

SUSSEX COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting

May 25, 2011

7:30 PM SCSCD Office – Conference Room

186 Halsey Road, Suite 2, Newton, NJ

NEXT MEETING: June 15, 2011–7:30 PM – SCSCD Office (Conference Room)

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Barbara Rosko, Fred Hough, Walter Ricker, Winifred Straub and James Kilduff.

SUPERVISORS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Clifford R. Lundin-District Manager, Dan Mull- USDA NRCS-District Conservationist

Chairman Rosko called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. declaring that adequate notice has been provided in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meetings Act. The members joined in a salute to the flag.

Mr. Lundin reported that the SSCC at its meeting of May 9, 2011, had reappointed Mrs. Straub to the Board for a three-year term to run from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014. The Oath of Office was administered to Mrs. Straub.

MINUTES:

On motion by Mrs. Straub, seconded by Mr. Kilduff and properly carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2011 were approved. Supervisor Hough abstained on the motion because he had been absent from the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

On motion by 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.

Mr. Lundin provided to the Board a copy of a facsimile and an e-mail that were dated May 25, 2011 directed to Chairman Rosko (incorrectly identified in the documents as Chairman Russo) from Thomas Caggiano. The communications demand an investigation of Supervisor Straub, Mr. Lundin, Mr. Haggerty and others. The communications were submitted in violation of the Order of former Judge Mulhern of the Hampton and Stillwater Municipal Court restraining him from direct communication with the District. Mr. Lundin was directed to refer the matter to Mr. Haggerty for review.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

On motion of Mr. Ricker, seconded by Mrs. Straub and properly carried, the Treasurer's Report was approved, subject to audit, by Roll Call vote as follows: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker – yes, Mrs. Straub- yes, Mr. Kilduff- yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes. The Treasurer's Report included the following: Income Statement for the Eleven Month Period ending May 31, 2011, Cash Disbursements-Check Register from April 27, 2011 to May 25,

2011, Cash Receipts Journal from April 27, 2011 to May 25, 2011, Cash Account Balance Report as of May 25, 2011, Consulting Engineer-Cash Disbursements Journal from July 1, 2010 to May 25, 2011, General Ledger Trial Balance as of May 25, 2011 and Balance Sheet dated May 31, 2011.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chapter 251:

Monthly Report. On motion of Mrs. Straub, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the attached 251 Project Card Summary Sheet dated May 24, 2011, the Project Status Reports dated May 25, 2011 and the Performance Bonds Reports dated May 25, 2011 were approved. Mr. Hough recused himself from taking any action on application no. FF-257, Renewable Energy Associates, due to the proximity of the project to his family farm property.

Problem sites: The Board also discussed the following SESC problem sites:

- 1) Eagles Nest. SP-125, SP-125B, SP-125C. Mr. Lundin reported that the site remains in non-compliance and remains subject to a Stop Work Order. The District is in receipt of supplemental engineering data, which is currently under engineering review. Mr. Lundin is attempting to schedule a meeting with the District consulting engineer and the SSCC engineer
- 2) Jobeless site- Hopatcong. The District is still awaiting action by the NJDA-SSCC.
- 3) Whispering Woods- VR-748, VR-748A, VR-748B. Mr. Lundin reported that there are several outstanding issues with the site. An inspection was conducted on May 5, 2011. Under the terms of the conditional recertification, the site must be in full compliance by June 30, 2011.
- 4) Grinnell Solar- SP-696. There has been a significant problem with mud tracking from the site. The site lacks wheel-cleaning aprons on five access points. An NOV has been issued and the applicant has been directed to clean the roadway on a daily basis and to install the aprons by no later than May 31.
- 5) Emerald Estates- HY-220. The site experienced a blow out of the silt fence on May 21, 2011. The applicant had been advised during two prior inspections to repair the fence and remove the accumulated sediment An NOV has been issued.

- 6) Ogdensburg Stream Cleaning. A joint inspection with NJDEP has been scheduled for June 3, 2011.

Agriculture-NRCS:

- a) NRCS report. Mr. Mull provided the attached report to the Board. The Board approved the report on motion of Mr. Ricker, seconded by Mr. Hough and properly carried. The motion included authorization for the Chairperson to sign three conservation plans involving properties in Newton, Frankford and Hampton. Mr. Mull reported that the applications are currently being sought under the EQIP, WHIP and AMA programs.
- b) Cooperators. On motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the Board approved a Conservation Agreement with Ted and Kim Grubermard for a 49-acre tract in Frankford.

