

MONMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Joseph McCarthy
Chairman



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

Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 7:30 PM

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

Mr. Beekman presided as Chairman in Dr. Sciarappa's absence.
The meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Bullock, Buscaglia, Butch, Clayton, Giambrone, Holmes, McCarthy, Potter
Staff: Beekman, Brockwell, Honigfeld
Representatives: Jacoby (Colts Neck)
Public: Hope Gruzlovic, Monica LaRue, Rick LaRue

REORGANIZATION:

Mr. Beekman presided over the reorganization of the MCADB in the Secretary of the board's absence.

- **Chairman:** Mr. Bullock nominated Mr. McCarthy for Chairman of the MCADB. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Giambrone and approved.
- **Vice Chairman:** Mr. Giambrone nominated Mr. Potter for Vice Chairman of the MCADB. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Buscaglia and approved.
- **Secretary:** Mr. Buscaglia nominated Dr. Sciarappa for Secretary of the MCADB. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Bullock and approved.
- **2013 Meeting Schedule:** The draft calendar was adjusted to the 1st Tuesday of the month. Additionally, meeting times were changed in February and November to more mutually convenient times for the board members. Mr. Buscaglia made a motion to accept the meeting schedule as updated. Mr. Clayton seconded the motion that was approved by voice vote.

Chairman McCarthy continued presiding over the meeting.

MINUTES:

Several adjustments were made to the regular session draft minutes for both grammatical errors and additional details.

Mr. Potter offered a motion to approve the Regular Session minutes, with corrections, of the December 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bullock and approved by voice vote.

The November 2013 Executive session minutes were held until closed session.



CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Staff noted an upcoming farmland preservation conference to be held in Hershey, PA in May 2014 and distributed flyers with additional information.

REGULAR REPORTS:

- A. Chairman: Chairman McCarthy thanked the board for reappointing him as chairman.
- B. State: Ms. Gruzlovic stated that the On-Farm Direct Marketing AMP will be on the January SADC meeting agenda for approval by the committee. She also provided details on the SADC's easement monitoring system that has revealed a 75% monitoring completion rate statewide. She noted the importance of bringing the state rate up to 100%.
- C. Staff: Ms. Honigfeld announced that Mr. Stuart will no longer be serving on the MCADB and that Ms. Nancy Grbelja has been appointed by the Freeholders to serve as the planning board liaison to the MCADB. Errors in the Freeholders resolution to appoint Ms. Grbelja and other open terms were noted and efforts to correct the inconsistencies are underway. Additionally, the program closed on a farm in Manalapan and four easements in Upper Freehold. The Farmland Preservation Plan Annual Update was submitted in time for the annual December deadline.
- D. Rutgers Cooperative Extension: No report.
- E. Municipal Representatives: No reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

RIGHT TO FARM ISSUES:

- **Status Reports:** Staff provided the board with additional income information pertaining to the Seven Bridges Winery SSAMP application that will be back on the agenda at the February 2014 meeting. The board discussed the focus of the next meeting, which will be to decide on the board's jurisdiction over the matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Jacoby requested any information about the GSPT funds. Mr. Bullock and other board members offered an update including proposals to have the funds come from a portion of the sales tax; however it is not currently making passage through the legislature successfully.

Mrs. LaRue requested an update on the status of the pending SSAMP Application (the second application that they have submitted to the board) and NRCS Conservation Plan for her property in Upper Freehold. Staff explained that as of late December 2013, NRCS was near completion of the Conservation Plan.

Mr. LaRue questioned the composition of the board members, specifically those members that are appointed as public or farmer members. Mr. & Mrs. LaRue requested that the information be provided on the website. Mr. Beekman and staff stated that this information had been provided to the LaRue's on

multiple occasions before. Staff will look into posting it on the website, but such action needs to be cleared by the appropriate website staff.

Additionally, Ms. LaRue questioned why the agenda for the meeting is not being posted according to OPRA guidelines, which she stated as being two weeks before the meeting date. Staff questioned if the standard is in fact two weeks and noted that the agenda is not prepared more than a week before the meeting date. Staff will add the LaRue's to the email distribution list to ensure that they have an agenda for the meeting in advance of the date.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Closed the public session at 8:23 PM.

Resumed public session at 9:11 PM.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION:

The board will hold a brief closed session before the February 11, 2014 meeting that will begin at 7 PM.

The next meeting date will be February 11, 2014 at 7:30 PM at the Planning Board conference room.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.