

**MINUTES**  
**MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**30 Schuyler Place, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Morristown, New Jersey**  
**June 8, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Davis at 7:40 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers  
Rick Desiderio  
Kathy Hammond  
Harvey Ort  
Jay Thomson

Members with an excused absence:

Gregory Keller

Staff in attendance:

Christine Marion  
W. Randall Bush, Esq.  
Katherine Coyle

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The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW**

Chairman Davis 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.

**RIGHT TO FARM**

At this point, members Ashley-Myers, Davis, Ort and Thomson left the meeting room.

*Lotta Lettuce, Montville Twp. – request for SSAMP.* Mr. Frank Pinto, the applicant's representative, presented the application to the CADB. Mr. Pinto provided the current and future plans for the barn, the reasons for the application and the need for relief from several municipal requirements. Ms. Coyle presented a staff report that addressed the applicant's response to the Site Specific Agricultural Management Practice ("SSAMP") Review Checklist.

On motion of member Hammond, seconded by member Desiderio, the Board members deemed the SSAMP review checklist complete and granted the requested waivers. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Desiderio and Hammond

Nay: None Abstain: None

Members Ashley Myers, Davis, Ort and Thomson recused themselves and did not participate in the vote.

On motion of member Hammond, seconded by member Desiderio, the Board members voted to hold a Public Hearing. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Desiderio and Hammond

Nay: None Abstain: None

Members Ashley Myers, Davis, Ort and Thomson recused themselves and did not participate in the vote.

At this point, Mr. Kuehm and Mr. Pinto left the meeting room.

At this point, members Ashley-Myers, Davis, Ort and Thomson returned to the meeting room.

*The Boxwood Farm, Washington Twp. – request for SSAMP.* Ms. Coyle informed the Board members that the applicant had requested an adjournment. The matter was adjourned.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member Hammond, seconded by member Thomson, the Board members approved the April 6, 2017 meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Desiderio, Hammond, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: Ashley Myers

On motion of member Hammond, seconded by member Thomson, the Board members approved the May 11, 2017 meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: Ort

### **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, Chairman Davis 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 Hammond, seconded by member Thomson, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Davis, Desiderio, Hammond, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

## **RETURN TO MEETING**

The meeting reopened to the public at 9:15 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.

*Monitoring.* The Board members viewed farm photos taken by a drone during monitoring site visits.

*NJ State Agricultural Convention Distinguished Service Award – nomination.* Per member Keller's suggestion (submitted via email prior to the meeting), the Board agreed to nominate retired member Wightman for a Distinguished Service Award.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to review.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to review.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

At this point, member Thomson left the meeting room.

*Resolution 2017-05: Final Approval: Verbeke Farm, Chester Twp.* On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board adopted Resolution 2017-05. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

Member Thomson recused himself and did not participate in the vote.

At this point, member Thomson returned to the meeting room.

## **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Desiderio, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*K. Coyle*

Katherine Coyle  
Director