

**New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts**  
**Board of Directors Conference Call**  
Thursday, April 24, 2014

MINUTES

**Members Present:** Priscilla Hayes, Dennis Dougherty, Ray Cywinski, Tony Di Lodovico, Joseph Lomax,

**Also present:** Robert Dobbs

**Absent:** Charles Buscaglia

The Board Meeting was convened by President Priscilla Hayes at 1:08 pm.

**Minutes** – The Minutes of the March 10, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting were read.

**Motion:** It was moved by Dennis Dougherty, seconded by Tony DiLodovico and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the March 10, 2014 Board Meeting as presented

**Financial Report** – Dennis Dougherty presented the Financial Report. Account balances for period ending April 18, 2014:

Wells Fargo Money Market Account	\$ 9,490.11
Wells Fargo NJ Envirothon Account	\$ 19,065.86
Wells Fargo General Checking Account	\$ 97,400.06
Freedom Bank CD [Scholarship Fund]	\$ 40,000.00
Freedom Bank CD [NJ Envirothon]	\$ 30,000.00

**Motion:** It was moved by Joseph Lomax, seconded by Ray Cywinski and passed to accept the Financial Report.

The Board discussed allocating funds from the Operating Account to purchase a Certificate of Deposit to earn interest.

**Motion:** It was moved by Joseph Lomax, seconded by Ray Cywinski and passed unanimously to purchase a \$10,000.00 Certificate of Deposit from the association's Operating Account.

Dennis Dougherty reported on the status of dues paid my New Jersey Soil Conservation Districts. He stated that five Districts had not submitted dues for the current year. Robert Dobbs will contact the five Districts to urge them to pay 2014 association dues.

Robert Dobbs reported that notice was received that the 2014 Federal Registration had not been filed. He will follow up with the Freehold SCD to obtain online login name and password in order to file the Federal Association Registration.

**Board Vacancy:** The Board discussed the current vacancy on the Board of Directors. Priscilla Hayes reported that Cathy Costa, Burlington County SCD, has expressed an interest in serving on the Board. It

was noted that the current bylaws do not permit the Board to appoint an individual to serve on the Board of Directors. It was agreed to draft a proposed amendment to the NJACD Bylaws to permit the appointment of a member to serve a vacancy. Notice of the proposed amendment will be provided to Conservation Districts for review and action at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

**Regional District Supervisors Meetings:** The Board reviewed the three regional District Supervisors meetings that were held March 25, 26 and 27, 2014. It was the consensus of the Board that the meetings were well-received, generated meaningful discussion and were very productive.

**New Jersey Envirothon:** The Board reviewed plans for the New Jersey Envirothon that will be held May 3, 2014 in Sussex County, NJ. Priscilla Hayes, Dennis Dougherty and Joseph Lomax will attend the New Jersey Envirothon and serve as Judges.

**2014 Annual NJ Conservation Conference** - Matt Ward, HEP SCD, and Rich Belcher, SSCC, are obtaining price quotes for hotel meeting space and guest rooms. The conference agenda is still under development.

**NJACD Website:** Robert Dobbs reported that the re-design of the association website has been completed. Content has been added and will be updated regularly.

Email addresses for the Board and Executive Director will be available within one week.

**NACD Report:** Joseph Lomax reported on NACD activities. He represented NJACD at the NACD Spring Fly-In in March. The meeting included a roll-out of the 2014 Farm Bill. He stated that rules and regulations related to the Farm Bill are under development.

NACD and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, are finalizing plans for a joint Soil Health Conference that will be held in conjunction with the NACD Summer Board Meeting July 18 – 23, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN.

NACD is updating its national resource policies. Latest issues concern the federal Endangered Species Act and a new definition of Waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act. The association is also reviewing its Employee Handbook and updating its Financial Manual.

He reported that the NACD Coastal Resources Policy Group is looking for representatives from the 7 regions and government agencies to participate in a small conference to address coastal programs.

**New Jersey Conservation Awards Ceremony:** The NJACD Awards Ceremony, honoring winners of the Conservation Poster Contest and winning NJ Envirothon Team, will be held May 22, 2014 at the State Museum in Trenton, NJ.

**Adjournment:** Priscilla Hayes adjourned the conference call at 2:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Dobbs  
Executive Director