

# Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board Meeting

February 13, 2020 @ 8:00 pm

314 Route 12 County Complex  
Building #1 | Assembly Room  
Flemington, New Jersey

## Members in Attendance:

Dave Bond-Chair  
Bob Hoffman-Vice Chair  
Susan Blew  
Ted Harwick  
David Kyle  
Marc Phillips  
Liz Schmid  
John Van Nuys  
Kevin Milz

## CADB Staff Present:

Shana Taylor, Esq. County Counsel  
Bob Hornby, CADB Administrator

## Open Public Meeting Act:

### **Chairman Bond 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 and maintaining so posted throughout the year 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 January 16, 2020, to The Hunterdon Democrat, Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Courier News and The Express Times newspapers, and TAP Into it newspaper and designated by the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board to receive such notices, and by filing with the Hunterdon County Clerk a schedule of the times and dates of such meetings."*

## Pledge of Allegiance:

**Roll Call:** Absent- Forest Locandro, Gerry Lyness, John Perekhyns, Megan Muehlbauer

## Approval of Minutes

- **January 9, 2020 CADB Minutes** Liz Schmid made a MOTION to approve the with an edit that the meeting was turned over to Chair Bond after his election. Bob Hoffman SECONDED. All in favor by Voice Vote, Marc Phillips abstained.

## Communications and Administrative Business:

- CADB Staff update
  - **Janssen/Peacefield** (Alexandria, CPIG) – was appraised in 2017 at current and 2004 values under the dual appraisal system because of Highlands Planning Area location, the project had gone ahead under assumption 2004 values were the CMV. SADC recently concluded that the property was transferred in 2007 between two corporations in two different states. AG office considered it a sale making the 2004 values are no longer valid because the property was not under continuous ownership since January 1, 2004. Going forward, exploring different options, SADC will only cost share on CMV. All appraisals and surveys are still good, working with Freeholders and Alexandria Township. Gathering what they want to do next and will have something for the board next meeting.
  - **Kappus** (Alexandra, MPIG) – Contract was mailed to landowners
  - **Hope Hill** – (Franklin, CPIG) March 5<sup>th</sup> expected closing.

- **Grochowicz** (Hampton, Glen Gardner, Bethlehem, CPIG) – Adam has been keeping landowners up to date on things. Waiting for Fish & Wildlife and SADC to agree on a consolidated Deed of Easement.
- **2020 Spring Preservation Round:** Proposed Spring round of Farmland Preservation Applications with a deadline of April 9, 2020 and preliminary acceptance vote by CADB on May 14, 2020. Chairman Bond asked for a MOTION, Bob Hoffman made a MOTION to approve John Van Nuys SECONDED. All in favor by Voice Vote.
- **Monitoring Update:** Kevin Milz stated he inspected 30 farms in the last month. Bob stated that SADC said 81% of farms were monitored in Fiscal 2018-2019.

### SADC Updates:

*Bob updated on behalf of SADC.*

- **Farm Succession and Estate Planning Workshop;** March 31<sup>st</sup> at Recklesstown Distillery in Columbus NJ, hosted by SADC
- **Special Occasion Events;** SADC report on to State Legislator in likely in February. Vote today with Ag sub-committee on special events legislation, independent from SADC.

### Chair Comments:

- None at this time

### Old Business:

- **Farmland Preservation Plan;** Will probably not be sent out to a Subcontractor. Going to see how much can be done in house. Will host a public comment period of what people want in it and go from there. There is grant money available, after grant is signed, we have 2 years to have it completed.

### New Business:

- None at this time.

### Right To Farm Matters:

- SSAMP Hearing-
  - **Beneduce Vineyards (Alexandria Block 21 Lot 41.31)** Beneduce Vineyards asked for adjournment until next CADB meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
    - Counsel called for a motion to open Public Hearing on Beneduce Vineyards – Liz Schmid made a MOTION to Open the Hearing, Susan Blew SECONDED. All in favor.
    - Counsel called for a motion to adjourn the Hearing until March 12, 2020, Ted Harwick made a MOTION to Adjourn and Carry, Marc Phillips SECONDED. All in favor.
- **Melick's Oldwick Farm (Tewksbury Block 44 Lot 26)** Right to Farm hearing next Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - Bob handed out additional information provided by the applicant and asked that the Board review them and bring them to the meeting next week.
  - County Counsel has recused themselves from this matter, outside Counsel for the county was not available tonight or the March meeting. The Special Meeting will move the process along in a timely manner. Bob thanked the Board for their cooperation.

**Public Comment:**

- No public comment.

**Adjournment**

- MOTION for adjournment made by John Van Nuys, Liz Schmid SECONDED. All in favor, Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM