
FARMERS KEEP
OUR COUNTY
GREEN



MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

4000 Kozloski Rd., Box 5033, Freehold, NJ 07728

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture
Minutes of Oct 21, 2008

Meeting called to order 7:40 p.m.

Invocation: Don Pyle

Attendees: Marty Bullock, Ross Clayton, Doc Dey, Gary DeFelice, Nyna McKittrick, Ed Wengryn, Pat DePalma, Angelo & Anne Trapani, Meg Whitehouse, Doug Kauffman, Debbie McCandless, Bill Walker, Donna Puhalski, Bob Freiberger, Jim Wikoff, Don Pyle, Bill Potter, Bill Sciarappa, Tom Freiberger, Robin Bruins, Rich Obal, Deb Pribell

Minutes from last meeting, Correction of Heading to minutes. Motion to accept Don Pyle,
Second by; Jim Wikoff , accepted by the Board

Treasurer Report read by Ross Clayton. Motion to Accept by Marty Bullock, Seconded by: Doc Dey
Accepted by the Board

Correspondence:

- ❖ Thank you from Diane Zahorsky for the donation to the AG Building Beautification project.
- ❖ Thank you from Sarah Sakowski for the scholarship to attend congress in Kentucky November 2008.
- ❖ Reminder from Karen Kritz for the 2010 Outstanding Young Farmer Award nomination

Reports

Bill Sciarappa Went to State Master Gardeners meeting spoke to over 400 attendees, well attended event. VGA Convention is coming up at the Taj in Atlantic City Jan 13/15. Rain Gardens are increasing in interest and seminars on how to begin a garden have been running. More information on rain gardens please contact the office 732-431-7260. Ryck Suydam is looking for support for a local concert to benefit Farmers Feed the Hungry, this will be held at Monmouth College in the near future. Fall harvest is looking well this year, Ramapo tomato trial is still running with good results, as well as a pasture grass trial at the Adelphia Research Center.

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Rich Obal Economic times are reflected every where, the budget has had another cut in it and this will trickle down to the county office. Things as hiring freeze, layoffs, program cuts are just a few, leaving everyone with the bare bare minimum to work with. On a much better note, the MASTER GARENDERS produce apx 1700 lbs of food for the local food pantry. Great work to all. Dave Kimmel will be at the next meeting to speak. The presentation will start a 7pm with the Board of Ag meeting to follow directly after.

Bill Walker Any one needing provisions of the Jennifer Beck Farmland Assessment Bill, Bob Bruch is willing to come and make presentations the county boards. Wednesday 11/12 will be an information gathering at the Cumberland County Extension Office. Topics such as; learn about produce purchasing, how to sell over produced product and under valued product marketing. more information call Logan Brown @609-292-8856.

October 17, 2008 grand opening of the Rutgers Food Innovation Center, this large facility will help farmers and entrepreneurs market their ideas and products. NJ has been working very hard to get schoolchildren to eat better at school. The program has begun in several counties as a pilot program. With Fall Agritourism Season here more and more families heading out to the farms for that fall experience, Rutgers found that more than 1/5 of the local farms offered some form of agritourism research based on studies last year.

Ed Wengryn With the up coming convention coming Nov 17/18 at the Westin at Forrestal Village, remember to send in your registrations. The on going Highlands has the Farm Bureau frustrated based on the executive order from Gov. Corzine last month, NJFB did some research on the terms with no prevail. With the economy on a rollercoaster the mood of the public is just as unsettling. The upcoming elections are weighing heavy on many citizens as well.

Deb Pribell Membership benefits are growing!!! Latest is the Health insurance, more information will be available at the seminar in Glassboro on Nov 19 at Masso's on Delsea Drive. More information please call the farm house. Grainger benefits are increasing for all; free shipping is just one of the great advantages. **LOOK** for cell phone service to be on the benefit list in the future. And remember to bring more members into the farm bureau community.

FSA Final payments for the 2008 DCP are being directly deposited into personal bank accounts during October. County Committee Elections are here. Watch you mail box for the ballots. Completed and signed ballots must be in the office close of business Dec. 1, 2008 With the new Farm Bill Disaster Program eligible participate **MUST** purchase at least catastrophic risk protection for all insurable crops, more information please call the office. With the changes in the NAP program upon us the rates have increased this year, please contact Lorri are 732-462-0075 with any questions about the program.

New Business

A motion to support Ryck Suydam with the concert "Farmers Feed the Hungry" was made by Doug Kauffman, second by Doc Dey, and accepted by the Board.

A fair committee was approved with Nyna McKittrick as chair and several volunteers to help.

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New Business cont

Warren County would like the support of Jake Bilyik to fill the opening on the State Board of Agriculture, and have asked our Board to indorse this request. Motion was made by Bob Freiberger, 2nd by Doc Dey, and accepted by the Board.

Questions about the support of the 3 Ag fairs supported by the Board. A request to hear from from the chairs of each fair was made by Nyna McKittrick. Letters of support will be sent to the state for 2009. With notices sent to the Chairs of the 3 fairs to attend a board meeting with an update on their event. Motion was made by Don Pyle and 2nd by Doc Dey, and accepted by the Board.

Ross Clayton's farm is the latest farm inducted into the farm land preservation program.
Congratulations Ross and Debbie Clayton

Old Business

If you haven't already filled out the up date form please do so and bring it to the meeting. If you need another form they will be available at the meeting. We would like to start an E-mail list. Thank you to all that have sent them in already.

A request to increase the mailing for the Changing Times was made; to send the publication to all the Farm Bureau members in Monmouth County hoping to increase attendance at meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm
NEXT Meeting November 18, 2008 7:30 PM
Minutes recorded & typed by: Debi Kauffman

Happy Thanksgiving from our home to your home

