

**MEETING MINUTES  
EAST AMWELL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 15, 2018; EAST AMWELL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1070 ROUTE 202, RINGOES, NJ**

**CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

The meeting of the East Amwell Agricultural Advisory Committee began at 7:30PM. Notice of this meeting was filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the agenda was posted on the municipal bulletin board.

**2018 ATTENDANCE**

Agricultural Advisory Committee Member	1/15/18	2/19/18	3/19/18	4/16/18	5/21/18	6/18/18	7/16/18	8/20/18	9/17/18	10/15/18	11/19/18	12/17/18
<b>Kit Crisafulli</b>	X											
<b>Ann DelCampo</b>	X											
<b>Rob Garrett</b>	X											
<b>John Perehinys</b>												
<b>Candice Wiggum</b>	X											

*Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt as recording secretary*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**REORGANIZATION FOR 2018**

Rob Garrett made a motion to nominate Candice Wiggum to serve as Chairperson for the Committee for 2018. He went on to say that Candice was instrumental in organizing and moving forward the Deer Management Project. She does the work and reaches out to the Township and keeps apprised of the issues going on at the County level and he believes she would make a wonderful Chairperson for the Committee. The motion was seconded by Kit Crisafulli, all in favor. Candice Wiggum accepted the nomination and will serve as Chair for the Committee for 2018.

Candice Wiggum nominated Rob Garret to serve as Vice-Chair for 2018, she went on to say he has a big project he hopes to work on this year. Kit Crisafulli seconded. All in favor. Rob Garrett accepted and will serve as Vice Chair for 2018.

**RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

Candice Wiggum made a motion to open to the public and noted no public was currently present. Kit Crisafulli seconded. Candice Wiggum made a motion to close to the public and Rob Garrett seconded. All in favor.

**PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes from the December 18, 2017 meeting were presented. Candice Wiggum noted two corrections. Correcting the spelling of Kathryn Fullerton’s last name and change the word culmination in the sentence regarding the Deer Management Symposium. With the understanding these two corrections will be made, the minutes will be voted on at the February 19, 2018 meeting.

Candice Wiggum explained more about what is planned for the Deer Management Symposium for the benefit of those who were not present at earlier meetings. Invitees are being identified and invitations will be sent to farmers and management hunters and possibly hunt clubs. The Symposium will be advertised and the attendees must register in advance to attend.

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Candice suggested it is time to bring the committee back together to set up a meeting to further discuss the plan for counting deer and what the next steps will be. She will check with Jody to find out when she is available and will then set a date for the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS UPDATE**

The Township Committee approved a \$100 donation from the Agricultural Advisory Committee budget for the Deer Management Symposium.

The Bee Keepers also appeared at the Township Committee Meeting and they made a resolution in support of the Bee Keepers.

**REPORT ON AGRICULTURE IN THE TOWNSHIP**

Report on agriculture in the township. Using the previous report, the committee will identify the sections that need updated and much of the information is in the township assessment records. Identify trends for the past recent years. At a later date we may need to request funding for support of this project. For now, the committee will work on it in-house.

Rob Garrett suggested all the members take a look at the document on the East Amwell Website and become familiar with its contents. Decide what is meaningful and we will discuss at the next meeting. The plan is to review the data and if possible prepare a report to be given to the township committee with some action items. Either the township could pursue the items, or possibly the committee. He went on to say studies are beginning to indicate more young people are pursuing farming careers and this needs to be encouraged. Perhaps our study will show age trends of farmers and changes in crops being planted. It is important to obtain updated data.

Candice Wiggum distributed to the members a document containing the State criteria with data links that may be useful to the committee members in researching the information for this project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ann DelCampo suggested she would like to build a resource for farmers. For example, if a fellow farmer has an emergency, it would give him/her a means of communicating to those in the Township who have interest. Candice Wiggum suggested the Facebook page would a good way to spread the word, though she was not sure how many farmers might be using Facebook. Kit Crisafulli said most farmers are currently using technology.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nothing new at this time

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

No public present at this time. Motions were heard from Candice Wiggum to open and close to the public, seconded by Rob Garrett and all in favor.

At this time Kit Crisafulli made a motion to adjourn seconded by Rob Garrett. All in favor.  
The meeting ended at approximately 9:00PM. The next meeting will be February 19, 2018 at 7:30PM

/s/ Sharon L. Brighthaupt

Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary