

**New Jersey Conservation District Employees Association**  
**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 6, 2011**  
**Cracker Barrel, Hamilton Twp.**

<b>Attendance:</b>	Michael Kent	President
	Bill Brash	Vice President
	Karen Rowe	Secretary
	Courtney Davidson	Treasurer

Meeting opened at 11:40am

Treasurer's Update: Courtney reported the balance to date is: \$4,591.80

All Employees Training: This Joint Training for NRCS and Districts is scheduled for July 27, 2011 at Duke Farms, Hillsborough, in Somerset County. A draft brochure was circulated. Upon review and discussion Bill volunteered to add a section stressing the financial opportunities. By attending, Districts can learn about funding for projects such as: forestry, CAP, pollinators, Southern Pine beetle, invasive species because NRCS provides up to 50% funding for approved programs. Bill gave an example of how Mercer is paid to create forestry plans. Other examples included GIS/GPS applications.

It was decided with the \$25 cost, staff would not be asked to bring a picnic item.

NJCDEA will provide water, iced tea and ice for this event. Tim Thomas will have to secure coolers and ice pick-up assignments, as he will not be attending.

Mercer, Cape-Atlantic and Freehold Districts will bring tents to the training.

Secretary Doug Fisher will be invited to give a welcome. Tim, Bill and/or Mike will contact Frank Minch about this. If Fisher cannot come, Bill will give a welcome. State Conservationist Don Pettit will give a welcome.

Heather McNeil-Nazareth has been asked to have the Pollinators in the Classroom display table, which Bill said she will do. Bee boxes will be made and given out as door prizes. Nest bundles may be made as an activity.

Karen reported Steve Grosch needs to be given the Conservation Jeopardy questions ASAP. Tim Thomas will be assigned to expedite this.

At this time, it is unlikely NJCDEA will contribute to a proposed NE Leadership Conference as we have been spending more than we are bringing in.

Bill reported two trainings are planned for the fall/early winter: Rain Gardens and Legal Testimony.

Karen and Tim have found a replacement company to create the Employee Choice Awards and a design is being developed using our previous plaques as a template. The EA nomination paperwork has gone out and is due back to Tim Thomas by August 1, 2011. Awards will be presented at the NJACD Annual Conference in early October.

Discussion ensued about pension and healthcare contributions. Districts are waiting for information from the state.

Mike Kent will contact Angelo Caruso, our NE representative, about his attendance at the NACD NE Conference set for August in Plymouth, MA. Tim Thomas will be attending and can represent the NJCDEA if Angelo does not attend.

Elections: Nomination forms should be ready to distribute at the NJACD Annual Conference the first week of October with a deadline of Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Elections should be completed by mid-November. A December meeting will be held at Mercer SCD to introduce the new board. Bill will run for President, Courtney for Treasurer. Tim is chairing the Election Committee, along with Mike Kent.

Next Meeting: At the NJACD Annual Conference early October

Meeting adjourned at 1:05pm

Minutes submitted by Karen Rowe, Secretary