

# Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes  
July 12, 2018

The meeting was called to the order by Chairman Jack Schultz at 7:35pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Schultz.

Roll call: present - Brian Lorenz, Jack Schultz, Brian Dolbow Walt Turner, Lou Joyce (Secretary). Absent- Ron Vassallo, Al Mitchell, Beth Reilly, Twp Committee liaison.

Others Present: Ms. Katie Mazzella, SADC liaison

The minutes from the May 10, 2018 meeting were approved on motion by Turner, 2nd by Lorenz, all in favor with Turner abstaining. (Note: the March minutes were not approved and will be on the next agenda for action).

Old Business: Received and reviewed update information from Fran Rapa, NJCF and Katie Mazzella, SADC.

Ms. Mazzella reported that closings have occurred for the Robbins-Williams and McAlonan 2 & 3 farms. She said that the Sickler farm was set for final approval by SADC at the September meeting. She said that the Gentile farm should receive its certified value in September and that the Parave farm, which is not in the Township project area should be approved in September too. She provided a copy of the "SADC Partner Update" newsletter which detailed the Deer Fencing Program and other efforts of SADC. Finally she pointed to the last page of the newsletter which shows the current balance of the Township PIG funds at \$247,465.66. The current balance should be sufficient to cover Sickler and Gentile and she said she will recommend the Township receive additional funds in the next round.

Mr. Rapa's report on the Status of NJCF's Alloway projects. His report mentioned the closings of Robbins- Williams, and McAlonan farms, and the active projects of Gentile, Sickler and Parave farms. It was noted that Parave is not in the Township project area. Mr. Rapa's report stated that he is developing projects on the R. Williams and Coleman farms and aerial maps were provided showing the sites. The report concluded with a table showing the NJCF preserved farms from 2009. There are ten farms preserve by NJCF totaling 407.8 acres in the Township.

Mr. Joyce reported that the contract for the Sickler farm has been signed and provided a copy of the first page for information. He also provided emails on the appraisals for Sickler and Gentile that were completed.

The Township Trust Fund financial information was received from the Township Treasurer. The fund balance started at \$93,896.54. Disbursements of \$19, 454 were made. After accounting for interest income and costs for the recent preservation, the balance is \$78,621.43. The 2018 open space tax of \$14,008.50 will be credited and reimbursement of 50% of the soft costs from SADC, estimated at \$18, 439 will also be deposited and the unaudited fund balance should be \$111.069.03. Upcoming costs for the Sickler and Gentile farms will be deducted from the balance.

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New Business: Mr. Joyce reported that he had a call from Dale Smith. Mr. Smith had checked with the County about preservation and was told to determine if his property was in the Township project area. After reviewing the map it was determined that his property is outside of the Township area but is mapped as a County priority farm and he was going back to the County to apply.

Meeting adjourned 8:08 pm on motion of Mr. Turner , 2nd Mr. Dolbow unanimously approved.

Louis C. Joyce  
Secretary

**DRAFT: subject to approval at next regular meeting**