

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
MINUTES  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY  
DECEMBER 9, 2013**

The December meeting of the State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairman Douglas Fisher at 9:44 a.m. at the Health and Agriculture Building, Trenton, New Jersey.

Mr. Minch stated that the Open Public Meetings Act requirements have been met. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. adequate notice of this meeting was provided by giving the time, date, and location and to the extent known the agenda of this meeting. At least 48 hours in advance this notice has been posted on the third floor bulletin board, Health and Agriculture Building in Trenton; mailed to The Star Ledger, the Courier Post and filed with the Office of Secretary of State.

The Flag Salute was recited.

Call of the Membership Roll indicated the following:

**Members Present Associate Members and Others**

Douglas Fisher

Ray Cywinski

Priscilla Hayes

Joe Lomax

Dr. Stephanie Murphy (rep. R Goodman)

Charlie Buscaglia

Tony DiLodovico

John Kocubinski

Carrie Mosley

Sean Moriarty, Deputy Attorney General

Frank Minch, Executive Secretary

Rich Belcher, SSSC, NJDA

John Showler, SSSC, NJDA

Dr. Ferdows Ali, SSSC, NJDA

Tim Fekete, SSSC, NJDA

R. Reitmeyer, Burlington SCD

Dennis Dougherty, Camden SCD

Dave Reilly, C/A SCD

Tim Thomas, Freehold SCD

Bill Engisch, Hunterdon SCD

Walter Wilson, Hunterdon SCD

Christine Raabe, Ocean SCD

Bill Brash, Mercer SCD

Robert Dobbs, NJACD

Chris Sztenderowicz, MCS

Mr. Minch indicated that at the NJACD Business Meeting held at the Joint Conservation Conference in October, Mr. Buscaglia was elected to complete the term of Carl Quazza who stepped down.

#### **MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING**

On motion by Ms. Hayes, second by Mr. Kocubinski, the minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting were approved. Mr. Lomax and Mr. Buscaglia abstained.

#### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Mr. Minch reported on the following:

1. **2014 Meeting Schedule-** On motion by Mr. Kocubinski, second by Mr. Lomax, the 2014 SSCC meeting schedule was approved.
2. **Annual Conference- SSCC Member Election-** Ms. Hayes and Mr. Cywinski were re-elected to another term as NJACD representatives to the SSCC Board.
3. **District Supervisor Provisional Appointments-** On motion by Dr. Murphy, second by Ms. Hayes, the six month provisional appointments of the following district supervisors have been extended to their full three year terms because they have fulfilled the performance standards: Carl Mecky (Bergen), Louis Parzanese (Camden), Roger Gravatt (Freehold), David Welch (Morris), Ronald Peterson (Warren).  
In addition, due to health concerns, John Rigolizzo (Camden), has decided not to seek another term. The Camden Nominating Committee will convene to discuss potential replacements.
4. **Phone Directory-** A draft of the updated phone directory was distributed to the State Committee. The work group/ subcommittee information was added to the directory. There are several positions which staff is endeavoring to obtain updated information. It is hoped that by the end of December or beginning of January, the directory will be completed.

#### **SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT**

1. **2:90 Rules Amendments-** The rule amendments are being finalized. The next step would be for the DAG review and Governor's review. After those reviews, it will then be ready for adoption.  
The Soil Restoration Standard is ongoing and is being handled separately.
2. **Erosion Control Product Procedure-** The subcommittee met and reviewed the draft procedure. There are several minor changes, clarifications and grammatical corrections but no substantive changes. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the draft procedure and different procedures utilized around the country. This formalizes the procedure which was generally in place for many years.

On motion by Mr. DiLodovico, second by Ms. Hayes, this procedure was adopted.

9:55 AM- Mr. Engisch and Mr. Wilson arrive.

10:02 AM- Mr. Cywinski arrives.

10:03 AM- Dr. Ali arrives.

3. **Compost Filter Sock** – Mr. Lomax reported that the task force met, information was gathered regarding this technology which has been recognized and accepted by various environmental agencies and DOT's as a valid erosion control measure. Mr. Lomax requested that the task force be granted more time to access the report of findings. A discussion ensued regarding compost filter sock as a technology or a specific product.

10:33 AM- Ms. Mosley left the meeting.

