

OCEAN COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
714 LACEY ROAD, FORKED RIVER, NJ 08731
May 16, 2024, FY24

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. William Pollock at 8:03 a.m. 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. The meeting Agenda and WebEx information was published on the District's website. The meeting was held via WebEx and at the District Office.
Supervisors present: Dr. William Pollock, Chairman; Dr. Michael Gross, Secretary; and Gary Paxton, Treasurer. Others present: Jean Baluski, Assistant Director; Rebecca Laboy, Education Outreach Coordinator; Mary Ellen Banfield, Office Manager-- Ocean County Soil Conservation District (OCSCD). Also present was Nicole Ciccaglione, District Conservationist, Columbus Service Center.
- 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 was made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (3/21/24):** Motion to approve the Minutes from 3/21/24 was made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- V. **REPORTS TO BOARD:** Fourteen plans were reviewed today: 9 RCPP Coastal Aquaculture plans, 2 traditional aquaculture plans, and 3 high tunnel (soil farming) plans. Mr. Paxton made a motion to accept and sign, Dr. Gross seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- VI. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - A. Soil and Water Stewardship Week Governor Proclamation
 - B. Meet and Greet with USDA NRCS Chief Terry Cosby on April 11, 2024 - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 - C. NJ Farmland Preservation/SADC April 2024 Public Meeting Summary
 - D. Pinelands Preservation Alliance note of thanks for donation 5/15/2024
- VII. **MONTHLY STATEMENT OF TREASURER (March & April):** Mr. Paxton made a motion to approve the Monthly Statement of Treasurer, seconded by Dr. Gross. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- VIII. **BILLS AND CLAIMS - (February, March & April) Chapter 251 & General:** Dr. Gross made a motion to approve 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.**
- 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).**
 - A. Applications
 - Certified Applications as of 5/13/2024
 - Recertified & amended as of 5/13/2024
 - Recertified and amended applications as of 5/13/2024. Dr. Gross made the motion to approve the plans, 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# 22334; Pool Site Plan; Block 291, Lot 12; Little Egg Harbor Township
Re: SCD# 22223; Single Family; Block 254 Lot 30; Toms River Township

Re: SCD# 21994 Cong. Oheiv Yisroel - Site Plan; Block 1035 Lots 4.03, 4.04, 5.01, & 5.02; Lakewood Township
 RE: SCD# 21928; Sarama Brothers LLC - Subdivision; Block 501, Lot 1.18; Berkeley Township
 Re: SCD# 22196; Crystal Point Peninsula Dewatering Site; Block 272, Lot 1.03; Ocean Township
 Re: SCD# 22044; Farm Stores - Brick; Block 603, Lot 1.01; Brick Township
 Re: SCD# 22605; Leisure Village Association - 2021 Roadway Improvements; Block 1248, Lots 3018,3030,3034, 3035,3039,3055, & 3056; Lakewood Township
 Re: SCD# 22896; Yeshiva Be'er Hatalmud - Site Plan; Block 189.04, Lot 196; Lakewood Township
 Re: SCD# 22603; MDR Developers – Site Plan; Block 46, Lot 16.01; Plumsted Township
 Re: SCD# 23022; The Lofts at Drew Lane - Multi Family; Block 20, Lots 1.04-1.07; Borough of South Toms River
 Re: SCD# 22398; State Liquor LLC/Retail LLC - Site Plan; Block 192.05, Lot 1, 61, & 78; Toms River Township
 Re: SCD# 21662; JB'S Diner Jackson - Site Plan; Block 3101, Lot 19; Jackson Township
 A motion to approve the denial of the above plans, if there is no response from the applicant, was made by Mr. Paxton, seconded by Dr. Gross. Roll call: unanimous.

- B. SCD# 23365; Blot 117, Lot 37; Lacey Township; SCO issued 3/18/2024
- C. SCD# 23286; Block 118, Lot 36; Lacey Township; SCO issued 3/18/2024
- D. SCD# 22445; Blocks 226.13 & 226.14, Lots 1-10 & 10-15; Lacey Township; SCO issued 3/20/2024
- E. SCD#24991- Lanes Mill Road Subdivision; Block 187.15, Lot 9; Lakewood; SCO Re-Issued 4/30/24
- F. SCD# 23665; Block 500, Lot 1; Lakewood Township; SCO rescinded 4/2/2024
- G. SCD# 20608; Block 20, Lots 11.02 & 12; South Toms River Borough; SCO rescinded 4/24/2024
- H. SCD# 23365; Block 117, Lot 37; Lacey Township; SCO rescinded 4/29/2024
- I. SCD# 23286; Block 118, Lot 18; Lacey Township; SCO rescinded 4/29/2024
 A motion to approve the Stop Construction Orders—items B through I (either issued or rescinded) was made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- J. Update on Landings at Manahawkin – (SCD#8736, SCD#13847, SCD#18830 & SCD# 22122) Started 2/3/04
- K. Update on Brindleton Road, Green Cell Farms Plumstead – Soil Disturbance & Importation of Fill
- L. Update on Large Wetlands Restoration Project – USFWS Refuge – Metedeconk River – Coordination with Partners

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. 27th Annual Roundtable – 4/17/24 at Lighthouse Center – (see Education Report)
- B. Grant Project Partner Collaborative Agreement – Xerces Society. Working with One Ocean County, Lakewood DPW, Brick MUA, at John F. Patrick Sports Complex in Lakewood with Common Ground <https://oneoceancounty.com/> Planting scheduled for 5/30/24. Education workshop – Ollas & Healthy Soil
- C. Barnegat Bay Partnership and Jersey Friendly Yards agreement
- D. USDA/RCPD COASTAL project – Update – Applications are being processed
- E. Capital Improvement - Replacement of HVAC System – Conversion to natural gas. Updated quotes.
 A motion was made by Dr. Gross to replace the downstairs HVAC system in an oil to gas

conversion, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: approved by Dr. Gross and Mr. Paxton; Dr. Pollock abstained.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. FY25 Audit approval by email vote—A motion to accept the audit was made by Dr. Pollock, seconded by Dr. Gross. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- B. FY25 Annual Plan of Operations – Pending Updates – (will be sent for review before next meeting)
- C. Board member Renominations: William Pollock & Ray Bukowski both members agreed to send in their paperwork for renomination.
- D. SJRCD membership dues of \$300—A motion was made to renew SJRCD membership by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- E. New vehicle – Pending Availability—A motion was made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.
- F. Updates to Employee Manual – Pending legal review
- G. Purchase or rental of window/portable AC units for downstairs pending HVAC replacement—not needed at this time.

- XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Legal and/or confidential matters. Dr. Gross made a motion to move into executive session at 9:21 a.m. Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.
Dr. Gross made a motion to close the Executive Session and go back into public session at 9:33. Mr. Paxton seconded. Roll call vote: unanimous.

Motion to approve Ramon Mejia attending the Certified Public Manager course offered by Rutgers and CSC and being mentored by Jean Baluski for the Assistant District Director position. Made by Dr. Michael Gross and seconded by Gary Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous.

Discussion to establish an agreement/policy for commitment to continued employment with the District when investment in extensive training is supported.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT DISTRICT MEETING – July 18, 2024.

XVII. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- XVIII. ADJOURNMENT.** Dr. Pollock asked for a Motion for Adjournment. A motion was made by Dr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Paxton. Roll call vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Michael Gross, Secretary

MG: meb