that she spent 16 years in Burlington County and what she enjoyed most was meeting the farmers and their families. She noted that this video is a reminder of the people that keep agriculture viable in the state. Mr. Ellis stated that he knows Ms. Casella and that she is very good at what she does.

Chairman Fisher stated that Somerset County celebrated National Agriculture Day on March 19, 2021 and developed a new online tool for locating farm markets. There are 110 farms enrolled in the preservation program of Somerset County with 8,200 acres in total. The SADC currently has 10 active applications from Somerset: 2 nonprofit, 2 county and 6 municipal applications. Ms. Payne stated that this online tool is characterized as a story board which is aimed at the general public to help them understand the history of agriculture in Somerset. She noted that it's a very effective way to break down comprehensive issues for the public. Chairman Fisher stated that this is a great reminder for everyone as to how extraordinary this is and of the work done to keep it that way.

Report of the Executive Director

Ms. Payne announced that Ms. Rachel DeFlumeri joined the staff as a regional coordinator on the Acquisition team and that she is excited to have her on board. Ms. Payne stated that Ms. Gillian Armstrong, resource specialist of Stewardship and Agriculture development, has accepted a position with Danon yogurt as a liason between dairy farmers and the Danon company. Ms. Payne stated that Ms. Armstrong will be very successful in her new position and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

Ms. Payne stated that staff has been very busy working with SOEs. She noted that there were two competing bills involving SOE issues. The first bill was S2714, the senate version sponsored by Senator Sarlo, which went all the way through the senate and achieved a floor vote. The assembly took up that bill and approved amendments to it. That bill number with amendments is A5478, which makes substantial changes to the senate bill. That alternate bill

was released by the assembly appropriations committee and is scheduled for a floor vote in the assembly tomorrow.

She explained that if that passes in the assembly then it would have to go back to the senate for a concurrent vote to consolidate the bills. The original senate bill was much closer to what the SADC had recommended in its report to the legislature, so it is a bit concerning to see the assembly bill head in this direction. One difference between the bills is that the assembly bill does not require county or grantee approval of events being held unless there are over 250 people. It would allow up to 30 events a year for those making under \$100,000 in agricultural income and allow for 52 events for those farms making \$100,000 or more in agricultural income. Chairman Fisher added that one event can last up to 3 days. Ms. Payne stated the fact that the vast majority of those events can be held without seeing approval from the holder of the easement is of concern. Secondly, it has, in her thinking, relatively meaningless enforcement provisions financially and administratively.

Ms. Payne stated that this issue is coming to a head and a resolution will be in place soon; once a law is passed and signed, staff will be spending a lot more time on this. Mr. Johnson stated that the number of events seem to be in line with the number the SADC suggested. Ms. Payne stated the SADC suggested 15 events per year for farms making less than \$100,000 annually and 26 events per years for farms making more than \$100,000 annually, so these new numbers are double what the SADC suggested.

Chairman Fisher reported that Rutgers University recently held a solar voltaic meeting that he and Mr. Schilling attended. The meeting discussed various solar arrays and conditions that are possible with dual use solar voltaic. Chairman Fisher stated that he appreciates the work that Rutgers is doing with solar. Mr. Schilling stated that Rutgers University has a committee of people from engineering and agriculture who put the event together. Rutgers collaborated with colleagues from Massachusetts that have a more established program from which to learn. Mr. Schilling noted that there are many different technologies and Rutgers' goal is to have demonstrations on their own farms to learn about what technologies are best and to understand the economics involved.

Ms. Payne stated that the Right to Farm Act (RTFA) was recently amended to extend RTF protection eligibility to agricultural labor housing for year-round, full time equine laborers. The question that emerged was whether CADBs could entertain complaints or site-specific agricultural management practice (SSAMP) requests related to equine ag labor housing prior to the SADC adopting rules. The issue was referred to the attorney general's office and the SADC received advice. The contents of the advice cannot be discussed in the Open Session portion of the meeting, but all committee members have a copy of the advice.

Staff believes that its possible for CADBs to entertain these requests or complaints because the enabling law was very detailed in terms of the definitions of who qualifies and exactly what kind of ag labor housing can receive protection. Also, the RTFA allows CADBs to issue SSAMPs for agricultural activities for which the SADC has not yet promulgated rules. Staff will be sending out information to the CADBs to bring them up to speed on these amendments and to help them acclimate to the new provisions of the law.

Mr. Johnson asked if the DOE subcommittee was going to address the topic of solar energy again and attempt to marry revised solar standards with the soil protection standards as there is 110% electrical usage restriction on solar generation on preserved farms currently. Ms. Payne stated that the 110% or 1% of the premises, whichever is greater, allowance is a statutory provision. None of the bills that were introduced disturb that current limit on preserved farms, therefore, that's not within the SADCs power to change because it is a statutory provision. Ms. Payne noted that a lot of the work has been done in terms of the techniques to install solar, so the SADC can revisit standards based on what the law says.

Communications

Ms. Payne stated that the committee was given three letters, two from Hunterdon County and one from Cumberland County. The first letter from Hunterdon county asks SADC to reconsider its prior decision to require a preclosing agreement with the DuBrow Farm regarding the extent of soil disturbance that already exists on the property. Staff visited this in detail with the Committee at an earlier meeting and this property is close to what the proposed soil disturbance limits will allow. In order not to mislead the landowner, SADC recommended the landowner acknowledge that he is aware of these standards and that the SADCs rules will apply to his farm. The committee had a lengthy discussion about that and by motion it was decided to require an agreement containing this acknowledgment. Ms. Payne stated Hunterdon county wants SADC to reconsider this and staff does not recommend that it be revisited because the purpose of the agreement is to maintain clarity on both sides.

The second letter from Hunterdon County is a comment on soil protection standards. Hunterdon County's position is that the soil protection standard rules should not apply to farms that have already been preserved. The letter from the Cumberland CADB reminds the SADC to pay careful attention to the nursing industry in Cumberland county and indicates it is concerned about the impact of the rules on that industry. Ms. Payne stated that both Hunterdon and Cumberland are kind to point out that staff has been thoughtful and all processes have been accessible. She stated that she appreciates their professional comments.

Ms. Payne stated that there are many articles in the communications about PennEast. She explained that the Biden administration has weighed in on the PennEast lawsuit which is pending before the supreme court and has indicated its support of PennEast's position that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approvals give PennEast their right to condemn state owned land. Ms. Payne stated that this was a bit of a disappointment to the environmental community and that the case will be heard by the supreme court relatively soon.

Public Comment

Ms. Winzinger stated that Jean Grasio sent an email with comments regarding the Soil Protection Standards the previous evening. She noted that the full email containing the comments will be sent out to the committee for review.

Old Business

A. Review of Activities on a Preserved Farm - Princeton Show Jumping – Montgomery Township, Somerset County

Note: Mr. Schilling stated that he is recused from this matter because Rutgers Cooperative Extension faculty are involved.

Mr. Roohr stated that in 2013 the SADC approved 9 shows and 42 show days for Princeton Show Jumping (PSJ) contingent on several agricultural requirements being met. Some of those requirements were not met, so since 2017 staff has been working with the owner to bring the property back into compliance with certain deed of easement (DOE) provisions as well as various resolutions that the committee has approved.

Most recently, at its January 2020 meeting, the committee agreed to allow the original 9 shows and 42 show days for the 2020 season, but found that the owner would need to address compliance issues that were identified by staff at that time. Those compliance issues included compliance with state and storm water standards, impervious cover limits through the DOE, and restoration of the original tent pad area along Burnt Hill Road.

Since the 2020 meeting, there has been a fair amount of progress. In relation to storm water, the owner has installed four different storm water basins on separate locations on the property which are nearly complete and the bulk of the remaining work consists of final grading and planting grass seed to stabilize the site. In its conditional letter of completion, the soil conservation district, which oversees the development of those basins, has agreed to May 31st as the final date of completion and the district is in possession of a substantial bond to ensure that the work is completed to satisfaction by that time.

Mr. Roohr stated that in regard to impervious surface calculations, the DOE on this property has a 5% impervious cover limit and the farm is very close to that limit at this time. Mr. Roohr explained that there was concern as to whether PSJ was over that limit or not depending on an analysis of the existing tent pad sites. In order to resolve that issue, staff contracted with former Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) state soil scientist Dr. Richard Shaw to dig test pits and perform this analysis.

Dr. Shaw's report concluded that the material that was added to the tent pad sites was indistinguishable from the native soil that was there, which is consistent with what the owner said he did when he moved soil from one location to another. Dr. Shaw also found that the compaction on these pad sites is within a few inches and is not caused by the material on it, but by horses walking on the pads.

The only remaining discrepancy with the impervious cover calculation that the owner's engineer provided. Staff believes that there are a couple additional smaller items that should be added to that calculation.

