

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
April 19, 2016 Minutes

In Attendance: George Asprocolas, Robin Bruins, Pat Butch, Billy Carney, Ross Clayton, Gary DeFelice, Denise Emmons, Stuart Faunce, Wicki Hom, Bill and Mrs. McCormick, Bill Sciarappa, Angelo Trapani, Anna Trapani, Vincent Viviano, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, and Meg Whitehouse

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Butch at 7:35 PM. Ross Clayton moved to accept the minutes of the March meeting. Seconded by Bill Carney, the motion carried.

Bill Carney moved to accept the Treasurer's report pending audit. This motion was seconded by Ross Clayton and passed.

**Correspondence**

Ben Wainwright – scholarship application

Jeremy Posluszny – scholarship application

**Reports**

**FFA**

Ag Business Management team placed first in the state. Up coming – Spring CDEs.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

**Ag Report - Bill Sciarappa - May 2016**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE**

1. RCE Salary Agreement reached with County
2. Ag Agent Position agreed - 50-50 split RU/MC
3. 4H Agent Search Committee starts mid-June
4. 4H Program Associate Sabrina Brown resigns June 3.
5. Princeton Nursery water allocations clearing up with DEP Chelsea Dubrol
6. RU-SEBS Entomology Student of the Year selected
7. RU Graduation 55,000 attendees went smoothly.
8. Monmouth County Master Plan Meeting in Ag Building 5/10
9. National Chair of ASHS Extension Pub Committee selected top 7 papers.

**B. CROP TOPICS**

1. Cold, wet & windy weather has hampered commercial and research planting
2. Weather Interviews on farm activities and weather - freeze/rain/crop injury-delay
3. Extension Vegetable Working Group - Set up NJDA-NJAES Educational program
4. Research Farm Tour - Burlington County - Ray Samulis
5. NJVGA Meeting - NJ-ACTS Logistics for 2017, 4x from Monmouth, Al Murray retiring
6. Grown in Monmouth Planning Meeting in my office - Ciufu/Folta/Pinto/Spinelli
7. Tomorrow - May 18 in Ag Bldg - 10:00 Brad Hillman - GMO's, 1:30 - Grown in Monmouth

## **Board of Managers**

Report will be available at the May meeting

## **Ag Development Board**

Gary DeFelice reported on the animal farm sanctuary coming to Monmouth County. Should MBOA take a stand on this issue?

## **FSA**

Report is attached

Department of Agriculture

Bill Walker sent the newsletter via email

State Board of Agriculture

Angelo Trapani reported that Humane Treatment of Livestock funding is a current topic. Rather than “locally grown”, the Board decided to support Jersey Fresh funding.

Young Farmers and Ranchers

Stuart Faunce welcomed us to join YF&R July 25, 2016 at Cowtown for a rodeo for Ag Appreciation Night.

NJ FFA

FFA Golf Benefit will be held at Gamblers Ridge in Cream Ridge, NJ June 28, 2016.

NJ Farm Bureau

School breakfast and Open Space funding will be before the Assembly. Call the Governor’s Office to encourage him to sign the funding recommendation for Open Space.

Tri County

George Asprocolas informed us that the auction will open in two weeks. Fruit production has suffered great losses due to the weather.

Old Business

Monmouth Co. Fair – Bill Carney reported that our tent has moved Westward but there will not be a change to a North/South direction which Bill suggested. Let Pat Butch know if you are interested in going to Longstreet to select pieces to exhibit in our tent.

Minimum Wage rising to \$15 was reviewed by Marty Bullock, Bill Potter and Angelo Trapani with Assemblyman Hougtalig. They also discussed preservation funding, the horse industry, Jersey Fresh initiative, estate tax and the Ag Exp. Station budget.

Board of Managers bus tour was well attended. They observed a \$1 million machine which analyzes smell.

New Business

Legislative Breakfast – select a date by next meeting. We will send “save the date” before summer. A 7:30 – 9:00 breakfast on a Monday or Thursday was suggested to accommodate Washington legislators trip to work on those days. Hire a good caterer and keep the time conversational.

RSVP to let Pat Butch know if you plan attending the May meeting.

NJDEP water allocations at the old Princeton Nurseries was discussed.

Check out the 4-H and FFA facebook sites.

George Asprocolas moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM. The motion was seconded by Stuart Faunce.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Bruins, Secretary