

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
September 5, 2024
(Held remotely via Webex)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Davis at 7:31 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Frank Carrajat
Conor Evans
Thomas Galfo
Harvey Ort
Jay Thomson

Also in attendance:

Jennifer McCulloch, MCSCD
Bob McEwan, MCSCD
Ben Yaskulka, Musconetcong Watershed Assoc.

Staff in attendance:

Joseph Barilla
Staci Santucci, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

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 Clerk of the Morris County Board of County Commissioners, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger and posted on the Morris County website.

Ms. Coyle announced that the meeting was being held remotely via WebEx and was being recorded. Ms. Coyle provided instructions for the public to provide comments during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Galfo, the Board members approved the August 1, 2024 Open Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Evans, Galfo, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None Absent: Ort

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Ben Yaskulka informed the Board that the Musconetcong Watershed Association is seeking comments regarding their Vision Plan.

RIGHT TO FARM

Resolution 2024-05: D. Russ Farm, Washington Township: request for SSAMP. On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Carrajat, the Board members approved Resolution 2024-05. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye:, Carrajat, Evans, Galfo and Thomson

Nay: None Abstain: None Recused: Ashley Myers, Davis, Ort

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Tranquility Farm, Chester Township: request for agricultural labor housing. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that Ms. Stephanie Desiderio, owner of Tranquility Farm, had submitted an application for agricultural labor housing on the preserved farm. Ms. Coyle presented the staff report.

On motion of member Evans, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board members approved Ms. Desiderio's application for agricultural labor housing and directed staff to draft a resolution memorializing the Board's decision. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Evans, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None Recused: Carrajat

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 Galfo, seconded by member Thomson, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Evans, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 7:52 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

No actions were taken.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

October/November meeting change. Ms. Coyle reminded the Board that the October meeting had been rescheduled to October 30th.

Monitoring – Western Region. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of the Western Region was underway.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Coyle
Director