

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 5, 2017**

The 785th regularly scheduled Board Meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District was held on Wednesday, July 5, 2017, at 7:30 PM, in the multi-purpose room of the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA.

**The following Directors were present:** Ken Meck, Chairman; Dan Heller, Treasurer; Herb Kreider, Roger Rohrer, Jay Snyder and Sonia Wasco.

**The following Associate Directors were present:** Lisa Graybeal and Robert Wagner.

**The following District Staff were present:** Christopher Thompson, District Manager; Gerald Heistand, Business Manager; Jeff Hill, Ag Program Manager; Nate Kurtz, E&S Program Manager; and Sallie Gregory, Conservation Education Coordinator.

**The following Cooperating Agency representatives were present:** Heather Grove, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Elwood Blake, PA DEP.

Chairman Ken Meck called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and Dan Heller provided the invocation for the meeting.

There were no guests to be introduced at the meeting.

The following Additions to the Agenda were announced:

- 1) Additional Correspondence
- 2) PACD Executive Bylaw Changes
- 3) Funding for Youth Conservation School

An opportunity was given for public comment. None was offered.

**Agency Reports**

**1. USDA, NRCS**

The NRCS report was included in the Board mailing packet. Heather Grove, NRCS District Conservationist, had no additional comment.

**2. PA DEP Field Rep Report**

The July 2017 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points were included in the mailing packet. Elwood Blake, PA DEP, was present and pointed out that the Regional Chapter 102 Follow-up Listening Sessions will occur in the various DEP regions, with our area's session scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. Greenport, which is DEP's electronic reporting system, is being updated to allow for more reports to be completed online. When available, DEP will require that those reports be filed electronically.

**Consent Agenda**

Chairman Ken Meck gave opportunity for directors to withdraw any of the items from the Consent Agenda for additional discussion. Hearing that there were no items to be removed, Dan Heller moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Consent Agenda included the following items:

1. **Minutes of June 7, 2017 Board meeting**
2. **Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations**
3. **Nutrient Management Plan Approvals**
4. **Conservation Plans Acknowledgement**

#### **Additional Business**

1. There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

2. **Treasurer's Report**

Gerald Heistand presented the reports (pages 11-13 of the mailing packet), and there were no questions. The treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit.

3. **Personnel Committee Report—Request to Hire**

Sonia Wasco reported that there is a need to replace one of the clerical staff who had resigned. Replacement was postponed due to the busy time of year, but we are now ready to hire and start training. Roger Rohrer moved to approve filling the vacant Secretary/Receptionist part-time position as recommended by the Personnel Committee, with the option to offer a three 8 hour day or three 9 hour day work schedule. Herb Kreider seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Nutrient Management Program (NMP) Delegation Agreement**

Jeff Hill reported that it is time to renew the five-year NMP contract with the District. There are no major changes other than more work with manure haulers' odor plans. The funding is expected to increase from \$448,000 to \$480,000. Bottom line is that there will be more work for staff due to changes such as the requirement for plan writers to use increased standardized weights. Jay Snyder moved to approve moving ahead with the application for funding. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **CBP Technician and Engineering Funding Agreement Requests**

Jeff Hill reported that Elwood Blake has reviewed the Technician and Engineer agreements (7/1/17 – 6/30/18) and signed off on the budget pages. These agreements will cover six technicians and two engineers for a total of \$558,900 in funding. These funds assist with covering technician costs that provide technical assistance for implementation and design of BMPs. Sonia Wasco moved to submit the CBP Technician and Engineering Funding Agreement requests to DEP. Dan Heller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Outstanding Cooperator Committee Report**

Gerald Heistand referred to the Outstanding Cooperator Committee report, on page 15 of the mailing, which listed the candidates for consideration. The Committee recommended that the Board approve granting the 2018 Outstanding Cooperator Award to the E. Marvin/Doug Herr farm of Willow Street. Herb Kreider, Committee member, confirmed that there will not be a Conservation Advocate Award for 2018. Jay Snyder moved to approve the Outstanding Cooperator Committee Report. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Youth Conservation School Request**

