

**Ocean County Agriculture Development Board**  
**Minutes of January 8, 2026**  
**Manchester Township Council Meeting Room**

**Attendance:** Doug Hallock, Chair; Jeff Vogel (OCADB); Glenn Riccardi (OCADB); Martin Lynch (OCADB); Dawn Corbett-Nivison (OCADB); Timothy Gleason (OCPLD); Thomas Thorsen (OCPLD); Mat Thompson (County Counsel); Jessica Pinto (Soil Conservation District); Dr. Stephen Yergeau (OC Ag Ext)

Public Attendees: Diane Vogel, Tom Nivison

**I. Flag Salute**

**II. Call to order and Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act-** Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm by stating the Open Public Meetings Act requirements had been met.

**III. Roll Call**

**IV. Reorganization**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Vogel to re-nominate Doug Hallock as Chairman of the Ocean County Agricultural Development Board. Mr. Riccardi seconded. Roll Call. Mr. Hallock abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Hallock stated a nomination for Vice-Chairman of the Board was needed.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Lynch to nominate Kathleen Sucharski as Vice Chair of the Ocean County Agricultural Development Board. Mr. Vogel seconded. Roll Call. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Hallock stated a nomination for Secretary of the Board was needed.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Vogel to nominate Glenn Riccardi as Secretary of the Ocean County Agricultural Development Board. Mrs. Nivison seconded. Roll Call. Mr. Riccardi abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

**V. Approval of Minutes from November 13, 2025**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Vogel to approve the November 13, 2025 minutes. Mr. Lynch seconded. Roll call. All in favor, Mr. Riccardi abstained. Motion carried

**VI. Program Update**

Mr. Gleason informed the Board that the County closed on three (3) farms in 2025. Two (2) development easements were purchased and one (1) the County purchased in

fee, and will work with the SADC to get the farm entered into the farmland preservation program and auctioned off at a future date. This brings the total amount of preserved farms in Ocean County, including SADC Direct Acquisition properties to 61 and 3,688 acres.

Mrs. Nivison added that there are many farms in southern Ocean County that could be good targets for preservation and asked about doing outreach for the program.

## **VII. Public Comment**

Mr. Nivison reported that a preserved farm in Toms River appears to be growing fallow and unfarmed. Mr. Nivison also inquired about the status of a farm that is a priority for preservation in Toms River.

Mrs. Pinto informed the Board about an upcoming "local working group" and encouraged attendance from the Ag board, farmers, and all local constituents.

A **MOTION** was made to go into closed session by Mr. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Vogel at 7:58 pm. All in favor, motion passed.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Lynch to move out of closed session at 8:01 pm. Mr. Vogel seconded. Roll Call. All in favor, motion carried.

There will be action taken on the farmland preservation application discussed in closed session:

Nobles Farmland Preservation Application, Plumsted Twp. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Lynch to acquire the development easement on the Nobles Farm, totaling approximately 9.00 acres in Plumsted Township for an amount not to exceed \$247,500.00. Mr. Vogel seconded. Roll Call. All in favor, motion passed.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

A **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:04 pm was made by Mr. Lynch. Mr. Vogel seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Next Meeting: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 7:30pm  
Manchester Township Council Meeting Room**

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas Thorsen  
GIS Specialist