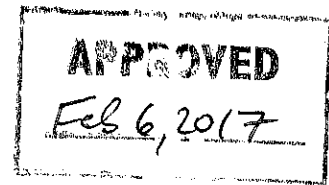


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2
3 MINUTES OF THE MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
4 MEETING HELD MONDAY DECEMBER 5, 2016
5 IN THE EXTENSION SERVICE BUILDING
6 930 SPRUCE STREET, TRENTON, N.J.
7 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
8
9



10 I. CALL TO ORDER

11 Chairman Steve Jany called this meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

12
13 II. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

14 Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was given to the Trenton Times,
15 Trentonian, Mercer County Clerk, and posted in the Mercer County Administration Building.

16
17 III. ROLL CALL

18 A. Voting Members:

Steve Jany, Chairman – Present	Scott Ellis – Present
Frank D’Amico, Vice-Chairman – Present	Kelly Mooij – Present
Kristine Walsh - Present	Gary Mount – Present
	Laurie Emde – Absent

19 B. Non-Voting Members:

20 Bill Agress/County Planning Board Liaison – Present
21 Meredith Melendez/Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension – Absent
22

23 C. Others Present:

Dan Pace, MCADB Secretary	Dan Knox, SADC Representative
Leslie Floyd, County Planning Director	

24 IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

25 On a motion by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Mount, the minutes of the October 3, 2016 re-
26 scheduled meeting was unanimously approved with one grammatical correction. Ms. Mooij abstained.
27

28 V. PUBLIC COMMENT

29 None
30

31 VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- 32
- 33 • Mr. Pace noted that pursuant to an email he received from the County, several CADB members have yet to complete this year’s Financial Disclosure form.
 - 34 • Another informal complaint, following one received earlier this year, has recently been received against Lee Turkey Farm and Ronny Lee’s practice to dispose of offal in his farm field. The complaints allege that this practice causes vultures to feed on the offal and rest on the complainants residential rooftops. This results in large amounts of droppings
35 accumulating on the roofs as evidenced by a photo Mr. Pace showed that was submitted by
36 the latest complainant. Mr. Pace spoke to Ronny this past spring and Ms. Melendez wrote
37 him a letter this past September identifying best practices for field disposal as described by
38 Bob Mickel, Rutgers ag agent specializing in animal production. Ms. Melendez also recently
39 reached out to Ronny but he has not yet responded. Mr. Pace asked Board members to
40 discuss these best practices with Ronny.
41
 - 42 • Mr. Pace reported that Lawrence Township is on the verge of adopting an ordinance
43 permitting (with restrictions) chickens to be raised in residential areas.
44
45

1
2 VII. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

3 A. SADC:

4 Mr. Knox reported:

- 5 • Deer fencing grants will be available for preserved farms when the legislature makes funds
6 available. He outlined the proposed application eligibility and approval requirements and
7 potential grant amount. Board members asked questions on the requirements and on
8 eligibility - especially with regard to the definition of a "preserved farm".
- 9 • The Hom family farm preservation through SADC direct easement purchase is likely to
10 close by the end of this month.
- 11 • Mary Joe Herbert's easement preservation application through the Hopewell PIG is moving
12 towards Green Light approval.
- 13 • Micro Enterprise Act rules proposal was informally presented by SADC staff at the last
14 SADC meeting.
- 15 • Stony Brook farm in Hopewell, which was preserved by the Township with the SADC
16 holding the easement, is under foreclosure. The SADC has asked the bank to keep it
17 informed on the process as it unfolds.
- 18 • The SADC's 2018 Non-Profit Application Round has begun with an application deadline of
19 April 13th.

20
21 B. Land Development Activity: None

22
23 C. Status of Farmland Preservation Applications:

24
25 2016 PIG:

- 26 • Gaskill et al on Sawmill Road: SADC gave Final Approval; title work and survey has
27 started.
- 28 • McNulty farm in Hopewell: SADC gave Final Approval; survey work by Van-Note Harvey
29 is on-going.

30
31 2018 PIG:

- 32 • Chowdhury: The owners wish to sell in-fee to the County this 32-acre targeted farm on
33 Sawmill Road in Hamilton – a hole in the donut of preserved farm acreage. The County has
34 hired two appraisers for determining both a fee value and an easement value and their
35 appraisals are due now. Should the owner and the County come to a purchase price
36 agreement, the County would then apply to the SADC for ag easement cost-share funds as
37 the contract purchaser.

38
39 IX. OLD BUSINESS

- 40 • PennEast pipeline: The company's Ag Impact Minimization Plan has been modified. The
41 major revisions are: 24 Hour notice before beginning construction increased to 2 weeks "in
42 most instances"; reserved topsoil will be monitored for weed growth and managed; damaged
43 tiles repaired within 14 days of construction completion; post-repair monitoring; where
44 bedrock inhibits a minimum four foot cover over the top of the pipe, the pipe will be placed
45 into the bedrock so that the top of pipe is 6" below the top of bedrock profile.
- 46 • Farm Monitoring:
 - 47 ○ Mr. Liang had been told in August that another visit would be made in early
48 November and a dumpster needed to be on the property either filled with trash or in
49 the process of being filled. That return visit was made and a dumpster was on the
50 property and filled. Although more clean-up needs to be done, this is a good start.
 - 51 ○ Mr. Radvany received a cease and desist order from County Counsel on June 30th
52 giving him till September 28th to report back to Counsel that the non-ag use
53 (landscaper) was no longer using the preserved farm for storage. That report never
54 came. Counsel sent a letter on November 22nd saying legal proceedings will begin.

- 1 • Mr. Pace showed slides taken from Sawmill Road of the completed indoor arena on the
2 Pyrros farm.
3
4 • 2018 Planning Incentive Grant Application: Mr. Pace reported that there were no municipal
5 requests for targeting farms and recommended that there be no changes made to the current
6 ADA, Project Areas, or Targeted Farms. Because no CADB resolution is needed to submit
7 the PIG application; these minutes reflect the Boards instructions for Mr. Pace to submit as
8 recommended.
9

10 X. NEW BUSINESS

11 None

12
13 XI. OTHER BUSINESS

14 None

15
16 XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

17 None

18
19 XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

20 None was required.

21
22 XIV. ADJOURNMENT

23 The meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM. The next scheduled meeting of the MCADB is February 6,
24 2017.

25
26 Respectfully submitted,

27 

28
29
30 Daniel Pace
31 MCADB, Secretary

32
33 Date adopted: February 6, 2017

34
35 Attachments, if any, are made a part of the permanent record and are filed in the Minute Book, and are
36 located in the Mercer County Planning Division Office. All copies are available upon request.