Sallie Gregory reminded the Board that for any Mowrer Estate (YCS INVEST Account) fund request over \$500, Board approval is required. She went into detail with the need to add a water purification system in order to use the water at the YCS kitchen and showers. Staff worked with Martin Water Conditioning. Purchase cost of the water filtration system is \$1,194.08, and Martin Water Conditioning is offering to reinstall the system each year for \$125 annually. Dan Heller moved to

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approve the request for withdrawal of \$1,194.08 from the Mowrer Estate Gift to purchase a water filtration system. Herb Kreider seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **8. PACD Executive Bylaw Changes**

Chris Thompson had previously reported this item in his Weekly Update to the Board. At the PACD/SCC Joint Annual meeting (July 12 & 13) there will be a vote to make three bylaw changes, and Chairman Ken Meck wants to make sure that Lancaster's delegates know the Board's thoughts.

- 1) That Associate Directors can serve as PACD region directors
- 2) That PACD Executive Board members have one vote per district
- 3) To remove any reference of the Auxiliary which no longer exists

The consensus was that Lancaster would support all three proposed Bylaws amendments/changes.

### **Reports/Information**

#### **1. Correspondence, News and Updates**

The following correspondence, news and update items were circulated at Board meeting:

- Thank You Letter – for gift to Calvary Church in memory of Patrick Klugh – June 1, 2017
- Thank You Letter and Evaluation – to Chris Thompson - for his contributions as Speaker/Moderator at recent District Managers' Summit – June 23, 2017
- Copy of Letter to Lancaster County Legislators – from LCCD – asking General Assembly to restore conservation district line items, through the PA Dept. of Agriculture and the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection, to the levels in the current 2016-17 budget – June 21, 2017
- News Commentary/Opinion – “What Do You Get for 47 Cents?” by Chris Thompson – Lancaster Farming – June 24, 2017
- News Article – “Just Because It's White Doesn't Mean It's Milk” by Lisa Graybeal – Lancaster Farming – June 24, 2017
- Thank You Note – to Gerald Heistand - from Warwick High School – for presenting LCCD scholarship at senior awards program
- Letter and Nomination Form– from Douglas Kilgore, USDA FSA County Executive Director – seeking nominations for FSA County Committee– June 16, 2017
- Copy of Letter to Representative David H. Zimmerman – follow up to Representative. Zimmerman's proposal for “Farmer's Nutrient Management Plan – 90 Day Limit for Written Decision” legislation – June 30, 2017

Chris Thompson highlighted that he received notice from the Keith Campbell Foundation to acknowledge that they are sending out the first Lancaster Clean Water Partners grant payment to the CFLC. The Foundation is looking to leverage another \$750k grant. The key component of the grant is to work with numerous partner agencies to improve watershed health and water quality in Lancaster County.

#### **2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report**

Nate Kurtz referred to the E&S monthly report, on page 17 of the mailing packet. He noted that activity is similar to last year with another pipeline plan submission. He also reported that the office expansion remodeling work is nearing completion. Furniture is expected to arrive on July 20.

**3. Envirothon Report**

Sallie Gregory reviewed details on the three page Envirothon report that was in the mailing packet. She noted that there was good support and a number of donations this year for the three separate events (Junior, Middle School and Senior High Envirothons).

**4. Youth Conservation School Update and Invitation**

Sallie Gregory invited Board members to attend the venison roast dinner and sponsor appreciation night on July 26. Members of the CFLC Board are planning to have their meeting prior to the meal.

**5. Tree Sale Report**

Sallie Gregory referred to the 2017 Tree Sale Report, on page 23 of the mailing. Targeting different areas in the county has brought in new orders. Half of the profits go directly to the education and watershed programs, with the remainder going into the LCCD activity account.

**6. Compliance Program Update**

Jeff Hill reported that the compliance work is finished for the FY 2016/2017, and Lancaster has met its goal of doing 300 on-farm inspections. Several more farmers are being sent to DEP as they are out of compliance. It was reported that 1,220 compliance checks have been conducted state-wide. About 850 of the compliance checks have been completed by districts. There was some discussion on how the 300 sites will be chosen for the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of inspections.

Chris Thompson highlighted several district related dates and events that directors could attend. He noted that out of the next 20 days, he will be out of the office for 12 days for various functions, R&R and medical leave.

There was no additional public comment. Chairman Ken Meck adjourned the meeting at 8:53 PM.

Gerald M. Heistand  
Recording Secretary