

PINELANDS DEVELOPMENT CREDIT BANK BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1996

The meeting was called to order by John Traier, Chair, who then read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement.

The roll was called by Executive Director John Ross. Present at the meeting were:

Members

John Traier, Acting Commissioner of Banking  
John Tarditi Jr., Vice Chairman, Public Member  
George Rover, for Attorney General Deborah Poritz  
James F. Hall, for Honorable Robert C. Shinn, Jr.  
Pete Anderson, for Honorable Arthur R. Brown, Jr.  
Richard Chinery, Public Member

Other Officials

John T. Ross, Executive Director, PDCB  
Richard Osborn, Program Consultant, PDCB  
John M. Van Dalen, Deputy Attorney General, PDCB

Members Absent

Richard J. Sullivan, Chairman, NJ Pinelands Commission  
Vacant, Public Member  
Vacant, Public Member

The minutes of the meeting of February 15, 1996 were approved as read.

Mr. Ross reported on the Pinelands Commission Regulations that involve the Pinelands Development Credit Bank. He stated new rules have been passed which do not require State owned conservation lands to obtain a PDC when projects were being completed based on a Pinelands Waiver. Mr. Ross stated that the Pinelands Commission was working on a change to their regulations that would allow the same consideration for site remediation similar to the Big Hill Landfill request of the last meeting. He also mentioned that even with these changes, the Pinelands Development Credit Bank Act and Rules allow Pinelands Development Credits to be transferred at no cost if the project serves a compelling public purpose.

In addition, Mr. Ross stated that he will be meeting with the Pinelands Commission's Executive Staff on a monthly basis to help coordination of issues that involve both the Bank and the Pinelands Commission.

Mr. Ross informed the Board that Pinelands Cranberry Growers are working with the DEP to obtain a general permit to expand their cranberry bogs. As part of the permit, there is a proposal to mitigate wetlands destruction through the use of PDCs. There is also some interest in the Bank becoming involved in the process. A grower who expands into certain wetlands would submit a required number of PDCs to the Bank for purchase, the Bank would transfer the proceeds to an agency who would then use the funds to create new wetlands at another site in the Pinelands.

Mr. Ross stated that if the Bank becomes involved in the process, a total of approximately 120 rights may be submitted for purchase over a five (5) year period. The total purchase price would equate to \$378,000. He advised the Board that expending \$378,000 shouldn't impair the Bank's operation if it retains its current funding balance.

Mr. Rover stated that the Cranberry industry is native to the Pinelands and, as such, it appears to be appropriate for the Bank to be involved. This is not a commercial project like a shopping mall.

Mr. Hall asked about the amount of acreage involved. Mr. Ross stated he thought it was about 300 acres total with a small portion of that being White Cedar.

The Board had a general consensus that it would be appropriate for the Bank to participate in the implementation of the Cranberry Growers expansion permit.

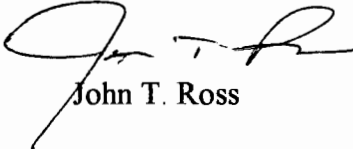
Mr. Ross then mentioned the time frame for this program which appears to be about five (5) years, and that it would probably not get started until 1997. The Bank's ability to purchase credits expires in December 1997 and the Bank Act expires in the year 2,000. In order to work with the Growers, both would have to be extended.

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Department of Banking would explore getting both extensions to the year 2002.

There were no comments from the Public. The next meeting will be October 10, 1996.

John Tarditi moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rover seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Ross". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

John T. Ross