With regard to restoration of the original tent pad area, the owner had a couple of ideas as to how the area could be rehabilitated, but staff believes that the most appropriate approach is to have that 4 to 5 acre area evaluated by a professional soil scientist to find out what the

existing conditions are and use those current conditions as a base line for developing a restoration plan to get the soil back to a condition where it could produce similar crop yields to that before disturbance. In order to facilitate that, staff recently went under contract with Dr. Shaw to perform this analysis and develop the plan. That work will be done over the next six weeks with the plan expected in early May.

Mr. Roohr stated that PSJ representatives are here today to request shows for their 2021 season. Staff has been working with PSJ to develop the terms that would ensure that the work that needs to be done will get done, and that PSJ will be able to begin their 2021 season.

Mr. Roohr stated that staff prepared a letter of agreement for PSJ, which was recently signed and returned to staff. The first requirement of the agreement states that the completion of the storm water basins must be done by May 31st, with a condition that failure to meet that deadline would result in cancelling the shows after that date.

The second requirement is that PSJ's engineer walk the site with SADC staff and add any remaining impervious surfaces to the survey that they prepared with the condition that the work be done prior to the first show of the season.

The third requirement states that PSJ will perform annual maintenance on the current tent pads based on recommendations from the SADC soils expert.

The fourth requirement is that PSJ agrees to implement the rehabilitation plan for the former tent pad site that Dr. Shaw is preparing, which will be developed over the next 6 weeks.

The fifth requirement states that the implementation of the plan that Dr. Shaw is developing will occur as soon as it's approved by the SADC and under the conditions set forth in the plan.

Lastly, once staff is able to understand the complexity of the plan, it will work with PSJ to develop benchmarks for phases of completion. Failure to meet those benchmarks would result in the SADC rescinding its approval to host shows beyond those dates. Mr. Roohr believes the terms of the agreement would ensure deed compliance for this project and since PSJ has signed the agreement, staff is willing to recommend that PSJ get the 9 shows and 42 show days that were originally approved.

Ms. Payne stated that staff has been dealing with this for a number of years now and she is aware of the committee's frustration with the status of compliance. Ms. Payne stated that staff had a candid conversation with the landowner's representative and said that there is no way staff would recommend approval of 2021 shows without having demonstrated substantial compliance. If the landowner and SADC staff can be on the same page with regard to what the soil expert recommends, that may be enough to rely on for the committee to approve PSJ's request for shows. Ms. Payne noted that everyone is aware of the role that this property plays in the equine community and the agricultural industry and that we want to make sure the deed of easement is complied with. Ms. Payne thanked Mr. Roohr for his diligent work in getting this done in time for the 2021 show season to begin and noted that staff is looking for committee approval.

Mr. Germano asked who is paying the fees for Dr. Shaw. Ms. Payne stated that the SADC is paying for Dr. Shaw and noted that the landowner's attorney suggested PSJ could pay the fees for the expert. Ms. Payne stated that due to time constraints and insufficient time to consult with counsel, the SADC opted to pay the fees. Chairman Fisher asked if the agency is requiring this, wouldn't they be the ones responsible to pay for the services. Mr. Germano suggested that if it will be more trouble than it's worth, staff should not worry about it; however, the applicant should be reimbursing the SADC since they are seeking approval.

Mr. Sposaro, representative for PSJ, stated that the rehabilitation of the former tent pad location is the only substantive issue that is left. The storm water improvements are complete; all that remains is work that could not be done because of the time of the year and weather conditions. As far as impervious cover goes, there was concern about the 5% limitation and if the current tent pad areas were included, they would have been over 5%.

Mr. Sposaro stated that Dr. Shaw confirmed that those areas are not impervious and even if additional small areas noted by staff were added that may be impervious, those areas would not put PSJ over the 5% impervious cover limitation.

In regard to the former temporary tent pad areas, PSJ took a leap of faith and agreed to abide by the decision on what restoration will be required not knowing what that decision will be. Mr. Sposaro stated that they proposed to place money in an escrow account to defray Dr. Shaw's expenses and PSJ is ready, willing and able to help where needed if the Attorney General's office feels that it is legal and proper to do so.

Mr. Sposaro stated that PSJ was shut down at the end of 2020, which cost them dearly, but the committee sent out a very clear message that PSJ is aware of and they recognize the need for compliance. Mr. Sposaro thanked Mr. Roohr and Ms. Payne for their help and for being accessible in bringing this to closure. He apologized to the committee for the ongoing issues and assured the committee that PSJ is trying to get back on the right path.

