

**SUSSEX COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Board of Supervisors Meeting

March 27, 2013- 2:00 PM

District Office- 186 Halsey Road, Newton (Hampton Township)

---

**NEXT MEETING:** April 24, 2013 – 7:30 p.m. District Office

---

**SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Barbara Rosko, Walter Ricker, Fred Hough, James Kilduff (late) and Philip Deacon (late).

---

**SUPERVISORS ABSENT:** None

---

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Clifford R. Lundin-District Manager, Dan Mull- Regional Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Sylvia Kovacs- Warren SCD, Ann Ricker.

---

Chairman Rosko called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. declaring that adequate notice had been provided in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meetings Act. The members joined in in a salute to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** A call of the roll confirmed that a quorum was present. Mr. Deacon arrived at 2:05 p.m. Mr. Kilduff arrived at 2:09 p.m.

**MINUTES:**

On motion of Mr. Ricker, seconded by Mrs. Rosko and properly carried, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of January 23, 2013. Mr. Hough abstained since he was not in attendance at the meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

On motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the attached correspondence list was reviewed and approved for the files. Special attention was given to the highlighted items.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

**Monthly Report:** On motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Deacon and properly carried, the Treasurer’s Report was approved, subject to audit, by roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Deacon-yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes. The Treasurer’s Report included the following: Income Statement for the Nine Month Period ending March 31, 2013, Cash Disbursements-Check Register from January 23, 2013 through March 27, 2013, Cash Receipts Journal from January 23, 2013 through March 27, 2013, Cash Account Balance Report as of March 27, 2013, Consulting Engineer-Cash Disbursements Journal from July 1, 2012 through March 27, 2013, General Ledger Trial Balance as of March 27, 2013 and Balance Sheet dated March 31, 2013.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Chapter 251:**

Monthly Report: On motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Deacon and properly carried, the attached 251 Project Card Summary Sheet dated March 27, 2013, the Project Status Report dated March 27, 2013 and the Performance Bonds Remaining Report as of March 31, 2013 were approved. The motion included authorization for the chairman to certify the plans listed under the report heading: "Projects Certified 1/23/2013 to 3/27/2013."

Exempt Municipality Annual Reports: Mr. Lundin reported on his audit of the Andover Township and Green Township soil erosion and sediment control programs. The audit included visits to all active sites, random checks of construction sites and meetings with Township officials. He recommended that both municipalities be rated as "satisfactory." He also indicated that the District administers the local ordinance for Fredon, Frankford and Vernon. He recommended that these also be rated as "satisfactory." On motion of Mr. Deacon, seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried, the Board concurred in Mr. Lundin's recommendation and authorized the submission of the reports to the State Soil Conservation Committee.

Problem sites: Mr. Lundin briefed the Board on the following sites:

- 1) West Essex Commercial Park, Hardyston, HY-273. This site has returned to compliance.
- 2) 284 Aggregates- WT-057M: The certification expired on December 5, 2012. The permittee has refused to recertify or extend his certification asserting that he is automatically extended at no cost under the Permit Extension Act. Mr. Lundin visited the site on March 25, 2013. The owner has agreed to retain a surveyor to outline the current area of disturbance.
- 3) Bahr- WT-131. This site was previously issued an ROC. The neighboring property owner has continued to make complaints to the SSCC. Mr. Lundin and Mr. Showler of the SSCC visited the site during a rain event on March 13, 2013. The site was fully stable at that time. Mr. Showler requested the owner submit an "as built" drawing. The drawing is under review at the SSCC.
- 4) Whispering Woods- VR-748. The owner has abandoned the site. The site is now owned by the lender. Major work remains to be done. The Township bond is insufficient to complete all work.

- 5) Glacial Soils VR-193M. Mr. Lundin participated in a meeting at the site with all interested parties and with NJDEP and the USF&WS on March 25, 2013. An agreement in principal was reached for the final stabilization of the site.

**Agriculture-NRCS:**

- 1) NRCS Report: Mr. Mull provided the Board with the attached report dated March 2013. There are currently 54 active Farm Bill contracts within Sussex County involving assistance valued at \$1,185,478.25 on 2,044.5 acres. Applications are being accepted through April 19 for the Working Lands for Wildlife program. Mr. Mull requested Board approval of 9 Conservation Plans for properties in Wantage, Hampton, Ogdensburg, Lafayette, Byram and Hardyston. The Board accepted the NRCS report on motion of Mr. Deacon, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried.
- 2) Cooperators: Since its last meeting, the District is in receipt of six applications for Conservation Assistance from the following:
  - a. Robert B. Smith for a 96 acre parcel in Wantage;
  - b. Jeff Beetle for a 98 acre parcel in Lafayette Township;
  - c. Lawrence Lombreglia for a 60 acre parcel in Hampton Township;
  - d. Lawrence Passarelli for a 48 acre parcel in Hampton;
  - e. Louis Weber for a 78 acre parcel in Andover Township;
  - f. Louis Weber for a 69 acre parcel in Hampton; and
  - g. Sarah Braunwell for a 34 acre parcel in Wantage.

The Board approved the applications on motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried.

- 3) Farmland of Local Importance: Mr. Mull and Mr. Lundin briefed the Board on an NRCS program wherein Districts can petition NRCS to designate certain soils or areas as Farmlands of Local Importance.

**SSCC Report:** Mr. Minch was unable to attend on behalf of the SSCC. In his absence, Mr. Lundin briefed the Board on the following matters:

- 1) Program reevaluation: The work of the subgroups continues.
- 2) Hurricane Sandy-Demolition Issues: The SSCC at its March 11, 2013 meeting reviewed a draft Administrative Order establishing a procedure to expedite SESC approvals for structures needing demolition as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Adoption is anticipated by the April SSCC meeting.

