



**Cumberland-Salem Conservation District**  
**1516 Route 77, P.O. Box 68**  
**Deerfield, NJ 08313**  
**Phone (856) 451-2422**

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**Meeting Minutes -January 28, 2025**

Mike Bonham	Ralph Sickler	Maury Sheets
Henry Dubois	Ron Thomas	Tom Tedesco
Bryan Stimpson		

Chairman Ron Thomas opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Due notice by order of the "Sunshine Law" was given and noted.

Reorganization

Ron opened the meeting for discussion regarding reorganization of District Supervisor roles. After discussion a motion was made to continue with Supervisors in their current roles. Motion made by Ralph and seconded by Tom. Passed.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as written. Motion made by Maury and seconded by Henry. Passed.

Financial Report

Mike reviewed the financial report and noted that the District's net income from September 16, 2024 through Januray 15, 2025 was \$24,534.52. Chapter 251 revenue was \$62,855.00. Financial reports made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed

251 Report

Mike reviewed the 251 report. The District remains active with commercial projects in Carney's Point and the City of Vineland. Upper Deerfield is also active with several commercial projects. Dust control and permanent stabilization were issues during the fall due to the drought conditions. Those sites will need follow-up inspections in the spring for permanent stabilization. Motion to approve the report made by Henry and seconded by Maury. Passed.

NRCS - Cumberland & Salem Field Offices

Bryan presented Cumberland & Salem NRCS field office reports. With the change in administration NRCS staff has been instructed to respond with the following statement if a customer or partner

asks for information or perspectives related to NRCS services, policy, future state operations or a topic they are unsure of: "USDA is reviewing all Executive Orders and expects to share guidance on implementing them to agencies and mission areas as soon as possible." Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) FY 2024 signup closes on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The recently hired civil engineering technician at the Woodstown Service Center is no longer with NRCS. Several farm conservation plans and NRCS program contracts were submitted for approval. Motion to approve the NRCS action items made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.

#### SSCC Report

Mike presented the SSCC report to the Board. The SSCC has been working to update the NJ SESC Standards and NJAC 2:90 Rules with substantive revisions, but the standards/rules were adopted without change prior to sunset. SSCC staff is currently working with the attorney general's office to address comments regarding the proposed amendments (particularly the solar array standard).

#### CDs-Rollover

The CDs at Ocean First Bank were enrolled for another 6 month term at 3.75% and will mature in May.

#### District Audit

Mike reviewed the FY2024 Financial Audit prepared by Nightlinger Colavita and Volpa. After discussion a motion was made to approve the FY2024 Financial Audit. Motion made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.

#### NRCS Civil Rights

Bryan presented the annual review of NRCS Civil Rights policies to the NRCS partners. Copies of the NRCS Civil Right policies were mailed to District Supervisors prior to the meeting.

#### Local Work Group Meeting

The Gloucester SCD and Cumberland-Salem SCD are assessing natural resource concerns and opportunities for farmers/landowners/partners within Gloucester, Cumberland and Salem and Counties. A Local Work Group meeting with representatives from the SCDs and NRCS will be held on February 12, 2025 - 12:00 pm at the Salem Rutgers Cooperative Extension - 51 Cheney Road, Woodstown and lunch will be provided.

District Staffing Update

Mike updated the Board on the job description posted on Indeed for an Erosion Control/Conservation Manager and the applications received.

A motion was made to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Motion made by Ralph and seconded by Maury. Passed

Chairman Ron Thomas opened the closed session at 7:20 pm.

The closed session meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.  
Motion made by Ralph and seconded by Maury. Passed

A motion was made to offer the position of Erosion Control/Conservation Manager to Karol Blew. Motion made by Tom seconded by Maury. Passed

A motion was made to provide a salary offer of \$90,000 and health benefits for the position. Motion made by Maury seconded by Ralph. Passed

Being no further open session business, the open portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion made by Maury and seconded by Ralph. Passed.