

I. The meeting of the Bergen County Soil Conservation District was called to order at 5:28 P.M. on November 14, 2011 at the District Office, 700 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ by Mr. Mecky, Chairman. In compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was filed with the NJ State Secretary of Agriculture, Bergen County Clerk's Office, The Bergen Record, and The Ridgewood News and posted at the Bergen County Administrative Building, 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, NJ.

Supervisors Present

Carl Mecky  
Ron Binaghi, Jr.  
Geraldine Byrne  
Herman Rohsler  
Raymond Cywinski

Staff and Representatives of  
Cooperating Agencies Present

Angelo Caruso, District Manager  
Roy Otto, Asst. District Manager  
Scott Howard, Resource Assistant  
Larry Lewis, Site Inspector  
Jim Wick, NRCS  
Dr. Ferdows Ali, NJDA  
Robyn Roberts, Adm. Secretary

**II. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Cywinski, seconded by Mr. Binaghi to approve the minutes of the September meeting as distributed.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORTS**

A motion was made by Mrs. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Binaghi to approve the treasurer reports for the months of September and October.

**IV. SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT/RFA's**

A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve all plans certified during the month of September by Mr. Binaghi in the name of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Cywinski recused himself from voting on plan 11-B10828(RESUB) as this project is in the Borough of Closter where he is employed.

Mr. Cywinski recused himself from voting on plan 11-B10848 as this project is in the Borough of Demarest where he is Mayor.

A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve all plans certified during the month of October by Mr. Binaghi in the name of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Cywinski recused himself from voting on plan 11-B10935 as this project is in the Borough of Demarest where he is Mayor.

**Review of Violations**

Mr. Caruso gave an update and follow-up action on the letter of violation issued during the month of October 2011.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) Karen Kritz, Program Manager, Outstanding Young Farmer - Announcing that nominations are now being accepted for the Outstanding Young Farmer.
- 2) NACD - request for 2012 membership dues. A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve a payment in the amount of \$350.00 to the NACD.
- 3) A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mr. Cywinski to approve the 2012 Membership dues to the NJ Farm Bureau in the amount of \$150.00.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) B.C. Environmental Council – Mr. Caruso reported that the Council's fall planting was held at Dahnert's Lake in Garfield on September 23, 2011. County Executive Kathleen Donovan and Freeholder Maura DeNicola were among the participants. Mr. Caruso also reported the Council had also conducted a stream cleaning in Van Saun Park. Mr. Caruso informed the Board that the Council has received a check from the County of Bergen for 2012 budget money in the amount of \$6675.00.
- 2) Mr. Caruso reported that 9 schools have submitted entries to the 2011 Poster Contest. District winners in each of the categories have been submitted to Trenton for participation in the State Contest.
- 3) District Funds – Mr. Caruso informed the Board that the District Certificate of Deposit at Hudson City Bank has matured and was rolled over. The District will be withdrawing funds from the State Cash Management Fund and will deposit those funds into 2 year certificates of deposit at local banks
- 4) Mr. Caruso presented to Mr. Mecky, Chairman a plaque given to the District by the NJ Association of Conservation Districts in recognition of hosting the 2011 NJ Envirothon. Mr. Caruso and Mr. Howard were also presented plaques for helping to coordinate the event.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) The District received a request for a Farm Management Plan approval from Fresh and Fancy Farm in New Milford. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rohsler, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve the Farm Management Plan for Fresh and Fancy Farm. The motion was passed with yes votes by Mr. Cywinski, Mr. Rohsler and Mrs. Byrne. Mr. Binaghi voted no.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS – con't.**

- 2) Mr. Caruso informed the Board that our FY11 audit will be conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December.
- 3) A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve payment of the annual legal retainer for Mr. Robert Y. Gray, District Counsel.
- 4) A motion was made by Mr. Cywinski, seconded by Mrs. Byrne to approve the 2012 Meeting Schedule with a 5:00 PM start time unless there is a conflict.
- 5) RFA Reimbursement – A motion was made by Mrs. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Cywinski to authorize the payment of \$2,355.00 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY12 RFA fees to the NJ Department of Agriculture.
- 6) Service Awards – Mr. Caruso reported that at the 2011 NJ Conservation Conference, service awards were distributed to the following supervisors and staff: Carl Mecky – 30 years, Herman Rohsler – 25 years, Roy Otto, 25 years, Lawrence Lewis – 5 years.

**VIII. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 1) Mr. Caruso reported that as of January 2012 health benefit premiums will increase 12%, and combined with Chapter 78 requirements will have a minimal effect on payroll deductions at this time. However, major Chapter 78 payroll deductions are anticipated and must be discussed with the Board prior to July 2012.
- 2) Mr. Caruso gave an update on the status of the Village of Ridgewood Habernickel Dam Project. Mr. Caruso reported that the Village of Ridgewood owes the District for extraordinary expenses and noncompliance fees for this project. The Board requested that the Village of Ridgewood be notified immediately of their monies owed as of this date.
- 3) Mr. Caruso informed the Board the he and Mr. Otto had a joint field meeting with HEP SCD and NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife representatives in Mahwah recently to discuss the proposed Tennessee Gas Pipeline project in the Ramapo Mountains. DEP officials are concerned that the pipeline runs through established rattlesnake habitat and requested the District's written support to restrict construction activity to winter months. The Board requested further information including a formal submittal for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification before making a decision.



**IX. STATE SOIL CONSERVATION REPORT**

Dr. Ali reported:

- 1) An erosion control products vendor was instructed by SSCC staff as to the proper procedure for obtaining the endorsement of the NJ Standards for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.
- 2) There was discussion regarding a Morris County landfill that wishes to reopen to accept construction rubble.
- 3) HEP and Morris SCD's are pursuing a Chapter 251 fee schedule increase.

**X. NRCS REPORT**

Mr. Wick reported that NRCS has received a request for assistance from United Water NJ for a Forestry Management Plan for 2800 acres of United Water owned land. They will be working with the NJ Audubon Society.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Mr. Binaghi, seconded by Mr. Cywinski to close the District office on Friday, November 25, 2011 (day after Thanksgiving).

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were taken by unanimous vote of all members present.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rohsler, seconded by Mr. Binaghi to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Geraldine Byrne  
Secretary-Treasurer