

**Morris County Soil Conservation District
Supervisor Meeting
September 23, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Morris County Soil Conservation District was held on the above date at Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 550 West Hanover Ave., and Morris Township N.J. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. The following individuals were present: Treasurer, Jeanette Bonin, Vice Treasurer; Larry Ashley, Vice Chair; Louise Davis, Chairman; David Welch, Secretary; Margaret Nordstrom, Director; Joseph Dunn, NRCS; Jim Wick and Tom Drewes, Staff; Ken Sicknick and Sheila Hall, District Attorney; Jack Pidgeon and Guests; Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin. Secretary; Shelly Zellars.

Roll Call-Supervisors

Member Ashley- yes
Member Bonin-yes
Member Welch-yes
Member Nordstrom-yes
Member Davis-yes

Correspondence-

- Fall Festival at Great Swamp on 10/12
- News release 2010 Stewardship program
- Pigeon and Pidgeon- Mortizi Deerfield issue
- Memo of Agreement for RFA
- Outstanding Young Farmer nomination for boards review
- RC&D Annual Report on local watershed planning
- NJRC&D Annual Report
- Freehold Newsletter
- USDA Alstead Farms-14 month contract
- Forestry notes
- Nomination forms for 2009 Achievement Awards.

Deerfield- Neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin who are adjacent to Deerfield Estates were present at meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin are requesting help from the district concerning drainage onto their property from Deerfield Estates. The swale which is located between their property and Deerfield needs to be seeded and stabilized. The Deerfield lot is very wet and floods on to the Goodwin's property. The silt fence is also down.

Consent agreement for Deerfield Estates will be discussed in Executive session.

Sheila inspected Elizabethan Estates this morning. Structures were obviously moved from Deerfield to Elizabethan Estates. The township has inspected the site and is not very pleased. The Township officials have spoken with Mr. Mortizi and are only asking that the swales be maintained. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin thanked the district and Sheila Hall for all their help in this matter.

Executive Session- Motion made to leave public meeting at 2:45 p.m. and go into executive session for the purpose of litigation. Made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Bonin and all approved.

Motion made to leave executive session and go back into public session at 3:15 p .m. made by Member Bonin, seconded by Member Nordstrom and all approved.

Approval of August 2009 minutes- Motion made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Nordstrom and all approved to approve August 2009 minutes.

Staff presentation- Rain Barrels by Ken Sicknick

Empty Food barrels are being used for our rain barrels. The initial cost of the barrel is \$16.00 with a cost of assembly totaling \$30.00. The rain barrels will be on display at the Maplewood festival on October 10th. Two staff personnel will be there to represent the MCSCD. Ken indicated that the barrels could be sold to other districts. It was also suggested that one be placed at office for display. Member Louise suggested information sent out to surrounding flower clubs

NRCS- Tom Drewes

Mr. Drewes commented that he is making his yearly stop to visit our district. A new administration at NRCS is now in place. Funding for 2010 has not been passed and they have just completed their first audit.

Mr. Drewes indicated that personal information on conservation plans will have to be kept confidential now with only name address, and type of project revealed.

Each district will be required to sign a confidential form.

Jim Wick– A new program is now in place which is called AWIP. Eligible Farmers were notified with flyers. The EQUIP program has closed with many applicants being from Morris County.

RC&D involved in Raritan Watershed

Rutgers Extension- Progress

Personnel- Member Davis.

Personnel committee has met several times and recommended that the furlough be reinstated. Chairman Welch indicated that they would like to see it start right a way. Motion made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Ashley and all approved to empower the personnel committee to enact between meetings. Furlough will be for one quarter at 10%.

Finance- Motion made by member Davis, seconded by Member Bonin and all approved to pay the bills for September 2009.

Christmas Luncheon and meeting- Date and time will need to be set for December 2009

RC&D- Member Davis

Member Nordstrom commented that funding from Morris County has been provided for the four Watershed areas which is to be divided among them equally.

Consent Agreements-

There are two consent agreements to be signed by Chairman Welch. Consent agreement for Beckendorf property and Bill Farley.

SSCC- Frank Minch-Reported by member Davis.

Annual meeting to be held on Oct 27. Members, Davis, Bonin and Welch will attend. Cost for each staff or supervisor will be \$ 90.00. Conference will be a one day event. Member Davis to fill the position on state committee by Ken Roehrich. She is also first vice president of Association.

Supervisors suggested that only staff benefiting from training attend to reduce costs.

Training will involve such things as No- net loss for supervisors and DEP E-Permit training on a supervisor level

Annual awards will be submitted for Kenneth Roehrich, supervisor, Friends of Great Swamp, conservation group, Colin Clavadetscher, Conservationist and Joe McEvoy, Technical Engineer.

Memo of Agreement DEP RFA. Motion to accept RFA Memo of Agreement made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Norstrom and all approved.

Mr. Dunn will attend E Training permit class in Trenton tomorrow.

*NO Net Loss Agreement Reforestation-*State statue prohibiting state entities for clearing more than ½ acre without replacing trees Trees must be replaced on project or in the municipality of the project. Motion made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Nordstrom and all approved to approve No Net Loss Agreement with state.

Shelly and Joe attended class in March 09 to be certified for the No Net Loss agreement reforestation program. Inspection and administration training. Hourly fee will be \$85.00.

5013C Status- Although the district could benefit from grants, receiving approval for one is difficult without this status. Having a 5013C would also mean more documentation. Member Nordstrom suggested that we hold off until the economy improves as Grants are not giving out money right now.

State fee of \$25.00- Fee for state committee office which will be charged on each project and forwarded to state office for budget gap funding.

Next meeting to be held tentatively on October 21 at the great swamp visitor's center (Helen Feinske's Visitor center). The district will be presenting a Ludlow Thurston painting of the original farm that was located on the site. Meeting to start at 3pm

Forestry Review- Mr. Dunn would like to speak with personnel committee regarding work load in forestry.

251 Certifications

Motion made to certify 251 made by member Ashley, seconded by Member Nordstrom and all approved.

RFA Authorizations

Motion made to certify RFA made by Member Bonin, seconded by Member Nordstrom and all approved.

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 5:00 p.m. made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Ashley and all approved.

Next meeting will be held at the Visitors Center/Great Swamp October 21, 2009

Christmas luncheon to be held at Member Davis's home. Date to be secured.