Mr. Waltman stated that he appreciates all the work that staff has put into this matter. He commented that Montgomery Township has taken a very active role in this case and has been represented at some SADC meetings and asked if the township has been in communication with the SADC further on this matter. Mr. Roohr stated that he spoke with the township and let them know that this was an agenda item for today and what the proposed SADC conditions of approving shows for this year would be.

Mr. Todaro, attorney for Montgomery Township, stated that he couldn't take a position prior to today's meeting because he did not know the status of the requirements and the compliance efforts, what was being approved and what was being asked for. The issue with PSJ has taken place since 2013 and the only reason there has been compliance is because the shows stopped.

Mr. Todaro explained that the state and the township want to support the agricultural farming activities of PSJ, but the problem is that the township does not have a complete description of what is allowed and what is not. Mr. Todaro stated that the township is getting requests for permits from PSJ, but does not know what the SADC approved. He

suggested that there needs to be some parameters made to re-instate the shows and that compliance needs to happen in order for shows to take place so the same problems won't occur. He explained that the owner is already advertising more than 9 events and 42 show dates, which leaves the township in an awkward situation as to whether they approve more than the allotted show days.

Chairman Fisher stated that these approvals are for the original 9 shows and if PSJ wants more shows they have to come back before the SADC at another time. He noted that PSJ signed an agreement that they must abide by and all relief has to come from the SADC if they want additional show dates.

Mr. Todaro stated that the township has to answer to its residents so parameters need to be put in place as to the number of tents allowed. Ms. Payne asked Mr. Sposaro if PSJ can agree that the tents not be erected outside of the allotted temporary horse tent pad area for the 2021 season. Mr. Sposaro said yes, PSJ will limit itself to that allotted area that is identified as the current tent pad location. Ms. Payne asked Mr. Sposaro to verify that the original tent pad location that is along Burnt Hill Road will be used only for remediation based on Dr. Shaw's recommendation. Mr. Sposaro indicated that was correct.

It was moved by Mr. Kumpel and seconded by Mr. Germano to approve the staff recommendation that for the 2021 show season, PSJ be allowed the original number of 9 shows and 42 show days provided that they comply with all of the SADC requirements outlined in the agreement. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Waltman voted against the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Fisher noted that he is happy for the equine industry and that PSJ is almost and expected to come into compliance so that they can continue to have these 9 shows now and in the future. He also suggested that this approval does not indicate that PSJ has approval to have additional shows. He warned PSJ that if they are advertising additional shows, that will put them on thin ice because that means that they expect to get the additional shows, but we don't know what this committee will do. Chairman Fisher stated that their business is top notch, but the deed of easement needs to be adhered to. He noted that he supports the equine industry and its success, but PSJ needs to remain in compliance so that they can keep their shows.

Mr. Siegel stated that representatives for PSJ and the township both characterized the phrase, to which he objects, that the SADC "shut them down". Mr. Siegel stated that the SADC was subject to a flood of letters making that allegation, but the fact is that PSJ executed the shows that the SADC approved. The fact that they advertised additional shows and did not receive approval for those additional shows is not the same as saying they were shut down and that needs to be reflected in the record.

Ms. Payne asked for clarification as to whether the applicant is to pay for Mr. Shaw's services and wanted to know if that was a part of the motion. Chairman Fisher stated that this is not a part of the motion. Mr. Sposaro stated that if the Office of the Attorney General approves of PSJ paying those expenses, they will do so. Ms. Murphy stated that she is impressed with staff as they did a great job negotiating these terms and coming to an agreement that most of the committee can agree with.

New Business

A. Resolutions: Final Approval – County PIG Program

NOTE: Mr, Ellis left the meeting.

Ms. Miller referred the committee to two requests for final approval under the County PIG Program. She reviewed the specifics of the requests with the committee and stated that staff recommendation is to grant final approval.

It was moved by Mr. Siegel and seconded by Ms. Waltman to approve Resolution FY2021R3(1), granting approval to the following application under the County PIG Program, as presented, subject to any conditions of said resolution.

1. 7 Old Orchard Road, LLC., SADC ID 21-0619-PG, Resolution FY2021R3(1), Block 1201, Lot 1, Hardwick Township, Warren County, 76.3 acres.

