

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
April 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Wightman at 7:37 p.m. Members present:

Dale Davis
Kathy Hammond
Harvey Ort

Members with an excused absence:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Rick Desiderio
Gregory Keller

Also in Attendance:

Erin Carrajat (departed at 8:00 p.m.)
Frank Carrajat (departed at 8:00 p.m.)
Frank Pinto (departed at 8:00 p.m.)

Staff in attendance:

Deena Leary
W. Randall Bush, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Vice-Chairman Wightman announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting had been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting were not available.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, Vice-Chairman Wightman announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Morris CADB considered closing the open portion of the meeting in order to discuss matters related to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property, and litigation in Closed Session. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Hammond, Ort and Wightman

Nay: None Abstain: None

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 8:34 p.m.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

Centenary College, Washington Township. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that the SADC denied the application for a wireless facility on the Centenary College preserved farm.

Legislative Updates. Legislative updates were shared with the Board via email prior to the meeting.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Parish Farm, Mendham Township. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the Board directed staff to send a letter to Erin and Frank Carrajat per the Board's discussion during Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Hammond, Ort and Wightman

Nay: None Abstain: None

Konkus Farm, Chester Township. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the Board directed staff to monitor the SADC's and DEP's review of the application and, if necessary, to address the impasse. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Hammond, Ort and Wightman

Nay: None Abstain: None

Picozzi Farm, Harding Township. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the Board directed staff to correspond with Harding Township officials regarding the construction of a barn on the preserved farm and regarding the CADB's monitoring program. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Hammond, Ort and Wightman

Nay: None Abstain: None

RIGHT TO FARM

There were no Right to Farm matters to review.

LAWSUIT

Riamede Farm, Chester Township. Staff informed the Board that the matter was adjourned per the farmer's attorney's request.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

Maier Farm, Washington Township. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that she had received a status update from the SADC regarding the well water allocation matter. Ms. Susan Payne had discussed the matter with Ms. Monique Purcell, Director of the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Ms. Purcell would address it with the Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting.

NEW BUSINESS

Weinstein Farm, Mendham Twp. – Application for Solar Energy Generation Facilities on Preserved Farmland. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that the owners of the preserved farm had submitted an application to the SADC for a solar facility on their preserved farm. Pursuant to the SADC regulations, the application was forwarded to the CADB for a 30-day review/comment period.

Ms. Coyle presented the application and informed the Board that it complies with the regulations. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the Board directed staff to send a letter of support to the SADC regarding the application. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Hammond, Ort and Wightman

Nay: None Abstain: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Ort, seconded by member Davis, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Coyle, Director