4. **Engineering Issues-** Mr. Showler reported on various items he has been working on and activities he has been involved with over the last several months including the Soil Restoration Standards Subcommittee, Hunterdon County construction site, Stormwater detention basin data base project, the Ramapo River restoration project and the Infiltration Basin Study.
- 5 **Fee Schedule Modification-**  
**Burlington-** Mr. Minch reported that the Burlington SCD has requested a minor amendment to their fee schedule to cover the cost involved in Exemption Determination. The fee proposed is \$50, which is consistent with the fee charged by other districts. Staff recommends approval.

On motion by Mr. Cywinski, second by Mr. Lomax, the Burlington SCD fee schedule modification was approved.

**Freehold-** Mr. Minch indicated the Freehold SCD has requested a fee schedule revision and increase to \$110 for their hourly rate. The last full fee schedule modification by the Freehold SCD was eight years ago. The Freehold SCD has adequately documented their cost and SSCC staff recommends approval.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Ms. Hayes, the Freehold SCD fee schedule revision was approved. Mr. Buscaglia abstained.

- 6 **Sub-Committee Reporting Process-** Ms. Hayes & Mr. Lomax reported on the Roadmap to Effective Change and formalizing a process for the transfer of information to the districts and, in turn, requesting their input and comments before implementation of any changes or policies. A lengthy, and often lively, discussion ensued regarding this issue.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Ms. Hayes, the *Roadmap to Effective Change Process-State Committee Review* was adopted with minor changes.

11:09 AM- Mr. Kocubinski left the meeting.

## 7 **NJ Conservation District Sub-Committee Reports-**

- District Fee Schedule and Fiscal Sub-committee- Mr. Cywinski provided a brief update regarding the progress of this sub-committee.
- Training Sub-Committee- Mr. Brash provided an update and overview regarding the progress of this sub-committee.
- District Review Sub-Committee- Mr. DiLodovico provided a brief update regarding the progress of this sub-committee.
- Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee- Mr. Lomax provided a brief update regarding the progress of this sub-committee.

Mr. Engisch introduced Walter Wilson, Hunterdon SCD Attorney, and both individuals presented a draft Administrative Bulletin regarding the Single Family Construction Exemption. Mr. Engisch visited all 15 SCDs and spoke to each district manager concerning their interpretation of the exemption. The draft bulletin endeavors to formalize and utilize a more uniform and consistent interpretation statewide. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilson will discuss this issue with Mr. Moriarty and make any necessary clarifications and changes and the bulletin will be submitted to the State committee for action in the near future.

## **CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Mr. Belcher reported on the following:

1. **Poster Contest-** The 2014 Poster Contest brochure was distributed. The theme for the 2014 contest is “Dig deep: Mysteries in the soil”.
2. **NJ Envirothon-** The 2014 event will take place May 3, 2014 and will be held at the School of Conservation in Sussex County.
3. **NJ Flower & Patio Show-** The 2014 show will take place February 13-16, 2014 and the theme for this year’s show is “America Blooms”.

## **NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Ms. Hayes reported the following:

1. A review and discussion of the Annual Conservation Conference was held.
2. The NJACD Executive Director met with NRCS and NJACD and they are moving forward with an agreement which will afford the districts new training opportunities.
3. There were over 50 entries in the NJACD logo contest. The new NJACD logo will be chosen this afternoon.
4. The first of what is anticipated to be monthly articles highlighting the partnership Between the Districts and municipalities will appear in the December issue of the League of Municipalities magazine. This article was written by Mr. Brash.
5. Amazon.com recognizes NJACD as a 501-C3 charity and .5% of designated purchases will be donated to NJACD by Amazon.

6. The NACD conference will take place February 2-5, 2014 in Anaheim, Ca. In addition, the NJ Soils Curriculum will be presented nationally at the conference.

### **SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Dr. Murphy reported on the following:

1. This is the last week of classes in the fall semester.
2. The NJ Turf Expo is being held in Atlantic City this week.
3. The Soil Summit for middle school children is scheduled for next month. To date, twelve schools are signed up.
4. 2014 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Co-operative Extension. Planning is ongoing. A new logo will be unveiled shortly.
5. The NJ Chapter of the Soil and Water Society meets this Friday at the Howell Living History Farm.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Dobbs suggested that the State Soil Conservation Committee issue a resolution honoring retired Camden County Soil Conservation District Chairman John Rigolizzo for his 41 years of dedicated service to the district and his support for NJ agriculture.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Ms. Hayes, the resolution honoring Mr. Rigolizzo was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Lomax, second by Mr. Buscaglia, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

The next SSCC meeting will be held January 13, 2014 in Trenton.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Minch