The motion was approved. A copy of Resolution FY2021R3(1) is attached to and a part of these minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Kumpel and seconded by Mr. Germano to approve Resolution FY2021R3(2), granting amended approval to the following application under the County PIG Program, as presented, subject to any conditions of said resolution.

2. Thomas & Michelle Grochowicz (AMENDED), SADC ID 10-0414-PG, Resolution FY2021R3(2), Block 11, Lots 1, 2 & 2.2, Hampton Borough, and Block 1, Lot 1.01, Glen Gardner Borough and Block 46, Lot 2, Bethlehem Township, Hunterdon County, 78.684 acres.

The motion was approved. A copy of Resolution FY2021R3(2) is attached to and a part of these minutes.

B. Resolutions: Final Approval – Municipal PIG Program

Ms. Miller referred the committee to two requests for final approval under the Municipal PIG Program. She reviewed the specifics of the requests with the committee and stated that staff recommendation is to grant final approval.

Mr. Waltman commented that under the proposed soil standards approximately 26% of this farm can be covered in pavement, buildings and gravel.

It was moved by Mr. Bullock and seconded by Mr. Kumpel to approve Resolution FY2021R3(3), granting approval to the following application under the Municipal PIG Program, as presented, subject to any conditions of said resolution.

1. JWP Properties, LLC., SADC ID #17-0219-PG, Resolution FY2021R3(3), Block 2003, Lots 17, Pittsgrove Township, Salem County, 29.2 acres.

Mr. Siegel abstained from the vote. Mr. Waltman voted against the motion. The remaining members voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved. A copy of Resolution FY2021R3(3) is attached to and a part of these minutes.

Chairman Fisher asked Mr. Waltman if he was voting against the request because he does not approve the project. Mr. Waltman said it is a great project, and visibly looks like a beautiful farm, but his vote against it is out of concern for the soil protection standards. Chairman Fisher stated that he wanted to be sure that these requests are being voted on based on the merits of what is being presented, and not a statement on what committee members think about something that is being proposed that might affect preserved farmland across the state.

Chairman Fisher stated that if landowners want to get a project done, it's not fair to them to be turned down because of a particular thought or philosophy. Mr. Waltman stated that it was clear to him that the proposal was going to pass today and that his vote was not going to affect the outcome.

Mr. Siegel stated that he abstained from the vote because he made a recommendation to the treasurer that until the soil protection policy of allowing 6 acres of disturbance on certain farms is withdrawn, farms should not be preserved that are subject to the 6-acre limitation rule. Mr. Siegel stated that he has not yet heard back from the treasurer on his recommendation, so pending that recommendation he will abstain from the vote where the 6-acre issue is in consideration.

Chairman Fisher stated that farmers are applying based on certain conditions that are in place, and not based on what is to come in the future. He encouraged the committee to think about what's happening now, as opposed to what may be decided on in the future. Mr. Siegel said that the proposed rules have been publicly discussed and the question now from a taxpayer's point of view is whether a farm of this size is worth preserving.

It was moved by Mr. Germano and seconded by Mr. Bullock to approve Resolution FY2021R3(4), granting approval to the following application under the Municipal PIG Program, as presented, subject to any conditions of said resolution.

2. George and Lorraine Gugel, SADC ID #21-0493-PG, Resolution FY2021R3(4), Block 800, Lot 1100, Hope Township, Warren County, 48.5 acres.

Mr. Siegel abstained from the vote. The remaining members voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved. A copy of Resolution FY2021R3(4) is attached to and a part of these minutes.

C. Resolutions: Final Approval – Direct Easement Purchase Program

Ms. Miller referred the committee to one request for final approval under the Direct Easement Purchase Program. She reviewed the specifics of the request with the committee and stated that staff recommendation is to grant final approval.

It was moved by Mr. Kumpel and seconded by Mr. Germano to approve Resolution FY2021R3(5), granting approval to the following application under the Direct Easement Purchase Program, as presented, subject to any conditions of said resolution.

1. Risk It All Farm, LLC., Resolution FY2021R3(5), Block 56, Lots 1, 2 & 5, Mannington Township, Salem County; Block 15, Lot 1 & 2, Quinton Township, Salem County; Block 2, Lot 1 & 5, Alloway Township, Salem County, 202.4 net easement acres.

The motion was approved. A copy of Resolution FY2021R3(5) is attached to and a part of these minutes.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

SADC Regular Meeting: 9 A.M., Thursday April 22, 2021 Location: TBA

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan E. Payne, Executive Director
State Agriculture Development Committee