



Cumberland-Salem Conservation District
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Meeting Minutes - March 25, 2025

Mike Bonham	Karol Blew	Ralph Sickler
Maury Sheets	Henry Dubois	Ron Thomas
Tom Tedesco	Bryan Stimpson	John Showler

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

Meeting Minutes

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

Financial Report

Mike reviewed the financial report and noted that the District's net income from January 16, 2025 through March 15, 2025 was \$-4,071.79. Chapter 251 revenue was \$37,590.00. Motion to approve the financial reports made by Henry and seconded by Maury. Passed

251 Report

Mike reviewed the 251 report. The District remains active with commercial and residential projects in both Cumberland and Salem County. Permanent stabilization will begin soon on projects that were issued temporary compliances in the Fall due to the drought. Those sites will need follow-up inspections for final compliance. The District issued a stop work order and several non-compliance inspections reports/violations to projects that were not in compliance with their soil erosion and sediment control plans. Motion to approve the report made by Ralph and seconded by Henry. Passed.

SSCC Report

John Showler updated the board with regards to the State Soil Conservation Committee activities. 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. The SESC Standards remain under legal review and it is expected that this review will be

completed sometime in June for a July publish date in the New Jersey Register. Tim Fekete from the NJDA recently retired and John Showler will be retiring in June. The State is currently under a hiring freeze but these replacement positions will be backfilled.

NRCS - Cumberland & Salem Field Offices

Michelle and Bryan presented the Cumberland & Salem NRCS field office reports. With the change in administration NRCS program details have been difficult to assess. There is currently an engineering staff shortage at the New Jersey NRCS and projects that require engineering will need to contract with private engineering firms for FY2025 projects. Several farm conservation plans, soil and water cost share application, and NRCS program contracts were submitted for approval. Motion to approve the NRCS action items made by Ralph and seconded by Tom. Passed.

Local Work Group Meeting

The Cumberland-Salem Conservation District partnered with the Gloucester SCD to host the 2025 Local Working Group meeting. The meeting was held at the NRCS Woodstown Service Center and was well attended with representatives from NRCS, FSA, Ducks Unlimited, Rutgers Extension, SADC, and the State Board of Agriculture. The LWG report was prepared and submitted to NRCS.

District Staffing Update

Karol Blew started with the District in March and has been conducting plan review and site inspections for active projects. Karol reworked the District website, updated the phone system and has been working to streamline the District soil erosion and sediment control operations.

Regional Supervisors Meeting

The southern regional supervisors meeting will be held on April 17th at the Maplewood in Vineland.

Other Business

The District has two vehicles (2002 Ford F-150 & 2002 Ford Explorer) which are non-operable. The board discussed the disposal of the vehicles and a motion was made to donate the vehicles to a charitable organization. Motion made by Henry and seconded by Ralph.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Motion made by Maury and seconded by Ralph. Passed.