

**Morris County Soil Conservation District  
Supervisors Meeting  
June 22, 2011**

*The regular meeting of the Morris County Soil Conservation District was held on the above date at 16 High View Ave., Cedar Knolls, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. The following individuals were present: Chair; David Welch, Treasurer; Jeanette Bonin, Vice Chair; Louise Davis, Secretary; Margaret Nordstrom, Supervisor Marc Slaff, Manager; Joseph Dunn, Secretary; Shelly Zellars, NRCS; Jim Wick, SSCC: Frank Minch.*

*Adequate Notice of this meeting on this date has been provided through resolutions adopted by the Board of Supervisors at its annual meeting at 16 High View Ave., Cedar Knolls, N.J. 07927. by posting at the District's office, by mailing to the Star Ledger and by filing with the Morris County Clerk's office.*

**Supervisor Roll Call-** Chairman Welch requested that secretary Shelly Zellars call the supervisor roll.

Member Bonin-Present  
Member Welch- Present  
Member Davis- Present  
Member Nordstrom- Present  
Member Slaff- Present

**Correspondence-** Read by Mr. Dunn

- Supervisor Training on July 11, 2011. Members Welch, Slaff and Davis will be attending.
- Letter from Barbara Rosco of RC&D accepting Morris County Soil Conservation resignation.

**Minutes approval-** Motion made by Member Nordstrom, Second by Member Bonin and all approved to accept minutes of May 25, 2011. Motion carried.

**Finance-** Motion made by Member Bonin, seconded by Member Slaff and all approved to pay the bills for June 2011. Motion carried.

**NRCS-** Jim Wick

Mr Wick reported that the Staff from NRCS did a tour with the state technical committee on Alstead's farm. He also reported that at present there is no news on the budget.

There is one AWEF application to be signed at todays meeting.

Mr Wick received a phone call regarding Deerfield Remediation site in Mt. Olive Township. They are requesting assistance from NRCS.

**SSCC-** Frank Minch

Mr. Minch reported that the Budget is to be signed soon and that it appears the department has weathered the budget cuts.

The state committee is presently working on standards, Soil Restoration and Soil Health in hopes of having it ready for committee in July meeting.

The state committee is presently working on a conference to be held in Hackettstown in Oct 2011 with Warren SCD.

There will be a Managers meeting next Thursday with key issues on legislative matters.

Mr. Minch reported that the Poster Awards contest had a very poor response which might have resulted from being held at the end of school year. Morris County SCD did have a winner in the grades 2-3 category. We will look into having our winner from Bea Meadow School receive her certificate at the next freeholders meeting. Shelly will be in touch with the Freeholders office to set up.

**Personnel-** Member Davis

*Health Benefits-* Member Davis and Chairman Welch met to discuss health benefits and possible changes for employees to lower costs for district. Before any changes are discussed or implemented it was suggested by Mr. Dunn that we wait and see what is passed by the state regarding state policy. We will table health benefits until July meeting.

Chairman Welch commented that we have looked at numbers and it is quite evident that drastic measures must be taken to help keep the District solvent.

Board members suggested that Mr. Dunn do a chart for our next meeting with a list of revenue opportunities such as nursery, GIS mapping, Leeds, etc.

**Managers Report-** Joe Dunn

The Morris SCD received a \$4000 grant from NJACD to work with three other SCD's (Freehold, Camden and Gloucester) to draft and release a public survey assessing attitudes of public toward conservation.

Programmatic changes to forestry involving rewrites for most of our clients involving plan amendments primarily adding a threatened and endangered species search and modification to their plan.

Farmer in Chatham Township- Mr. Dunn met with subcommittee of the Township governing body to discuss potential of ordinance allowing farming in their 1A zone in Green Village Section. Township officials called the new use "Market Garden" and propose to make this a permissive use in that zone provided it did not exceed 3-4 acres. The use would be accompanied by a conservation plan, nutrient management plan and pesticide applicators certification. Small green houses for cold frame use are also permissible. The township attorney is drafting an ordinance.

**Education-** The staff is drafting a plan to explore the expansion of our conservation education program.

Motion made to accept managers meeting as presented. Motion made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Welch. All approved. Motion carried.

*Budget- Transfer-* Approval Motion made by Member Nordstrom, second by Member Davis and all approved to transfer funds for budget.

*Engagement letter for Auditor-* Motion made by Member Davis, second by Member Nordstrom and all approved to sign engagement letter for annual audit. Motion carried.

*Request for Conservation agreement-* Motion made by Member Nordstrom, second by Member Davis and all approved to sign Request for Conservation Agreement on Stephen Park Road. Motion carried.

**251 Certification-** Motion made by Member Bonin, seconded by Member Davis to approve 251 Certifications and all approved. Motion carried.

**RFA Authorizations-** Motion made by Member Nordstrom, second by Member Bonin and all approved to certify RFA Authorizations. Motion carried.

**Executive Session-** Motion made by Member Davis, second by Member Bonin and all approved to leave public meeting at 3:30 p.m. and enter Executive Session. All approved. Motion carried. Executive Session for the purpose of litigation.

Member Nordstrom absent from the room.

Motion made by Member Bonin, seconded by Member Davis and all approved to leave Executive Session and return to public meeting with adjournment at 4:00 p.m.

**Next meeting to be held on July 27, 2011.**