

COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING MAY 25, 2022 TELECONFERENCE

MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE

Matthew Stiles	Chairman
James P. Hand	Vice-Chairman
Sue Ann Wheeler	
Robert Schumann	
Barbara Ernst	Div. Dir. Open Space & Farmland Pres.

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Mullen, Planning Department

PUBLIC: Rae Joffee, Linda Dalton

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Stiles called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Chairman Stiles asked for nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary.

Mr. Schumann made a motion to keep the current slate of officers in their positions for a term of one year:

Matthew Stiles	Chairman
James P. Hand	Vice-Chairman
Barbara Ernst	Secretary

Mrs. Wheeler seconded the motion.

Roll Call taken, Matthew Stiles, Yes; James P. Hand, Yes; Sue Ann Wheeler, Yes; Robert Schumann, Yes: The motion passed with 4 yes votes to approve Mr. Matthew Stiles as Chairman, Mr. James P. Hand, Vice-Chairman, and Barbara Ernst, Secretary of the County Agriculture Development Board for a term of 1 year.

MINUTES: Mr. Schumann made a motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Mr. Mullen reviewed the financial statement that showed the balance in the fund at the end of April 25, 22 was \$16,035,557.89, and \$3,705,738.20 although not encumbered was projected to cover approved projects in the Open Space program, leaving \$12,650,992.19 available for funding.

APPLICATION REVIEW:

Blair Hanson and Eric Hanson
Lower Township
Blk. 500.01, Lots 19.01, 27.04, 21.06, 30
55.53 Acres

Mr. Mullen stated that the farm was located between Weeks Landing Road and Church's nursery and farm with a total acreage of 55.53 acres with 3 severable exceptions and 1 non-severable totaling 5.2 acres leaving a net of 49.52 acres for consideration for preservation.

He reviewed the ranking score form with the Board, noting that the current agriculture production as stated on the farmland assessment applications as squash, pumpkins, tomatoes, peppers, blueberries, watermelons, pigs, cows and chickens. He said that at the time of inspection, he observed pasture area for the cows, pigs and some hay production. There are 4 trailers in the easement area, with 50% used for fishing equipment and 50% used for agriculture production purposes.

The application noted a 14x28 agriculture unit with the number of labor changing as needed. The unit is used full time.

The applicants had also received final approval from Lower Township for a 22 lot subdivision in 2008.

Mr. Schumann asked if the application still qualified for minimum tillable acres for consideration in the preservation program which Mr. Mullen said that it did based on GIS calculations. Mr. Schumann asked whether SADC no longer considers subdivisions. Mr. Mullen responded that it would be included in the application, but the SADC would likely not consider it in the appraisals.

Mr. Hand made a motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to approve the application to send to the SADC for green light approval for appraisals and consideration for the preservation program.

Roll Call taken, Matthew Stiles, Yes; James P. Hand, Yes; Sue Ann Wheeler, Yes; Robert Schumann, Yes. The motion passed with 4 yes votes to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Wheeler made a motion, it was seconded by Mr. Schumann and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 P.M.

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Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting July 25, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Ernst