

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 2nd Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
November 19, 2020
(Held remotely via Webex)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Davis at 7:32 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Frank Carrajat
Thomas Galfo
Harvey Ort
Jay Thomson

Members with an excused absence:

Gregory Keller

Staff in attendance:

Joseph Barilla
Staci Santucci, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Chairman Davis announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting had been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger and posted on the Morris County website.

Ms. Coyle announced that the meeting was being held remotely via WebEx and was being recorded. Ms. Coyle provided instructions for the public to provide comments during the meeting.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Board welcomed Mr. Frank Carrajat, who had been appointed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to serve on the Board. Mr. Carrajat introduced himself to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the Board members approved the October 1, 2020 Open Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: Carrajat and Galfo

On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the Board members approved the October 1, 2020 Closed Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: Carrajat and Galfo

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chairman Davis announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Morris CADB considered closing the open portion of the meeting in order to discuss matters related to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property, and litigation in Closed Session. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 7:57 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

No actions were taken.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

Legislative Updates. Legislative updates were shared with the Board via email prior to the meeting.

Annual PIG Application. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that she was in the process of preparing the annual SADC PIG application. The PIG application is due mid-December.

Monitoring – Western Region. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of farms in the Western Region was in progress.

RIGHT TO FARM

There were no RTF matters to review.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to review.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for Remote Meetings. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the Board adopted the resolution, which outlines standard protocols established by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services for local government entities to host remote meetings during a Governor-declared public health emergency, state of emergency or state of local disaster emergency, including minimum procedures to be followed to provide reasonable notice and to allow public input in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 to -21. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

Resolution 2020-09: Oblen Farm, Mt. Olive Township - Final Approval (Revised). On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the Board adopted Resolution 2020-09. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None Recused: Ort

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Member Thomson addressed the Board regarding the voter approved ballot question to legalize the possession and use of marijuana for persons age 21 and older and legalize the cultivation, processing, and sale of retail marijuana. Member Thomson stated that the SADC should be involved with the development of regulations to address cultivation of marijuana on preserved and non-preserved farmland in NJ, including a possible amendment to the RTF Act. The Board members agreed. Ms. Coyle would reach to the SADC regarding this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Thomson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Coyle
Director