

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
January 11, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Ashley Myers at 7:38 p.m. Members present:

Rick Desiderio (arrived at 7:42 p.m.)
Gregory Keller
Harvey Ort
Jay Thomson

Members with an excused absence:

Dale Davis
Kathy Hammond

Also in Attendance:

Peter Nietzsche, RCE

Staff in attendance:

Christine Marion
W. Randall Bush, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Vice-Chairman Ashley Myers 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 Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Election of Officers

Vice-Chairman Ashley Myers turned the meeting over to Ms. Coyle for the purpose of electing new officers. Ms. Coyle served as temporary Chairman and took nominations for the position of Chairman.

Chairman

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Ashley Myers, Mr. Davis was nominated for Chairman. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mr. Davis was elected Chairman.

Vice-Chairman

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Keller, Ms. Ashley Myers was nominated for Vice-Chairman. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

Ms. Ashley Myers was elected Vice-Chairman. Vice-Chairman Ashley Myers chaired the meeting from this point forward.

Secretary

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Ashley Myers, Mr. Ort was nominated for Secretary. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Keller and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: Ort

Mr. Keller was elected Secretary.

Meeting Dates Resolution

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Keller, the Board members unanimously approved Resolution 2018-01, which established the time, date, place and agenda for the meetings of 2018 and January 2019. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mission Statement

The Board members reviewed the Mission Statement and agreed that no changes were needed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Keller, the Board members approved the December 14, 2017 meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, Vice-Chairman Ashley Myers 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 Thomson, seconded by member Keller, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Keller, Ort and Thomson
Nay: None Abstain: None

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 8:10 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

No actions were taken as a result of Closed Session.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

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

Proposed Beekeeping regulations. The Board discussed the proposed regulations and reviewed a letter from Ms. Landi Simone. The Board took no action.

Monitoring: Western Region. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of Western Region farms was completed in December. Reports were submitted to the SADC and mailed to the landowners.

MC Soils Conservation District – funding for preparation of conservation plans. Ms. Coyle shared a letter from Mr. Joseph Dunn, Director of Morris County Soil Conservation Service, regarding the status of a grant from the national association that will pay 80% of the salary and fringe costs associated with a full-time technical position. This position will be able to serve the agricultural community such as preparation of conservation plans for farmland preservation, regulatory relief for farm improvements, and other needs.

RIGHT TO FARM

There were no Right to Farm matters to review.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to review.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to review.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Coyle". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Katherine Coyle
Director