

# New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts

## Board of Directors Conference Call

Monday, December 9, 2013

### MINUTES

**Members Present:** Priscilla Hayes, Dennis Dougherty, Charlie Buscaglia, Ray Cywinski, Tony DiLodovico

**Also present:** Robert Dobbs, Rich Belcher, Christine Raabe, Tim Thomas

Priscilla Hayes, President, convened the Board Meeting at 12:30 pm.

Priscilla Hayes led a discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts and its partners relative to the New Jersey Flower and Garden Show, NJ Envirothon, Conservation Poster Contest, Project Soil Conservation and other joint programs.

NJ Conservation Partners will meet again to discuss this matter.

**Minutes** – The Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Board of Directors Conference Call were read.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ray Cywinski, seconded by Dennis Dougherty and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Board Conference Call as presented.

**Financial Report** – Dennis Dougherty presented the Financial Report. Account balances for period ending December 9, 2013:

Wells Fargo Money Market Account	\$ 9,498.02
Wells Fargo NJ Envirothon Account	\$ 14,647.28
Wells Fargo General Checking Account	\$ 9,424.64
NJ Community Bank CD#8426	\$155,690.22
NJACD Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 51,179.46

**Motion:** It was moved by Ray Cywinski, seconded by Joseph Lomax and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

**Old Business** - The Board discussed the Board Secretary vacancy. Several potential candidates were identified. Priscilla Hayes will follow up with personal contacts to candidates for the Secretary position.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Development Committee** – Dennis Dougherty reported the committee has had several productive meetings to identify funding sources and determine program funding needs.

He noted that the Cape-Atlantic SCD has donated \$100 to support the NJ Flower and Garden Show. The Cape-Atlantic SCD has challenged New Jersey's other Conservation Districts to financially support the NJ Flower and Garden Show. It was agreed to send a notice to New Jersey's Conservation Districts requesting financial support of the NJ Flower and Garden Show.

Mr. Dougherty reported that \$27,000 in funding is needed to support the 2013 NJ Envirothon.

**NJACD Strategic Planning Initiative** - The Board had preliminary discussion on commencing its Strategic Plan for the association. \$2,200 has been budgeted for the effort. It was decided to seek strategic planning facilitation assistance from Rutgers Extension Service, NRCS et al.

**NJ Flower and Garden Show** – Rich Belcher updated the Board on the status of the 2013 New Jersey Flower and Garden Show. The NJ Conservation Partnership planning committee is currently developing a display incorporating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Soil Conservation Program in New Jersey, stretching from the Dust Bowl Days to the present.

**NJACD Logo Development** – Priscilla Hayes reported on the status of the NJACD Logo Contest. Final designs were reviewed by the Board.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ray Cywinski, seconded by Joseph Lomax and passed to adopt the winning logo design. Priscilla Hayes will contact the winner and present a \$150 prize for the design.

**NJACD Website Development** – Ray Cywinski and Robert Dobbs presented proposals for the redesign of the association website. It was agreed to meet with the two providers to reassess their proposals.

**NJ Conservation Awards Ceremony** - It was agreed to schedule the 2013 NJ Conservation Awards Ceremony for Thursday, May 15, 2013 in Trenton, NJ. Rich Belcher will confirm availability of the State Museum for that date.

**New Business:**

Robert Dobbs reported that he was preparing a NJACD 2014 Schedule of Events for distribution to NJ Conservation Districts and Conservation Partners.

Plans for the 2014 NJ Conservation Districts Regional Leadership Meetings were discussed. It was agreed to schedule three regional meetings for March 25 [North Region], March 26 [Central Region] and March 27 [South Region]. The regional leadership meetings will follow up the Roadmap for Change theme of District Uniformity and Consistency.

The Board discussed attendance and participation at the 2014 NACD Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held February 1 - 5 at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel, Anaheim California. NJACD will present a workshop session during the meeting on New Jersey's Project Soil Conservation on Wednesday, February 5, 2014.

**Motion:** It was moved by Charles Buscaglia, seconded by Joseph Lomax and passed to authorize Robert Dobbs to attend the NACD Annual Meeting and to support travel expenses up to \$1,800.

**Motion:** It was moved by Charles Buscaglia, seconded by Joseph Lomax and passed to provide \$1,000 in travel assistance to Dennis Dougherty to attend the NACD Annual Meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Dobbs  
Executive Director