



Cumberland-Salem Conservation District
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Meeting Minutes - September 27, 2016

Present

Mike Bonham	Michelle Pedano	Ralph Sickler
Henry Dubois	Ron Thomas	Maury Sheets
John Showler		

Chairman Ron Thomas opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Due notice by order of the "Sunshine Law" was given and noted.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were approved as written. Motion made by Ron and seconded by Maury. Passed.

Financial Report

Mike reviewed the financial report and noted that the District's net income from May 16, 2016 through September 15, 2016 was \$8,921.37. Chapter 251 revenue was \$45,800.00. Payments for the District Auto/Commercial policies were made during this reporting period. The financial report was tabled due to a question on the interest income amount of \$4098.96. Motion to table the financial report made by Maury and seconded by Ralph. Passed

251 Report

Mike reviewed the 251 report, and noted routine activity. Commercial construction submittals to the District have increased in comparison to the previous fiscal year. The. Motion to approve the report made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.

NRCS - Cumberland & Salem Field Offices

Mike and Michelle presented the NRCS reports for the Cumberland and Salem Field offices. NRCS held Application Days at Farm Rite and Lee Rain to assist cooperators interested in EQIP Irrigation practices. The NJ Audubon is hosting a Hops and Crops Outreach Even at Cape May Brewery on 10/11/2016. NRCS is currently working on existing EQIP contracts and ranking FY2016

Round applications. The signup period for NRCS EQIP FY2017 Round 1 ends on October 21st. Several farmland preservation conservation plans, and payment requests were presented for approval. Motion to approve the NRCS action items made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.

SSCC

John discussed the HxH database. The SSCC is currently seeking funding for Districts to do additional projects associated with the database. The NJDA hired a new Ag Water Specialist to replace Dr. Ali who recently retired. John reminded the Board to submit their annual audit to the state.

Right to Farm

Mike/John updated the Board regarding water runoff from a Nursery and a Right to Farm complaint filed by several downstream farmers.

Animal Waste Management

Mike discussed an animal waste issue in Hopewell Township regarding the application of manure without incorporation. This issue is also being discussed at the CADB and at the NJDA.

Farmland Preservation Inspection

Mike discussed an issue in Cumberland County regarding land grading on a "soon to be preserved" farm. The County and SADC conducted an inspection and determined the earthwork to be detrimental to the farm and have reached out to the District for assistance. Currently the farm is not eligible for preservation until the land grading issues are resolved.

FY2016 Audit

Mike informed the board that Nightlinger Colavita and Volpa completed their FY2016 audit site visit and are currently preparing the formal audit to be submitted to the District.

District Attorney

Mike informed the board that Ross Levitsky retired and the District will need to look for an attorney for legal representation.

Being no further open session business, the open portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Motion made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.