

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, August 1, 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 7:40 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Bullock, Buscaglia, Butch, Clayton, Geran, McCarthy, Potter, Sciarappa, Stuart

Staff: Beekman, Brockwell

Representatives:

Public: Hope Gruzlovic, Don Holland, Wanda Holland, John Costigan, John Jacoby

MINUTES:

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Staff shared correspondence from the SADC approving the 2013 County PIG Grant for Monmouth County and letters from Monmouth Conservation Foundation regarding two current projects.

REGULAR REPORTS:

- A. Chairman: No report.
- B. State: Ms. Gruzlovic reported on the recent SADC meeting in which a solar installation on a preserved farm was approved by the committee. She also updated the MCADB regarding a recent RTF decision in Somerset county (Ciufu) that is relevant to Monmouth County.
- C. Staff: Mrs. Brockwell updated the board on the recent closing of the Olbis farm easement in Freehold.
- D. Rutgers Cooperative Extension: Mr. Sciarappa reported on the 2012 County Fair and all of the storm damage endured by the Fair and other farmers in the area. The storm cell damage was mainly in Freehold Boro, but some damage to fruit trees was reported. He also shared a draft site visit report from the LaRue site visit that was held on July 5th.
- E. Municipal Representatives: No reports.



NEW BUSINESS:

Project Participation Request from Monmouth Conservation Foundation (Block 772, Lot 3 - Township of Wall):

Mrs. Brockwell provided a summary of the property and history of the project, which would be the first preserved farm to be funded by the MCADB in Wall.

Mr. Sciarappa noted the importance of preserving land within the Wreck Pond Watershed because of the serious water quality issues in this area because of the dense development that has taken place.

Mr. Bullock requested clarification as to where the funding for the project would come from. The project would be funded as a joint effort between the State, county, township and Monmouth Conservation Foundation.

Mr. Stuart made a motion to support the project and Mr. Potter seconded the motion that was approved by roll call vote. The board decided to send a letter to the Freeholders to express their support for the project.

Monitoring Summary:

Mrs. Brockwell shared the annual monitoring report with the board by providing an overview of any changes since the previous year. An explanation of the new SADC monitoring forms was also presented along with the steps that staff has taken to implement the new form.

Application for Energy Generation Facility (Schultz, Manalapan):

Mrs. Brockwell provided an overview of the report prepared by Ms. Honigfeld regarding the solar panels that have already been installed upon the roof of a building on the Schultz farm, which is a preserved property. The landowner was unaware that permission was required before installation and is therefore requesting permission after the fact. The SADC has already approved the solar panels at the recent meeting conditioned upon MCADB approval.

Mr. Bullock made a motion to approve the application. Mr. Geran seconded the motion that was approved by roll call vote.

RIGHT TO FARM ISSUES:

LaRue SSAMP applications update:

A second site visit was held on the property on July 5th. Several board members were in attendance and were told by the landowner that an agreement had been reached between the LaRues and their neighbors the DeMarias. Staff and counsel are currently awaiting a copy of the signed mediation agreement and any other relevant information before proceeding further.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Geran made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Mr. Buscaglia seconded the motion that was approved by voice vote.