

**MINUTES**  
**MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**30 Schuyler Place, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Morristown, New Jersey**  
**January 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Ashley Myers at 7:38 p.m. Members present:

Rick Desiderio (arrived at 7:54 p.m.)  
Gregory Keller  
Harvey Ort  
Jay Thomson

Members with an excused absence:

Dale Davis  
Thomas Galfo

Staff in attendance:

Christine Marion  
Staci Santucci, Esq.  
Katherine Coyle

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The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW**

Vice-Chairperson Ashley Myers 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 Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Daily Record, the Star Ledger and posted on the Morris County website.

**BOARD REORGANIZATION**

**Election of Officers**

Vice-Chairperson Ashley Myers turned the meeting over to Ms. Coyle for the purpose of electing new officers. Ms. Coyle served as temporary Chairperson and took nominations for the position of Chairperson.

*Chairperson*

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Keller, Mr. Davis was nominated for Chairman. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None      Abstain: None

Mr. Davis was elected Chairman.

*Vice-Chairperson*

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Keller, Ms. Ashley Myers was nominated for Vice-Chairperson. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

Ms. Ashley Myers was elected Vice-Chairperson. Vice-Chairperson Ashley Myers chaired the meeting from this point forward.

*Secretary*

On motion of member Keller, seconded by member Thomson, Mr. Ort was nominated for Secretary. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mr. Ort was elected Secretary.

**Meeting Dates Resolution**

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Keller, the Board members approved Resolution 2020-01, which established the time, date, place and agenda for the meetings of 2020 and January 2021. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

**Mission Statement**

The Board members reviewed the Mission Statement. On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Keller, the Board agreed that no changes were needed. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Ort, the Board members approved the December 12, 2019 Open Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: Ashley Myers, Keller

On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Ort, the Board members approved the December 12, 2019 Closed Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: Ashley Myers, Keller

## **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, Chairperson Ashley Myers 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 Keller, seconded by member Ort, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Keller, Ort and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None

## **RETURN TO MEETING**

The meeting reopened to the public at 7:46 p.m.

## **ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

No actions were taken.

## **REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY**

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

*Annual PIG Application.* Ms. Coyle informed the Board that the annual PIG Application was submitted to the SADC.

*Monitoring: Western Region.* Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of Western Region farms was completed in December. Reports were submitted to the SADC.

## **RIGHT TO FARM**

There were no RTF matters to review.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to review.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to review.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to review.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Members Ort and Ashley-Myers informed the Board that two new farmer members were appointed to the SADC.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of member Desiderio, seconded by member Thomson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Coyle". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Katherine Coyle  
Director