

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
December 7, 2022**

The 847<sup>th</sup> regularly scheduled Board Meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) was held in person at the Farm and Home Center for Directors and also via Zoom Call-In on December 7, 2022 at 7:30PM.

**The following Directors were present:** Daniel Heller, Chairman; Herb Kreider, Jay Snyder, Roger Rohrer, Bob Shearer, Sonia Wasco, Kent Weaver, Dale Herr Jr. and Commissioner John Trescot.

**The following Associate Directors were present:** Justin Welk.

**The following District Staff were present:** Christopher Thompson, Kevin Lutz, Kent Bitting, Matt Kofroth, Sallie Gregory, Stacey Hertz, Noelle LaFaver, Samantha Adams, Emma Findeisen, Ryan Riebling, Eric Hout, Jason Reuter, Adam Hartz and Suzanne Kopp.

**The following Cooperating Agency representatives were present:** Heather Grove, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Lauren Shaffer and Kate Bresaw, DEP.

Dan Heller called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Dan welcomed everyone both in person and on Zoom. Sallie Gregory reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

Herb Kreider provided the invocation for the meeting.

**Introductions:** Chris Thompson introduced the staff members that attended the board meeting tonight.

**Additions to the Agenda:** CAP Funding Award - as a discussion point.

Jay Snyder moved to add the CAP Funding Award as a discussion point to the agenda. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**An opportunity was given for public comment:** none offered.

### **I. Agency Reports**

#### **1. USDA, NRCS**

Heather Grove reported that there are no additions to the submitted report in the board packet. On December 18, 2022 there is an NRCS District Conservationist being transferred to Lancaster from Minnesota. A New Soil Conservationist will be starting in January 2023.

#### **2. PA DEP Field Rep Report**

Kate Bresaw from DEP highlighted a few talking points in the DEP report and added that there are no additions to the submitted DEP report in the Board Packet. Chris Thompson reported that two directors' terms are expiring and they are Kent Weaver and Roger Rohrer and they both have agreed to serve again.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

Chairman Daniel Heller gave the opportunity for Directors to withdraw any of the items from the Consent Agenda in order to have additional discussion.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda includes the following approved items.

- #1 – Minutes of November 3, 2022 Board meeting.
- #2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations
- #3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals
- #4 – Conservation Plan Acknowledgement

**Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)  
November 2022 Activity  
December 7, 2022 Board Meeting**

To: The Lancaster County Conservation Board of Directors Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee: I respectfully submit these Nutrient Management Plans and/or Plan Amendments to the Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee.

The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	OPERATION	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN#
Chris High	West Earl	Broiler/Steer	CAO	4.71	Heigel	13
Glenn & Joel Martin	Penn	Ducks	CAFO/VAO	0.35	Hartzok	407
Stephen & Phillip Hershey	Rapho	Layer	CAFO/CAO	9.85	Hartzok	3
Enos F. King	West Lampeter	Dairy	CAO	3.71	Heigel	273
Philip Hoover	Mt. Joy	Broiler	CAFO/CAO	8.53	Lutz	276
Lester Weiler	Earl	Broiler	CAO	25.42	Hartz	405
Carl & John Myer	Penn	Dairy	CAFO/VAO	1.31	Hartzok	408
Benjamin Nissley	Mt. Joy	Swine	CAFO/CAO	7.72	Lutz	89
Scott & Andrew Brinton	Fulton	Swine	CAFO/VAO	1.62	Adams	332
Mike Cassel	Penn/Rapho	Swine/Poultry	CAFO/CAO	2.02	Hartzok	444
Jonas Sensenig	Drumore	Swine	CAFO/VAO	1.29	Adams	268
Randall Brubaker	Rapho	Broiler/Swine	CAFO/CAO	327.86	Hartzok	112
Brian Eckman	Fulton	Swine/Poultry	CAFO/CAO	13.27	Adams	336
Darvin Myer	Penn	Steer	VAO	0.57	Wade	2305

### III. Additional Business

#### **1. Items removed from Consent Agenda**

None removed.

