

New Jersey Conservation District Employees Association
June 22, 2010
Meeting Minutes
Cracker Barrel, Hamilton Twp. @ 11:00 am

Michael Kent, President, called the NJCDEA meeting to order at 11:15 am.

Attendance:

Mike Kent, Courtney Davidson, Mike Hill, Angelo Caruso, Steve Grosch, Ben Shotland, Holly Posna, Stacy Brady and Frank Minch

Minutes: Minutes of the April 13, 2010 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Angelo Caruso made the motion, seconded by Steve Grosch, and passed to approve the 4/13/10 minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Courtney Davidson reported that 54 members are signed up for 2010.

Beginning Balance as of 6/22/10: **\$5,693.09**

Income:

Deposits (April – May '10)

 Trainings \$670.00

 Membership Dues \$ 20.00

Total Income **\$690.00**

Expenses:

Envirothon Donation \$500.00

Plant ID Books/NRCS staff \$464.58

Hand Lens Winter ID \$131.68

NJ Division Revenue Annual Fee \$ 50.00

Soil Fundamentals Food (K. Rowe) \$ 75.77

Total Expenses **\$1,222.03**

Ending Balance: **\$5,161.06**

Courtney noted the audit is complete and will be sending a thank you/retirement card to Darlene Hess for the audit and her retirement. We donated \$500 to the 2010 NJ Envirothon. The account address change is complete. She will also send a retirement card to Garry Timberman

Motion: Ben Shotland made the motion, seconded by Stacy Brady, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

President's Report:

Mike Kent deferred to Frank Minch on the Chapter 251 sunset rules. Frank Minch stated that due to making amendments and the "red-tape" review committee, they are going to re-adopt the rules as they stand. They are going to continue to meet to revise the Standards for vegetative seeding, pinelands, etc. Training sessions will be planned to address any of the changes in the Standards.

Frank mentioned that it is difficult to coordinate meetings between the EPA and the RFA Finance Committee. DEP told Frank that payment delays on the RFA vouchers are to be expected. One issue that is being dealt with is that on RFA permits the engineers may check off an incorrect discharge type which re-directs them away from the correct RFA permitting website.

Mike Kent mentioned that he was not invited to a meeting between EPA and Ryan Homes on a RFA issue which is an example of the lack of communication between EPA/DEP and Districts.

The NJACD Annual Conference is set for September 20 – 21, 2010 at the Flanders Hotel on 11th Street in Ocean City. There will be a tour on September 20th to Rutgers' Aqua-culture Center in Lower Township. Cape-Atlantic SCD will schedule buses, etc. The boardwalk will be accessible for a spouse's "on-their-own" tour.

Correspondence:

National Association Conservation Districts Employees awards nomination packet arrived. Discussion ensued about our nominee.

Old Business:

Soil Fundamentals training went well with 41 registered over the 2 days offered. It was well received by most attendees.

Frank stated that the No Net Loss Program is stalled due to lack of funding from the State.

Bill Brash has stepped down from the Training Committee and Tim Thomas is now the chairperson of this committee.

New Business:

Mike Kent stated that Bill Brash has confirmed August 24th at the joint training day with NRCS which will be followed by an inter-agency softball game. Bill has more details on this training and a firm agenda will follow.

Motion: Angelo Caruso made the motion, seconded by Courtney Davidson, and approved that the expenses of the Joint NRCS/District training session will be divided evenly.

Employee Choice Awards: Mike will contact Ernie Thurlow to see if he will once again chair this committee.

Angelo will confirm our next meeting date which we would like to hold during the NJACD annual conference on September 21st.

Future training in the works is Expert Witness (1/2 day) and another session to be determined. Cliff Lundin will conduct the Expert Witness training portion. Possibly Financial Training will be scheduled too.

Mike Kent said his district has a lot of questions as to the type of plans for solar panel projects. Angelo stated rules need to be established for these projects.

Motion to Adjourn: Stacy Brady made the motion, seconded by Holly Posna, and approved to adjourn at 1:15 pm.

NEXT MEETING: September 21st at the NJACD Annual Conference (yet to be confirmed)

Minutes submitted by Michael Hill – Substitute Secretary