

THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

MONMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD



Minutes for a Regular Meeting of the MONMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 7:30 PM

Planning Board Conference Room, Hall of Records Annex, 2nd Floor
One East Main Street, Freehold, New Jersey

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Bullock, Buscaglia, Butch, Clayton, DeFelice, Geran, Giambrone, Halka,
McCarthy, Potter, Sciarappa
Staff: Beekman, Brockwell, Honigfeld
Representatives: Jacoby (Colts Neck)
Public: Hope Gruzlovic, John Tobia, Rick LaRue, Monica LaRue, Joe Ettore, Nyna
McKittrick

MINUTES:

Mr. Bullock offered a motion to approve the Regular Session minutes of the February 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Geran and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Potter offered a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of the February 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clayton and approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman McCarthy requested approval from the board for Administrative Department Head, John Tobia, and Engineering Division Director, Joseph Ettore, to address the board earlier in the agenda. The board approved.

- **Report from John Tobia & Snow Fence Program:** Mr. Tobia explained some of the changes to the county organizational chart and emphasized his intent to provide the board & staff with administrative support as needed. Information was provided regarding the Snow Fence Program, which is implemented to increase public safety and reduce snow plowing intensity during winter storms. Plans for collaboration between MCADB/staff and the Snow Fence Program were explained to the board and questions encouraged.
- **Report from Joseph Ettore, County Right of Ways:** Mr. Ettore explained the importance of collaboration between the Farmland Preservation Program and county road widening initiatives to ensure public safety improvements to roadways can be accomplished. He provided an example pertaining to a preserved farm and a bridge improvement and encouraged questions from the board.

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Mrs. Brockwell shared with the board two pieces of correspondence for informational purposes and invited discussion & questions by the board.



REGULAR REPORTS:

- A. Chairman: No report.
- B. State: Ms. Gruzlovic provided an overview of the recent Hunterdon County RTF decision, announced the hiring of new staff at the SADC and reminded the board about the call for comments on the Direct Marketing AMP.
- C. Staff: Ms. Honigfeld reported on the NJ Land Conservation Rally to be held during March at Brookdale Community College and provided an update on research being conducted to continue the discussion about house size limitations on preserved farms at a future meeting.
- D. Rutgers Cooperative Extension: Dr. Sciarappa reported the Animal Waste Management rules that will be going into effect in early March, a seed treatment grant for heat sterilization practices & the Future Farmers of America conference in Trenton.
- E. Municipal Representatives:
Colts Neck: Mr. Jacoby announced that Mr. Jim Stuart was nominated as chairman of the Colts Neck Farmland Preservation Committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Proposed New PIG Policy 6:** In response to comments at the February meeting, staff amended the policy by removing a paragraph and amending the last paragraph of the updated policy.

Mr. Bullock made a motion to approve the updated policy. Mr. DeFelice seconded the motion that was approved by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Application for Energy Generation Facilities:** Ms. Honigfeld provided information about the solar application on Walnridge Farm Inc. and Lahaway Creek Farm LLC. A general review for consistency with the deed of easement and agriculture was conducted. Mr. Buscaglia made a motion to support the solar energy facilities. Mr. Giambrone seconded the motion that was approved by roll call vote.

RIGHT TO FARM ISSUES:

- **Status Reports:** Mrs. Brockwell notified the board that a Request for a SSAMP has been received and will likely be heard at the April meeting. A reminder was provided regarding the Direct Marketing AMP comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. McKittrick commented on the draft Direct Marketing AMP and brought up several issues for the board to consider when formulating comments for the SADC.

Soccer nets on the Reed Sod Farm on Route 526 in Upper Freehold were observed by several board members and staff was requested to look into the matter further.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made to move into Executive Session at 8:34 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.