

**Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund
Minutes of Advisory Committee Meeting
August 23, 2023**

Present: Alan Avery (Chair), David McKeon (Vice-Chair), William Fox, Lisa Hodgson, Terry O’Leary, & John Peterson. **Absent:** John Bacchione, Martin Flemming III., & Greg Myhre

Also Present at the meeting were: Laura Benson (County Counsel), Geoffrey Lohmeyer (OCPR), Anthony Agliata (OCPD), Tom Thorsen (OCPD), Dan Sindoni (OCPD), Nicole Leaf (OCPD), Denise Brand (Public), and Rand Pearsall (Public)

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes: July 26, 2023

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. McKeon to approve the July 26, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. O’Leary abstains, rest in favor, motion carried.

4. Program Update: 29,583.94 acres

Mr. Sindoni informed the Committee that the County no closings have occurred since the last meeting keeping our total acreage at 29,583.94.

5. New Business

#710 Frazee FRM Ext., Ocean Twp., 1 acre – Mr. Sindoni told the Committee that this property a 1-acre proposed donation from the Forked River Mountain Coalition. The property is within the Forked River Mountain Project Area and is adjacent to both County property and NJCF property. The property does not contain wetlands, though they do run north and south of the property. The Committee instructed staff to complete an inspection of the property. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. O’Leary to recommend acceptance of the donation to the Board of Commissioners, contingent upon the property being clean during staff inspection. Roll was called, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Public Comment

Ms. Brand, a Trustee of the Holgate Tax Payer Association, inquired about the Natural Lands Trust Fund Program process, as there is a property of interest, 13 acres, located on Long Beach Island. She is not the owner. Ms. Brand was advised that the program does require willing sellers to participate, and that Staff would be able to discuss the program with her further the following day. Mr. Pearsall, also a member of a Long Beach Tax Payers Association echoed Ms. Brand’s request that the County consider acquisition of a 13-acre property.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Ms. Hodgson to move into Closed Session at 6:14 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

**Ocean County Natural Lands Trust
Advisory Committee Meeting
August 23, 2023
Page 2 of 3**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Ms. Hodgson to move back into Open Session at 6:22 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Avery stated that in closed session two nominations were discussed. Of those items, none that were discussed will have action taken.

Adjournment: A **MOTION** was made by made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Ms. Hodgson to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nicole Leaf, Environmental Specialist