- 3) Renewal of SESC Standards: SSCC action on the proposed new SESC standards has been deferred to the April meeting. It appears that the proposed new soil health/soil restoration standards will not be adopted at this time and will be subject to additional review.
- 4) Animal Waste Management Statistics: The Board reviewed the attached data indicating that Sussex County is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the state in the number of Agricultural Waste Management applications.

**H&H Grant:** Mr. Lundin discussed a letter received from the John Showler of the SSCC reporting that the data system, maintained at Rutgers had experienced difficulties and all data has been lost. Mr. Lundin indicated that the lost data involved approximately 60 data sheets and in excess of 40 hours of district time. The Board, by consensus directed Mr. Lundin to communicate with the SSCC that the District should be reimbursed for its time and expenses in entering the data.

**Education:**

- 1) Sussex County 4H Public Presentations. Mr. Lundin reported that he had acted as a judge at the annual 4H presentations held on March 1, 2013.
- 2) Envirothon Training: Mr. Lundin reported that the District will host the Northern Jersey Envirothon Training Session on April 17, 2013 at Swartwood State Park. To date 4 teams are registered.
- 3) NJ Envirothon. Mr. Lundin indicated that the 2013 NJ Envirothon is scheduled for May 3 and 4 in Burlington County.
- 4) 2013 Conservation Poster Contest: The theme for the 2013 Poster contest was "Where Does Your Water Shed." A list of the winners of the Sussex County competition is attached. The state winners will be selected on April 1, 2013. Mr. Lundin will be attending the Sussex Wantage Board of Education meeting this evening to award the winners of the grades 6-9 category. He will arrange for award ceremonies at each of the other 5 participating schools.

**Meetings:**

- 1) Northern NJ Regional Supervisors Meeting: This annual meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2013 in Mountain Lakes. Mr. Lundin, Mrs. Rosko, Mr. Hough, Mr. Ricker and Mr. Deacon will attend.

Old Business-Meetings (continued)

- 2) 2013 NACD Annual Meeting: Mr. Lundin provided a brief report on the 2013 NACD Annual Meeting that was held from January 27, 2013 to January 30, 2013 in San Antonio, Texas.
- 3) 2013 NACD Northeast Regional Meeting. Mr. Lundin reported that the annual meeting will be held in Dover, Delaware from September 15-September 17, 2013.
- 4) 2014 NACD Annual Meeting: Mr. Lundin reported that the 2014 Annual NACD Meeting is scheduled for February 2-5, 2014 in Anaheim, California.
- 5) NACD Urban and Community Conservation Resource Policy Group. Mr. Lundin reported that he had been reappointed as the 2013 representative of the National Conservation District Employees Association (NCDEA) on this national policy group.

**Common Waters Initiative:** Common Waters has proposed to extend its Contract with the District for another year with additional reimbursement at our hourly rate up to \$4,500.00. On motion of Mr. Hough seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the chairman was authorized to execute the grant extension agreement.

**North Jersey RC&D:** Chairman Rosko, Mr. Lundin and Ms. Kovacs reported on the NJ RC&D meeting held on March 6, 2013. The RC&D office has been moved to a new location in Bedminster Township.

**NJ Transparency Law-Website Modifications:** Mr. Lundin reported that an SSCC subcommittee had reviewed the District's new website and found us to be in full compliance with the NJ Transparency Law and with the SSCC Administrative Guidance.

**Other Old Business:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2013 Supervisor Appointments:** Mr. Lundin reported that the terms of Mrs. Rosko and Mr. Ricker expire on June 30, 2013. Mrs. Rosko has indicated a desire to continue. Mr. Ricker has determined not to seek reappointment for personal reasons. On motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the Board directed Mr. Lundin to establish a Nominating Committee and to seek candidates for the seat. The Nominating Committee is to consist of Donna Traylor, Chair, Richard Vohden, Glenn Vetrano, Margaret McGarrity and Nathaniel Sadjak.

**NJACD Membership:** Mr. Lundin and Mrs. Rosko attended the Executive Board meeting of the NJACD on March 11, 2013. During that meeting they learned that the NJACD has eliminated the dedicated account for the Scholarship fund and had combined the \$50,000 scholarship fund into the general association treasury. They expressed great concern over this action. On motion of Mr. Deacon seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried the Board directed Mr. Lundin to communicate its concerns with the NJACD Board and if necessary to withdraw the District from membership in the association. The communication is also to be distributed to the other NJ Districts.

**NJACD Request for Envirothon funding:** The Board discussed the letter from NJACD President Hayes requesting funding for the 2014 Envirothon. The Board typically donates \$500.00 toward this project. The Board determined to take no action at this time.

**Purchase of District Vehicle:** Mr. Lundin reported that the District's 2002 Jeep Liberty is in need of significant repairs. The vehicle is unsafe to drive. The cost of the repairs exceeds the value of the vehicle. A vehicle is urgently needed for the inspection program. On motion of Mr. Deacon, seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried by roll call vote, the Board adopted the attached Resolution declaring an emergency and authorizing the direct purchase of a vehicle without competitive bidding. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Kilduff- yes, Mr. Deacon- yes and Chairman Rosko- yes.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Chairman Rosko opened the meeting to the public at 3:48 p.m. There being no one desiring to speak, the meeting was closed to the public at 3:49 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no need for an Executive session.

**ADJOURN:**

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. on motion of Mr. Deacon, seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried.

Respectfully submitted for Walter C. Ricker, Secretary

By Clifford R. Lundin, District Manager