

OCEAN COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
714 LACEY ROAD, FORKED RIVER, NJ 08731
March 21, 2024, FY24

MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. William Pollock at 8:03am. Dr. Pollock confirmed that announcements for the meeting were made pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act and forwarded to the Asbury Park Press, The Press of Atlantic City and the Ocean County Clerk. Meeting Agenda and WebEx information was published on the District's website. Meeting was held via WebEx.
- Supervisors present: Dr. William Pollock, Chairman, John Tiedemann, Vice Chairman, Dr. Michael Gross, Secretary, and Gary Paxton, Treasurer. Others present: Christine Raabe, District Director, Jean Baluski, Assistant Director, and Jessica Pinto, Senior Erosion Control Specialist, all from Ocean County Soil Conservation District (OCSCD). Also present was Amanda Camacho (Soil Conservation Planner United States Department of Agriculture- Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS Columbus Office)) and Tairi Colon (Outreach Coordinator USDA-NRCS Columbus Office).
- II. FLAG SALUTE:** Dr. Pollock led the salute to the flag of the United States of America.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (01/18/24):** Motion to approve the Minutes from 01/18/24 made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- V. REPORTS TO BOARD:** Tairi Colon, Outreach Coordinator USDA-NRCS, and Ms. Camacho Columbus Office presented 8 conservation plans to review today all funded by the inflation reduction act fund poll. Conservation practices include soil health, forestry, aquaculture. Ms. Colon went over the various plans generated including animal waste management, cover crop, soil health management/testing, high tunnel systems, comprehensive nutrient management plan, oyster reef restoration, and forest management plan. Dr Pollock asks if the high tunnels are for this year or next year. Ms. Colon explains that the approval is for the year 2024. Ms. Raabe asked what the forest management plan is for – Ms. Colon clarified it is for fire suppression and community safety. The forestry management plan is funded by the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). Mr. Tiedemann made a motion to accept and sign, Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- VI. CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. NACD Thank you 2/20/2024 B. SSCC and NJACD Regional meeting notice 3/8/2024
- VII. MONTHLY STATEMENT OF TREASURER (January & February):** Dr. Gross made a motion to approve the Monthly Statement of Treasurer, seconded by Mr. Tiedermann. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- VIII. BILLS AND CLAIMS - (December, January, & February) Chapter 251 & General:** Dr. Gross made a motion to accept the BILLS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Paxton seconded, Roll call vote: unanimous
- IX. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES - Education update – report was emailed to the board members and Ms. Raabe mentioned they could read it at their leisure.**
- X. REPORTS OF SPECIAL (AD HOC) COMMITTEES:** There are no Reports of Special Committees.
- XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public present.
- XII. CHAPTER 251 – Certified Plans, Re-Certifications, Amendments, Incomplete and Denied Plans (attachment A) Ms. Baluski indicated that there was an amendment to the Agenda. Item number XII., Chapter 251 – H should be removed from the list.**
- A. Applications
- Certified Applications as of 3/13/2024
 - Recertified & amended as of 3/13/2024

