

Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board Meeting
Rt 12 County Complex Building 1 Assembly Room
January 12, 2023 @ 8:00 pm

Members in Attendance:

Dave Bond- Chair
Bob Hoffman- Vice-Chair
Christian Bench
Susan Blew
Bill Bowlby
Alex Hammerstone
Dave Kyle
Forest Locandro
John Perehinys
Marc Phillips

CADB Staff Present:

Katrina Campbell, Esq. County Counsel
Aaron Culton Esq., County Counsel
Katherine Fullerton, Supervising Planner
Bob Hornby, CADB Administrator

This meeting was held in person with respect to Public Health guidelines.

Open Public Meeting Act:

County Counsel Katrina Campbell opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Act:

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act. Adequate notice has been provided by prominently posting on the first floor of the County Administration Building, Main St., Flemington, New Jersey a public place reserved for such announcements, and by mailing on or before December 15, 2022, to The Hunterdon Democrat, Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Courier News, The Express Times, and TAPinto, newspapers designated by the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board to receive such notices."

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Absent – Liz Schmid

Report of the Nominating Committee:

Election of the 2023 Officers; Nominating Committee member Bill Bowlby announced the nominations of Dave Bond for Chair, Bob Hoffman for Vice-Chair, and called for nominations from the floor.

- Dave Kyle made MOTION to elect Dave Bond as 2023 CADB Chair and Bob Hoffman as 2023 CADB Vice-Chair, John Perehinys SECONDED. All in favor by Voice Vote for both Offices.

- Meeting was turned over to Chairman Bond.
- Sub-Committees: Bob explained the responsibilities of Sub-Committees.
 - Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan – Board recommended that the work was essentially complete on the Plan and no subcommittee was necessary.
 - Preservation Application Site Review – Board decided that it will be whoever is available.
 - Right to Farm – Needs at least 3 Farmer members. Susan Blew, John Perehinys, Marc Phillips and Dave Kyle volunteered. Same as last year.

Designation of Newspapers to Carry Public Notices and Advertisements

- Bob Hoffman made a MOTION for the following newspapers to carry Public Notices and Advertisements: The Hunterdon Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, Express Times, and TAPinto (online). Susan Blew SECONDED. All in favor by Voice Vote.

Approval of 2023 Meeting Dates:

- Forest Locandro made a MOTION to approve the 2023 meeting dates. Susan Blew SECONDED. All in favor by Voice Vote.

2nd Thursday at 8PM, Rt 12 County Complex Building #1 Assembly Room

January 12	May 11	September 14
February 9	June 8	October 12
March 9	July 13	November 9
April 13	<i>August 10* (If Necessary)</i>	December 14

**August date is reservation only, CADB does not normally hold a meeting in the month of August*

Approval of Minutes

- John Perehinys made a MOTION to approve the December 8, 2022 minutes. Bill Bowlby SECONDED, Marc Phillips ABSTAINED. All in favor by Voice Vote.

Communications and Administrative Business:

- **Communications** –
 - Received a letter today addressed to Chairman Bond from Assemblyman Alex Sauickie, 12th District, asking for support for Bill A4729 to use a formula for appraisal values as well as standard appraisal. Bob asked Dave Clapp (SADC) if he could give further information. Board decided to discuss at the next meeting after everyone has an opportunity to read the bill.
 - Bob wrote a letter to Franklin Township regarding Farmland Preservation in the Township.
- **CADB Staff update** –
 - **Amwell Valley** (East & West Amwell Twp.) – Appraisals were awarded on December 22nd. They take 60 days.
 - **Collins** (East Amwell Twp.) – Offer is with the landowner.
 - **Barnes Farm** (Kingwood Twp.) – On the SADC Agenda for January 26th.
 - **Saums Farm** (Readington Twp.) – Still with counsel on closing.
- **Monitoring Update** – Bob stated that Kevin could not make the meeting. He’s done 12 farms this year. Nothing further to report.

State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) Updates:

Dave Clapp spoke on behalf of SADC

- SADC has not met since before the last CADB meeting. Nothing to report.

Chair Comments:

- Thank you for appointing me again. Remember if you have any problems or issues don't hesitate to come to me.

New Business:

- **Local Notice: Kingwood Block 24 Lot 4 Ely Farm SADC Direct Easement** - ~61 acres, there is a 2-acre non-severable exception area. Bob refers to a map showing neighboring lots under the same ownership that have just gone through a Direct Easement. Since it is a Direct Easement, they are not asking for any funding from the Township or the County. They are just looking for the Boards input if any. Discussion ensued with no objections.
- **Local Notice: Readington Township Block 48 Lot 22.03 Pascale Farm SADC Direct Easement** – Located next to Solberg Airport, it is a horse farm ~50 acres with a 3.5-acre non-severable exception area. Has an indoor and outdoor arena. Since it is a Direct Easement, they are not asking for any funding from the Township or the County. They are just looking for the Boards input if any. Discussion ensued with no objections.

Old Business:

- **Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan.** The Board members were given a copy of the Draft Plan at the last CADB meeting. Bob stated that he and Barbara Davis are there to take their comments. He stated that he and Kate Fullerton have received some written comments. If agreed, a draft copy can be made available to the public. They must send a copy to all the Municipalities within the ADA. Discussion ensued and the Plan was recommended for release to the Public for comments.

Right To Farm Matters:

- **None at this time**

Public Comment:

- **Patricia Springwell (Readington Township):** Has suggestions for Board Meetings and property in Clinton Township. Discussion ensued about the property.
- **Board Member Susan Blew** – Asked Bob if there was a response to the letter to Franklin Twp. Bob stated he got no response.

Adjournment

- MOTION for adjournment made by John Perhynys, Bob Hoffman SECONDED. All in favor, Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hornby, CADB Administrator

Prepared with the assistance of Colleen Runge, Planning Department Clerk