

## Monmouth County Board of Agriculture Meeting Minutes 11-16-2010

I. Call to order by **President G. DeFelice** at 7:37 at the regular meeting of the MCBOA on November 16, 2010 in Freehold, NJ.

II. Invocation by **Stephen P. Dey**

III. The following persons were present: Boots Cassie, Ross Clayton, Gary DeFelice, Patrick DePalma, Stephen P. Dey, Kate Everett, Bob Freiberger, Tom Frieberger, Debi Kaufmann, Doug Kauffman, Nyna McKittrick, Rich Obal, Bill Sciarappa, Ed Wengryn, Jim Wikoff, Meg Whitehouse. Guest- Mr. George Asprocolas

IV. Approval for the minutes of the 10-19-2010 meeting, with the following corrections: date of the next meeting should have been 11-16-2010, a motion was made by B.

Cassie to approve. Motion Approved

V. The **treasurer's** report was read by **R. Clayton** and a motion for approval was made by D. Kauffman. Motion Approved

VI. **Correspondences** were received from:

Freedom Fest- Tentative date July 5-10, 2011.

Camden County BOA- John Riggolizzo Jr. in need of a kidney transplant. A motion to send a donation to the national Foundation for Transplants for \$250.00 was made by J. Wikoff. Motion approved.

**Ron Swanekamp**- Is seeking a position on the State Board of Agriculture.

**Clair McKittrick**-Update on participating in all three Monmouth County Ag fairs, Ag Society Ambassador contest participation, and 4-H Congress. Motion to approve funding of \$200.00 to each participant to attend Congress from Monmouth County made by D. Kauffman. Motion approved.

### Reports-

**Rich Obal**-County budget continues to evolve with small cuts still being made. The stink bug problem is affecting many crops including fruit trees, vegetables, greenhouse, and nursery stock.

Master gardeners graduation held at Hominy Hill Golf Course 6:00. 11-18-2010.

Excellent article about Master gardeners in the Asbury Park Press about the garden producing 2400+ Lbs. of produce. Stakeholders meeting will be held in either March or April, with a MCBOA meeting held prior to the event. The meeting will outline the programs and seek feedback from 4-H, Agriculture & the public.

**Bill Sciarappa**- Equine Essentials hand out distributed. Continue work on rain gardens at Brookdale Community College. 4 gardens done. Expected savings of \$75,000.00 in erosion control. Gardens will be by parking lots # 1, 2, 5 & 6. Eco Complex Bio Energy meeting 11/18/2010. Central Jersey Vegetable Growers meeting Feb 4th at the Ag building in Freehold.

**Tim Dey**-Report received by e-mail Crop Assistance Program (CAP):

Signup for the Crop Assistance Program (CAP) began October 25, 2010, and continues through December 9, 2010. Up to \$550 million in disaster assistance will be issued to producers of rice, upland cotton, soybeans and sweet potatoes that suffered losses because of excessive moisture or related conditions in 2009.

Producers of eligible crops on farms in disaster counties who certify to a 5 percent or greater crop loss in 2009 due to excessive moisture or related conditions will receive a payment based on a predetermined payment rate times the planted acres of the crop.

Producers will initially receive 75 percent of their CAP payment and once sign up is complete they will receive up to an additional 25 percent.

**Ed Wengryn**-FB convention went very well and was well attended. Very good turnout this year with great dialog about issues. Ag driver's license talks continue. Pineland ethics still working with Senate to resolve unfair Ag issues. Upcoming seminars on farm energy use, self audits, energy conservation plans.

FB Women's Committee- Education materials available including- "I met a farmer today" stickers to encourage dialog about agriculture.

**Kate Everett**-Attended national convention and had leadership activities. Upcoming events in 4-H- 4-H Animology quiz bowl in early February, with NJ's only avian quiz bowl. Partnering with local Veterinarians and Vet Techs to educate the equine programs. Clair McKittrick & Paul Yoncak attending 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia this month.

**Stephen P. Dey**-Revamped Agriculture science curriculum should be ready by the spring-with majors that will produce Ag teachers and County Extension agents and Ag specialists. Dean Goodman spoke at the FB convention.

The water supply draft is done and each member will select 2 stake holders to review the plan.

**William Walker**-Report received by e-mail- Water Supply Master Plan At the request of the Water Supply Advisory Council (WSAC) the development developed water needs data for NJ livestock. The data table includes daily water needs of the major groups of animal distributed by county. Livestock need a total of about 1.25 million gallons of water a day, with 500,00 for dairy and beef cattle, 300,000gpd for chickens 3000,000 for other animals including horses. The data was presented to the WSAC for possible incorporation in the state's Water Supply Master Plan currently under revision. Agri-tourism season was successful with farm related activities including corn mazes. Sec. Fisher held a joint event with the NJ Nursery and Landscape Association to urge residents to patronize local nursery , garden center and landscape businesses this fall. The Division of Animal Health has a new pathologist. Dr. Shannon Lee Swist. Pathologists are required for all diagnostic labs and are pivotal in animal disease diagnosis. NJ Ag convention Feb. 8&9 at the Crowne Plaza in Cherry Hill.

2011 Ag Fair Ambassador Samantha Mason, of Vineland was selected by the Ag Fair Association November 7. Congratulations to Clair McKittrick of Monmouth for being named a runner up at the competition. There are 18 Ag fairs in the state which can be viewed at [www.njagfairs.com](http://www.njagfairs.com) <<http://www.njagfairs.com/>> . Hunterton County Farmer John Melick named 2011 Outstanding Farmer of the Year. Melick was also named as one of the 25 national semi-finalists for the National Outstanding Young Farmer Award. Equine scholarships is offered to 4-H and FFA members who pursue their equine activities. Deadline is Jan. 12, 2011. Scholarship for H.S. Seniors interested in careers in Agriculture or science. Deadline December 15, Get info by contacting [www.Debra.Moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:www.Debra.Moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us) <<http://www.Debra.Moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us/>>

### **New Business-**

Lions Club Strawberry Festival 2010 was the last year for the fair.

A motion was made by S P. Dey to donate \$250.00 to the NJ Farm Bureaus Women's Committee's Campaign supporting the Ronald MacDonald House & Hunger Program. Motion approved.

Discussion on picnic meeting of the Board. A committee consisting of B. Sciarappa, Debi Kauffman and Gary DeFelice was formed for fact finding. Board Sec. N. McKittrick will send letters to invite area farmers to meetings to increase membership.

Motion to adjourn made by D. Kauffman.

9:07 The Board went into Executive Session to conduct its annual meeting.

Report given by J. Wikoff proposed the new slate of officers.

The nominating committee ( J. Wikoff, C. Palmer, D. Holmes and A. West) proposed :

**Gary DeFelice- President,**

**Debi Kauffman- Vice President,**

**Nyna McKittrick- Recording Secretary,**

**Robin Bruins- Corresponding Secretary,**

**Ross Clayton- Treasurer.**

A motion to accept the slate of officers was made by B. Freiberger. Motion unanimously approved.

Discussion on the By-Laws.

George Asprocolas and Pat Butch were nominated as new Board members in a motion by J. Wycoff. Motion approved.

Motion to adjourn S.P. Dey. Motion approved.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by N.M.

Next Board meeting scheduled – Tuesday, December 21, 2010