- Recertified and amended applications as of 3/13/2024. Dr. Gross made the motion, Mr. Paxton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: unanimous.
 - Uncertified Plans as of 3/13/2024– no vote
 - The following plans to be denied if no response from the applicant:
 - Re: SCD# 19006; Block 540; Lot 20; Toms River Township
 - Re: SCD# 21537; Block 868.01, Lots 15, 15.01 & 16.02; Brick Township
 - Re: SCD# 21335; Block 58, Lot 660.10; Manchester Township
 - Re: SCD# 21418; Block 190 Lot 73.58; Lakewood Township
 - Re: SCD# 21457; Block 41 Lots 1 & 3; Borough of Pt. Pleasant
 - Re: SCD# 19989; Block 1077.05; Lot 27; Lakewood Township
 - Re: SCD# 23198; Block 830.10 Lot 8; Lakewood Township
 - Re: SCD# 22364; Block N/A Lot N/A; Brick Township
 - Re: SCD# 22434; Block 35 Lot 6; Borough of Mantoloking
 - Re: SCD# 22101; Block 1377 Lot 1, (Proposed 1.01); Brick Township
- B. SCD# 21227; Block 241.11, Lots 12.03 & 12.09, Ocean Township; SCO issued 1/22/2024
- C. SCD# 22511; Block 80, Lots 8, 9.01; Little Egg Harbor Township; SCO issued 1/22/2024
- D. SCD# 21896; Block 536, Lot 1.13; Lakewood Township; SCO rescinded 2/7/2024
- E. SCD# 19049; Blocks 1214 / 1222, Lots 21-36 / 12-19; Lacey Township; SCO rescinded 1/31/2024
- F. SCD# 21352; Block 251.03, Lot 27; Lakewood Township; SCO rescinded 2/7/2024
- G. SCD# 23490; Block 498, Lot 1, 10; Lakewood Township; SCO issued 2/8/2024
- ~~H. SCD# 10631; Blocks 90.22 & 90.54, Lots 2, 2.07, 2.08 & 46; Section 10A--Blocks 90.39 & 90.40, Lots 21 & 20-24; Sections 10B & C--Blocks 90.38 & 90.39 & 25-43; Barnegat Township; SCO issued 2/12/2024~~
- I. SCD# 8529; Blocks 90.22 & 90, Lots 2, 2.03-2.05, 2.07, 37 & 13.01; Barnegat Township; SCO issued 2/12/2024
- J. SCD# 22445; Blocks various, Lots Various; Lacey Township; SCO issued 2/1/2024
- K. SCD# 21227; Block 24.11, Lots 12.03 & j12.09; Ocean Township; SCO rescinded 2/20/2024
- L. SCD# 14183; Block 187.15, Lot 9; Lakewood Township; SCO issued 2/27/2024
- M. SCD# 18556; Block 2.04, Lot 2.04, 2.05, 2.06, 22, 24; Lakewood Township; SCO issued 2/27/2024
- N. SCD# 8529; Blocks 90.22 and 90. Lots 2, 2.03-2.05, 2.07, 37 and 13.01; Barnegat Township; SCO rescinded 3/14/2024
- Mr. Tiedemann made a motion to approve items B-G and I-N, Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll Call vote: unanimous. Ms. Baluski added change to item J. The SCO was rescinded on March 20th, 2024. Dr. Gross made a motion to approve the change to item J. Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- O. Exempt Municipality Annual Review/Report- Long Beach Township
Dr. Gross made a motion to approve the Exempt Municipality Report, Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- P. GreenCell Farm, 149 Brindletown Road, Plumsted Township
Ms. Pinto explained that this item was for informational purposes only. The soil disturbance on the farm has not yet been proven to be agricultural. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), Ocean County Agriculture Development Board and Ocean County Planning are all aware of the disturbance and conducting their own investigations. The District has written a violation notice and continues to monitor the situation with guidance from Frank Minch of the State Soil Conservation Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. NRCS - RCPP/COASTAL Project Conservation Planning Partnership Agreement - updated Federal Grant system (SAM) with new bank account (dedicated to grants) opened.
- B. Replacement of HVAC System –State offers an energy audit, application pending
- C. Grant Financial Training – Held at OCSCD 2/21/24 – ABC Bookkeeping – Providing a SOP for District
- D. Other

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. FY25 Draft Budget approval -- Dr. Gross made a motion to approve the FY25 budget. Mr. Tiedemann seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- B. FY25 Annual Plan of Operations approval -- this item was tabled.
- C. 27th Annual Roundtable – 4/17/24 at Lighthouse Center – Being supported by Ocean County Dept. of Solid Waste and a Clean Communities Grant. Ms. Raabe explained that the grant would pay for the food for the event. the Department also assisted by advertising the event. There are 22 registered participants so far. Ms. Raabe reminded the Board that they are all welcome to attend. Mr. Tiedemann offered to provide opening remarks. Mr. Tiedemann also suggested that for future Roundtable events his students could present the findings of their research on striper over wintering in the Manasquan River, as well as identifying fish species present in the surf at 6 locations along the NJ coast.
- D. Project Partner Collaborative Agreement – Xerces Society providing pollinator plants. Working with One Ocean County in Lakewood at its community garden – called Common Ground <https://oneoceancounty.com/> Ms. Raabe explained that the District had applied for a donation of 500+ plants from Xerces and was selected as a recipient. Pinelands Nursery is the provider donating the plants and Lakewood Department of Public Works will be providing much of the labor to prep the planting areas and prepare the soil for the plants.
- E. Update planned for Employee Manual for Part-time Employees and Law Changes. Ms. Raabe explained that the District currently has two part time employees and the District attorney will be revising the Employee Manual to include language pertaining to part time employees. The last revision to the manual was in 2019.
- F. New Jersey Association Conservation District (NJACD) Envirothon Support Request. Ms. Raabe asked if the Board would approve a \$500 donation to the NJ Envirothon. Mr. Tiedemann made a motion to approve. Dr. Gross seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- G. Building Inspection Report was presented to the Board.
- H. South Jersey Resource Conservation & Development Council (SJRC&D) annual dues. Tabled.
- I. Up for renewal: three (3) 13-month CDs for Chapter 251; one (1) 13-month CD for General account—all mature on 4/30/2024. Dr. Pollock made a motion to approve the renewals. Dr. Gross seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.

- XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Legal, and/or confidential matters. Mr. Teidemann made a motion to move into executive session at 8:56. Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
Dr. Gross made a motion to close the Executive Session and go back into public session at 9:02. Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.

- XV. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT DISTRICT MEETING – May 16, 2024.** Dr. Pollock announced the next board meeting on May 16th, 2024.

XVI. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- XVII. ADJOURNMENT.** Dr. Pollock asked for a Motion for Adjournment. Motion moved by Mr. Paxton. Seconded by Mr. Tiedemann. Roll call vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 AM.

Michael Gross, Secretary