#### **2. Treasures Report**

Stacey Hertz reviewed the treasurers report and reported that the Fulton Financial report came in at a value of \$718626.99 which is a 4.2% loss. No additional updates from the submitted report.

#### **3. 2023 Budget Presentation**

Chris Thompson reported the first draft of the 2023 Budget was presented for the BOD to review last month. The final draft has been updated to reflect current account balances and projections. Although the new Ag Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) will not be released until January/February 2023, it has been included in the final version of the 2023 budget. The MEB Grant for \$454,912.95, was received Monday and those figures are not included in the budget that is being present. There are still several new programs and funding opportunities expected in 2023 that may significantly impact the district staffing and operations.

Kent Weaver moved to approve the 2023 budget as presented. Bob Shearer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Personnel Committee Report**

Sonia Wasco reported that LCCD has three open positions on the Ag Team. Interviews were held the week of November 7, 2022 and the following names are being put forward for consideration and a request to hire:

- Ag Tech Positions: Brady Bosworth and Matthew Schavnis.
- Engineering Tech Position: Elisabeth Martin

If approved the expected starting date for the candidates will be January 3, 2023.

Sonia Wasco moved to call to hire these three candidates. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chris Thompson updated that there is an open E&S Tech position and a few applications have been received. The Assistant Manager position will be posted tomorrow.

#### **5. PA Envirothon Donation**

Chris Thompson reported that the PA State Envirothon is celebrating 38 years of challenging more than a quarter million high school students with issues addressing our valuable natural resources. Scholarships totaling \$160,750 have been awarded to the students who successfully compete in the PA Envirothon. A donation on behalf of the LCCD will help the PA Envirothon Educational Scholarship Awards Program to continue to give scholarships. Suggested donation gifts included \$250 or \$500.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve the LCCD giving a donation of \$350 to the PA Envirothon Educational Scholarship Program. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. DCNR Lawn Conversion Grant Sponsorship**

Matt Kofroth reported that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) currently has funding for landowners to convert lawns within the Bay Watershed into either upland buffers or native meadows in the name of improved water quality. Currently, there are two landowners signed up for this program but they need a local Implementation sponsor for these funds and projects. DCNR has requested the District to be that local sponsor. Sponsorship would involve review and approval of application, accept funds from DCNR and distribute funds to the local contractor doing the install work and hold a 5-year landowner agreement for both projects. There is no admin funding for the District to sponsor this grant. The two applicants are Lori Frey converting .5 acres of lawn to upland forest and Betsy Gallagher converting .61 acres of lawn to native meadow.

Commission Trescot moved to approve sponsorship as described above. Dale Herr seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chris Thompson would like to add that this will be approved as a pilot project, but going forward with future projects we will need to have funds to pay for the administration assistance.

#### **7. Nutrient Management Referral**

Kevin Lutz reported on an Act 38 Program Compliance of the Michael Bollinger broiler farm in East Drumore Township. Unknown to the District, Michael Bollinger purchased this farm from his father, Dale Bollinger, in December 2021. The Nutrient Management Plan expired on the farm on September 30, 2022. Dale Bollinger was sent three expiring notice letters from April to September 2022 and his son Michael Bollinger received three expiring notice letters with a final deadline of November 15, 2022 to submit an NMP to the District. The Ag Program Manager along with the Ag Committee are making the following recommendation to the Board that the NMP needs received by December 22, 2022 or a referral will be made to the SCC for further action.

Jay Snyder moved to approve referring to SCC for further action if the NMP is not received by the December 22, 2022 deadline. Bob Shearer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Capital RC&D Appointments**

Chris Thompson reported that Samantha Adams' term expires as a Commissioner Representative for the Capital RC&D, but she is willing to serve another 3-year term. Samantha gave a brief overview that Capital RC&D (Resource Conservation and Development) is a locally led nonprofit that creates partnerships within our regions stakeholders that serves Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties. During the 2021 calendar year, this organization has brought \$33,597 back to Lancaster County. A portion of those funds were used to organize and implement the cover crop/residue survey that takes place every other year in the county. She has enjoyed hearing about the conservation happening in neighboring counties and looks forward to serving another 3 years to represent Lancaster County.

