

Morris County Soil Conservation District
Supervisor Meeting
September 22, 2010

The regular meeting of the Morris County Soil Conservation District was held on the above date at 16 Hig view Ave., Cedar Knolls, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. The following individuals were present: Chair; David Welch, Treasurer; Jeanette Bonin, Secretary; Margaret Nordstrom, Vice Chair; Louise Davis, Manager; Joseph Dunn, Staff :Ken Sicknick, Secretary; Shelly Zellars. Absent: Assistant Treasurer; Michael Beneduce.

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- Chair requested that secretary Shelly Zellars call the roll.

Member Bonin- present
Member Welch- present
Member Davis- present
Member Nordstrom- present
Member Beneduce- absent

Correspondence- Mr. Dunn indicated that there were no actionable items

- Letter from State Soil Conservation Committee- District Supervisor members of Soil Conservation Committee, Election Annual Conference.
- Outstanding Farmer of the year.
- Sharp Copier proposal
- N.J. Farmer magazine
- N. J. Conservationist magazine
- Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge flyer

Approval of Minutes- Motion made by Member Davis to approve minutes of August 25, 2010 meeting with few small typographical changes. Second by Member Nordstrom. All approved. Motion carried.

Personnel- Member Davis, Progress

SSCC- Progress

Finance- Motion made by Member Nordstrom to pay the bills for September 2010. Second by Member Bonin. All approved. Motion carried.

Provident Bank CD Rollover- The Board will allow Certificate of Deposit to roll over at .3%. The maturity date is October 7, 2010.

NRCS- Progress

RC&D- Member Davis

Member Davis attended the 2010 NJACD held in Ocean City, N. J. Sept 20-21. She reported that this year's conference was well attended with the theme "Moving forward, being resourceful". The overall consensus of the group was that the 251 program is drying up and other options will be needed to keep our agency solvent. Several programs were discussed including Farm Audits which offer energy audits for farmers. Currently, there is no sanctioned provider for New Jersey. Our Engineer, Mr. McEvoy is scheduled to take his LEED certification which would enable him to calculate numbers for the audit and give us the opportunity to be an audit contractor for these farms. With an increasing interest and demand, funding for these audits will be available.

A second program was discussed entitled "SOS" involving management of open space for municipalities, skills that District Employees already have. Funding could be made available through the Dodge and Victoria Foundations. A summer Intern for NRCS contacted various counties over the summer regarding their open space programs. This information will be useful in the program development.

Member Davis also commented that a speaker from Atlantic County MUA spoke on Budgeting. A Pamphlet was distributed entitled questionnaire to municipalities for best practices.

Member Davis spoke about a third program involving scholarships between \$3,000 and \$4,000 to do work groups in three districts. NRCS requires employees to understand the needs of those you provide services to.

It was suggested that the Morris SCD might want to make application to this grant.

Two Service awards were presented at the conference for Joseph McEvoy (10 years) and Jackie Connelly (5 Years). Member Davis was kind enough to bring them back.

Old Business- Resolutions- Our District attorney, Jack Pidgeon has requested that our resolutions be reviewed, approved by the board and reflected in minutes for future reference. Member Davis suggested that we contact Mercer and Sussex County SCD for a copy of their resolutions and compare to ours. Shelly will be in contact with those districts.

New Business-

Reappointment of District Attorney- Motion made by Member Member Nordstrom to appoint Mr. Jack Pidgeon, as our District Attorney. Second by Member Davis. All approved. Motion carried.

State fee- Non Regulated- Mr. Dunn explained that all 251 projects must now collect a \$25.00 administrative fee for the State Committee Office. It was the consensus of the board that the \$25.00 fee will be absorbed by the District on Morris County Projects as we do not have the authority to waive that fee.

Office Copier- The Lease for our office copier will be expiring very shortly. Jackie Connelly, our bookkeeper has negotiated the lease for a new copier which is a bit larger but the same price.

Staff Presentation- Ken Sicknick- Rain Barrels. A press release for the Rain Barrel Program was quite successful resulting in the sale of 60 barrels. The District expense for the program totaled \$2300.00 and income was \$3800.00 Staff has the opportunity to purchase pre manufactured barrels with pre drilled holes for the spring sales. A minimum order would require 300 barrels at \$39.00 each (\$11,700.00) and District would act as a distributor for the company. An alternative sales option would be to purchase the down spout kit and combine with barrels we presently sell. Following a board discussion it was decided that we will focus with the down spouts kit/barrel and offer in spring. Member Davis commented that she would like to keep our orders small to avoid distraction from the 251 program which as she stressed is our main mission. Ken commented that he will have a booth at Green day in Morristown, October 10th.

Certifications- Motion made by Member Davis to approve certifications for September 22, 2010. Second by Member Bonin. All approved. Motion carried.

RFA Authorizations- Motion made by Member Bonin to approve RFA Authorizations. Second by Member Davis. All approved. Motion carried.

Executive Session- (for the purposes of litigation)

Member Nordstrom excused due to conflict of interest.

Motion made by Member Davis to leave public meeting and open executive meeting at 3:10. And adjourn public meeting after executive session, Second by Member Bonin. All approved. Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bonin, to leave executive session and open public meeting at 3:15. Second by Member Davis. All approved. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Next meeting to be held on October 27, 2010