Morris County Soil Conservation District Supervisors Meeting March 22, 2023

The March 22, 2023, meeting was called to order by Chair Louise Davis via phone, 30 Schuyler Place, 2nd Floor - Schuyler Conference Room # 211, Morris Township, New Jersey Mrs. Connelly stated the Open Public Meetings Act requirements have been met. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. adequate notice of this meeting was provided by giving the time, date, and location and to the extent known the agenda of this meeting. At least 48 hours in advance this notice has been posted on the bulletin board, 30 Schuyler Place, Morris County Annex Building in Morristown; emailed to The Star Ledger, the Daily Record and filed with the Office of County Clerk.

The following individuals were present:

Chair:

Louise Davis

Vice-Chair:

Phill Roehrich

Treasurer:

Marc Slaff

Assistant Treasurer:

Bob McEwan

District Manager:

Joe Dunn

Bookkeeper:

Jacqueline Connelly

Resource Conservationist: Kara Hasko USDA:

Jenna McNally

NACD:

Emily Allen

NRCS:

Jill Ott

The following individual was absent:

Secretary:

Robert Danowski

NACD:

Emily Allen

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Louise Davis

Correspondence:

Two day workshop on May 17th & 18 to tour a NE MidAtlantic Farm in Edison, attendance of supervisors to be determined.

Accept Minutes:

Accepted as Submitted

Chair:

Time to work on Performance Reviews for the District Manager and staff, return to weekly staff meeting @ 10 am every Wednesday in the office, supervisors attendance appreciated.

The Secretary of Agriculture is retiring and no replacement has been named.

Finance:

Motion made by Member Slaff and seconded by Member McEwan to approve paying the bills. The Chair indicated the motion carried.

Manager:

Mr. Dunn talked about a SWO and a complaint with DEP in Florham Park without a plan.

Resource Conservationist:

Kara attended the State Committee Meeting with Chair Davis in Trenton on 3/13. She is continuing her inspections, reports, and reviews as well as working on the Chester Township exempt municipality review.

NACD:

Emily was not in attendance, she attended a training on dam removal in Trenton today and tomorrow. She was assigned 20 forestry caps that have been brought to contract.

NRCS:

Jill is currently planning and contracting FY23 EQIP/RCPP/CSP apps status, 138 EQIP/AMA and 182 active contracts. NRCS will be advertising/posting in USAjobs.gov for 2 additional Natural Resource Specialist.

USDA:

Jenna pointed out the NJ 48 meeting was very useful and the speaker was positive and motivated. She completed her contract review and is working on forestry implementation and stewardship plans.

Application Refund:

Request to refund \$ 105.00 for a project in Hanover no longer moving forward and request in writing a refund for the remainder funds on account. Motion made by Member McEwan to approve \$ 105.00 refund and seconded by Member Roehrich. The Chair indicated the motion carried.

MOA with NRCS:

On hold

Forest Stewardship Plan Professional Policy:

Mr. Dunn completed a draft white page requesting the state committee to satisfy the positions of the board required to work on the statue for districts to write and sign forest stewardship plans.

Mrs. Connelly request to Work from Home:

The Chair commented after Covid all employees are to work in the office, Member Slaff also stated concerns with working from home. The board confirmed employees will not work from home.

251 Certifications:

Motion made by Member Roehrich to approve 251 Certifications and seconded by Member McEwan. The Chair indicated the motion carried.

RFA Authorizations:

Motion made by Member Slaff to approve RFA and seconded by Member Roehrich. The Chair indicated the motion carried.

A motion made by Member Roehrich seconded by Member McEwan to close public meeting and open Executive Session to discuss litigations on 251 enforcement actions and negotiations. Motion carried and all approved.

The Board approved recommendations made in executive session.

Let the minutes reflect Member Slaff abstained from acting on any projects or conflicts affiliated with US Home Corporation DBA Lennar

Let the minutes reflect Member McEwan abstained from acting on any projects or conflicts affiliated with Bob McEwan Construction regarding 251 Certification or litigation.

NO MORE BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD 2:55 PM