

SUSSEX COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting

December 14, 2012

2:00 PM

Irish Cottage Inn-Franklin, NJ

NEXT MEETING: January 23, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. District Office

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

SUPERVISORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Clifford R. Lundin-District Manager, Carrie Mosely-USDA-NRCS State Conservationist, Dan Mull- Regional Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Madeline (Mim) Dean, NRCS Program Assistant, Grace Messinger-Executive Director, North Jersey Resource Conservation & Development (NJRC&D), Thomas Ferry- District Auditor, Donna Traylor- Sussex County Farmland Preservation Coordinator, Open Space Coordinator and Chairperson-District Nominating Committee.

Chairman Rosko called the meeting to order at 2:17 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. A roll call determined a quorum to be present.

MINUTES:

On motion of Mr. Kilduff, seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 24, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE:

On motion of Mr. Kilduff, 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. Kilduff and properly carried, the Treasurer's Report was approved, subject to audit, by roll call vote as follows: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Kilduff-yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes. The Treasurer's Report included the following: Income Statement for the Six Month Period ending December 31, 2012, Cash Disbursements-Check Register from October 24, 2012 through December 14, 2012, Cash Receipts Journal from October 24, 2012 through December 14, 2012, Cash Account Balance Report as of December 14, 2012, Consulting Engineer-Cash Disbursements Journal from July 1, 2012 through December 14, 2012, General Ledger Trial Balance as of December 14, 2012 and Balance Sheet dated December 31, 2012.

Audit Report: Mr. Ferry of the firm of Ferraioli, Wiekotz, Cerullo and Cuva, P.A. provided an overview of the District's audit report for Fiscal Year 2012. After discussion,

the Board accepted and approved the audit report on motion of Mr. Hough, seconded by Mr. Kilduff, on the following roll call vote: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Kilduff-yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes.

OLD BUSINESS

Chapter 251:

Monthly Report: On motion of Mr. Kilduff, seconded by Mr. Hough and properly carried, the attached 251 Project Card Summary Sheet dated December 13, 2012, the Project Status Report dated December 14, 2012 and the Performance Bonds Report dated November 30, 2012 were approved. The motion included authorization for the chairman to certify the 4 plans listed under the report heading: "Projects Certified 10/24/2012 to 12/14/2012."

Problem sites: The Board deferred action until the January meeting.

Agriculture-NRCS:

- 1) NRCS Report: Mr. Mull introduced Ms. Carrie Mosely, the new NRCS State Conservationist. Mr. Mull provided the Board with the attached report dated December 2012. There are currently 51 active Farm Bill contracts within Sussex County involving assistance valued at \$1,280,786.42. Mr. Mull requested Board approval of the following: a) two Forest Stewardship/EQIP plans for properties in Fredon and Sandyston; b) three Farmland Preservation Conservation Plans for properties located within Hampton and Wantage Townships; c) A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for a property located in Wantage; and d) An Ag Waste Management Plan for a property located in Frankford. Mr. Mull reported on a Conservation Round Table to be presented in Morris County on December 20, 2012. He also reminded the Board of the December 21, 2012 deadline for the following three EQIP initiatives: Energy, Seasonal High Tunnel and Organic. Mr. Mull also reported that NRCS staff member Jim Wick is retiring effective December 31, 2012.
- 2) Cooperators: Since its last meeting, the District is in receipt of one application for Conservation Assistance. The application was submitted by Brett Singer of LJ Farms, LLC in Lafayette Township for assistance in managing a 37 acre preserved tract. The Board approved the application on motion of Mr. Ricker, seconded by Mr. Hough and properly carried.
- 3) SC Farmland Preservation Program: Donna Traylor provided the Board with an overview of the Sussex County Farmland Preservation Program. To date 166 farms have been preserved for a total of just less than 17,000 acres. The Freeholders have just partnered with the Land Conservancy of NJ to preserve four

additional farms. Ms. Traylor is also charged with monitoring compliance on an annual basis on all preserved farms. A discussion followed relative to identification of which farms have NRCS approved conservation plans.

SSCC Report: Mr. Minch was not in attendance. In his absence Mr. Lundin discussed the following statewide issues with the Board:

- 1) Program reevaluation. The kickoff meeting of the four approved subcommittees was held on December 13, 2012 at the Freehold District. Mr. Lundin and Mrs. Rosko attended.
- 2) Renewal of SESC Standards. SSCC action on the proposed new SESC standards has been deferred to the January 14, 2013 SSCC meeting.

H&H Grant: The District has started to enter the data from the H&H forms into the data system.

Education:

- 1) Envirothon Training: Mr. Lundin reported that the District will host the Northern Jersey Envirothon Training Session on April 17, 2013 at Swartswood State Park.
- 2) 2013 Conservation Poster Contest: Mr. Lundin reported that the theme for the 2013 Poster contest is "Where Does Your Water Shed." The deadline for submission to the state is March 1, 2013. The deadline for submission of posters to the District is February 15, 2013. The information will be distributed by the District to the schools immediately after the Christmas break.
- 3) 2012 Poster Contest: Mr. Lundin reported that the Sussex Wantage Middle School had erroneously believed that we were sponsoring a 2012 Poster Contest. (The District had previously determined not to participate. Over 100 posters from the entire 7th grade have been submitted. On motion of Mr. Ricker seconded by Mr. Hough, the Board authorized Mr. Lundin to make small cash awards (total not to exceed \$85.00) to the best three posters from the School. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Kilduff-yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes.

Meetings:

- 1) NJ Annual Conservation Partnership Meeting: Mr. Lundin reported that he and Mr. Ricker had attended the annual NJ Conservation Partnership meeting on November 19, 2012 in Hightstown, NJ.

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Old Business
Meetings (continued)

- 2) 2013 NACD Annual Meeting: Mr. Lundin reported that the 2013 NACD Annual Meeting is scheduled for early February 2013 in San Antonio, Texas.
- 3) 2013 NACD Northeast Regional Meeting- Bethany Beach, DE, Sept. 2013. No further information is available.

Common Waters Initiative: Nothing to report at this time.

North Jersey RC&D:

Chairman Rosko introduced Grace Messinger the Executive Director of the North Jersey RC&D Council. Ms. Messinger thanked the Board for its past support and briefed the Board on the ongoing activities and the ongoing reorganization.

Transparency Law-Website Modifications: Mr. Lundin reported that the new website should be accessible as of December 17, 2012 at www.sussexcd.org.

Nominating Committee: Ms. Traylor reported on the nominating committee meeting held on November 19, 2012. The committee considered and recommended two candidates: Matthew Fox and Phillip Deacon. Although both were fully qualified, the Committee expressed a preference for Mr. Deacon based upon his institutional knowledge of the Board.

Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

2013 Holiday List: On motion of Mr. Kilduff, seconded by Mr. Hough and properly carried, the Board adopted the attached 2013 Holiday List.

2013 Meeting Schedule: On motion of Mr. Kilduff, seconded by Mr. Hough and properly carried the Board adopted the attached 2013 Meeting List.

2012 Year End recognitions: On motion of Mr. Hough seconded by Mr. Ricker and properly carried by roll call vote Mr. Lundin was authorized to issue year-end performance awards to employees to a maximum of \$1,500.00. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Hough- yes, Mr. Ricker- yes, Mr. Kilduff-yes and Mrs. Rosko- yes.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman Rosko opened the meeting to the public at 3:10 p.m. There being no one desiring to speak, the meeting was closed to the public at 3:11 p.m.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no need for an Executive session.

ADJOURN:

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:11 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, District Manager