Jay Snyder moved to approve Samantha Adams new terms. Commissioner Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **9. Banquet Committee Report**

Adam Hartz reported that the Banquet Committee met to start the planning process for the 2023 Banquet, which will be held on March 30, 2023. The committee is planning to hold the banquet at the Farm and Home Center in 2023 and several different catering options are being considered.

Kent Weaver moved to approve the 2023 Banquet being moved to the Farm and Home Center. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **10. Vehicle Use Policy**

Chris Thompson reviewed the new vehicle use policy and the changes made to the policy. The main update focused on personal vehicle usage for Conservation District work.

Dale Herr moved to approve the new Vehicle Use Policy. Commissioner Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **11. CAP Funding Award**

Chris Thompson highlighted a letter received from DEP this week outlining how the pot of CAP funding for 2023 is to be allocated and \$100,000 will go towards admin funds. There is a total of \$2.9 million to be used for CAP projects.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve as stated. Commissioner Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **IV. Reports/Information**

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

- Letter from Secretary Redding to thank Shelly Dehoff for her help with Ag Council and also the Denim and Pearls Banquet.
- Christmas Card from Lancaster Farmland Trust.
- Save the Bay Magazine – History of Crabs article.

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

Eric Hout reported that there are no additions to the submitted reports. Eric highlighted items on the different reports. The Outstanding Projects Report shows movement of the projects to get them approved and off the list, however over half of these projects are at DEP for review currently.

### **3. E&S Committee Report:**

Eric Hout reviewed highlights from the E&S Committee meeting minutes that were submitted for Board review. There were no additions to the submitted report. The Committee is looking for the Boards input and approval of the new fee schedule that was included in the board packet.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve the new fee schedule as presented. Bob Shearer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Ag Conservation Assistance Program Update:**

Kent Bitting reported that the PA Ag Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) was created as a part of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund State Budget. The purpose of ACAP is to assist farmers and landowners in the design and install of ag conservation BMPs that will reduce or prevent nutrient and sediment losses. The ACAP program allows for up to 4% admin and 16% tech assistance of the paid-out allocation. LCCD's will receive \$15.5 million in funds that will be divided in three equal installments and allocated each year for 3 years. Each of those allocations must be spent within two years, with the final allocation being spent by 12/31/26. The delegation paperwork is expected for renewal and approval early in the new year.

### **5. PACD/SCC Winter Meeting Registration:**

Chris Thompson highlighted the announcement of the virtual PACD meeting dates. Registration is required to attend and is open to all directors, staff, partner agency staff and invited guests.

### **6. Extraordinary Give Update:**

Sallie Gregory reported that 67 donors donated \$8,239 to the Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County in support of the Lancaster County Youth Conservation School and the Lancaster County Envirothon.

### **7. New DEP South Central Conservation District Field Rep:**

Chris Thompson introduced Lauren Shaffer, the new Conservation District Field Rep for the eastern half of the South-Central Region. Lauren said a few words and that she is planning to attend our monthly board meetings.

### **Additional Public Comment:**

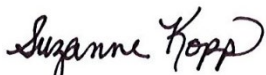
Matt Kofroth announced that the Conestoga River is on the ballot for the River of the Year. There is a \$10,000 grant that will be awarded to the winning watershed. Voting for the Conestoga River can take place online at pawatersheds.org. Matt is encouraging everyone to vote.

Chris Thompson thanked staff for attending and thanked Sallie Gregory for filling in for Adam Stern as the zoom meeting coordinator.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Chairman Heller adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Suzanne Kopp  
Recording Secretary for the Board of Directors