SSCC Report: Mr. Minch was not in attendance. In his absence Mr. Lundin reported on the following items:

- a) Fertilizer Bill. No new action.
- b) Soil Restoration Bill. An interdepartmental Committee continues to meet to develop soil restoration standards. Under the legislation the new standards must be in place by February 2012.
- c) NJ Transparency Report. Legislation (S2765 and A3898) has been introduced in both houses of the NJ Legislature to require independent agencies, such as Districts, to meet certain transparency standards by publishing materials on their websites. The SSCC is expected to issue guidance to districts at its July 11, 2011 meeting. Once the guidelines are adopted, Mr. Lundin will contact several area website developers to obtain cost estimates for complying with the new requirements.
- d) Single Family Exemption. An additional committee meeting is anticipated in the near future.
- e) "Shadow Government" Legislation. Mr. Lundin reported that a new version of the Legislation has been introduced, that would appear to not apply to Districts.
- f) Confidentiality issue. Mr. Lundin reported that Mr. Minch and Mr. Pettit are continuing to reexamine the confidentiality issue under Farm Bill section 1619.

- g) 251 Trend Analysis. Mr. Lundin distributed a statewide analysis of 251 applications prepared by the SSCC. It appears that the number of applications is increasing (primarily in urban areas) and that the economic downturn is starting to improve. He pointed out however, that for the 1st quarter of calendar year 2011, the Sussex District had the least number of new applications of all 15 districts.
- h) Animal Waste Management Plan data. Mr. Lundin distributed a statewide table of Animal Waste Management plans submitted by district. To date 35 plans have been submitted from Sussex County producers. This represents about 10% of the applications statewide.
- i) Per Diem and Mileage payments. The Board, by consensus, directed Mr. Lundin to undertake a survey of the 14 other CDs in NJ to determine if any are paying supervisors the mileage and/or per diem payments that were eliminated as part of the state budget cuts.

Education:

- a) 2011 New Jersey Envirothon. Mrs. Rosko, Mrs. Straub and Mr. Lundin served as judges of the oral presentations for the 2011 NJ Envirothon competition on May 7, 2011. The statewide winner was the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science. The highest ranked Sussex County team was Kittatinny High School who was 10th in the competition.
- b) Sussex County Water Quality Management Committee. Mr. Lundin reported that he was the guest speaker at the Committee's May 12th meeting and that he provided an overview of the District activities. In the 35 years of the Ch 251 program, the District has administered approximately 5000 projects, involving 43,000 acres, conducted approximately 100,000 inspections and spent 173,000 staff hours in erosion control matters. This has prevented the deposition of approximately 2 million tons of sediment to Sussex County waters.
- c) Virginia State Soil Conservation Association meeting. Mr. Lundin reported that he was a guest speaker at the Va. State Association meeting on May 6. His talk on the need for a Community Conservation Act was presented via the internet so as to minimize costs.
- d) SC Birding and Nature Festival- June 11, 2011. The District has been invited to present the Soil Tunnel at the Festival to be held at the Sussex County Fairgrounds. On motion of Mr. Hough seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the District was authorized to participate.

- e) SC Farm and Horse Show/NJ State Fair- August 5- 14, 2011. On motion of Mr. Hough seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the District was authorized to participate via a display in the County Building.

Meetings:

- a) Interagency Cross Training. Mr. Lundin reported that he and Mr. Eckert had attended a cross training session on May 10, 2011 between SCD personnel, NRCS personnel and NJDEP at the Eco-Complex facility in Bordentown.
- b) Northeast Regional NACD Meeting. Mr. Lundin reported that the 2011 Northeast NACD meeting is scheduled for August 7 through August 9, 2011 in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Information is not yet available.

Clean Waters Initiative: Mr. Lundin reported that two applications had been submitted from Sussex County prior to the May 2, 2011 deadline for assistance. There were approximately 48 applications in the region. Both Sussex County applications will be funded. Mr. Lundin also reported that he had submitted a voucher to the Pinchot Institute for reimbursement for District activities for the period of Feb 15, 2011 through May 15, 2011 in the amount of \$2,063.78.

RC&D Funding: Mrs. Rosko reported that the RC&D Board has determined to continue to function despite the absence of NRCS support. The office will be relocating in the near future

Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) June meeting. On motion of Mr. Ricker, seconded by Mr. Kilduff, and properly carried, the Board determined to change the date of the June 2011 meeting to June 15, 2011.
- b) Salary/Budget Committee. Chairman Rosko and Mrs. Straub agree to serve as the 2011 Salary and Budget Committee. The committee will report to the full board by the June 15, 2011 meeting.

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PUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman Rosko opened the meeting to the public at 8:56 p.m. Having no one come forward, the meeting was closed to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Lundin indicated that there was no need for an executive session.

ADJOURN:

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. on motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried.

Respectfully submitted for Walter C. Ricker, Secretary

By Clifford R. Lundin