

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
June 7, 2023**

The 853<sup>rd</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 June 7, 2023 at 7:30 PM.

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

**The following Associate Directors were present:** Greg Strausser and Jennifer Engle

**The following District Staff were present:** Christopher Thompson, Kevin Lutz, Kent Bitting, Stacey Hertz, Jason Reuter and Adam Stern.

**The following Cooperating Agency representative was present:** Lauren Shaffer; DEP Field Representative and Heather Grove; NRCS Representative.

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

Kent Weaver provided the invocation for the meeting.

**Introductions:** Chris Thompson introduced Jason Reuter who is online to present the Tree Sale report.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None Offered.

**An opportunity was given for public comment:** Commissioner Trescot announced that a burn ban has been issued for the County for the next 30 days.

### **I. Agency Reports**

**1. USDA, NRCS**

Heather Grove stated there were no additions to the submitted report.

**2. PA DEP Field Rep Report**

Lauren Shaffer stated there were no additions to the submitted report. Lauren highlighted that several delegation agreements will be released soon and also additional Ag Training is being offered later this summer.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

Chairman Dan Heller, gave the opportunity for Directors to withdraw any of the items from the Consent Agenda in order to have additional discussion. Hearing none, he requested a motion to approve the agenda.

John Trescot moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Bob Shearer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda includes the following approved items.

**#1 – Minutes of May 3, 2023 Board meeting.**

**#2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations**

**#3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals**

**#4 – Conservation Plan Acknowledgement**

**Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)**  
**May 2023 Activity**  
**June 7, 2023 Board Meeting**

The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	OPERATION	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN#
Lloyd King	Salisbury	Dairy	CAO	6.89	Brodbar	138
Brandon Barry	W. Cocalico	Layer	CAO	81.09	Heigel	2686
Bryan Zeiset	Ephrata	Dairy	CAO	2.44	Heigel	1791
Randall Oberholtzer	Earl	Dairy	CAO	2.87	Hartz	2695
Tim High	Ephrata	Broiler	CAO	135.58	Heigel	305
Aaron Nolt	Earl	Steer	CAO	2.96	Hartz	2673
Mike Zimmerman	Mount Joy	Broiler	CAO	2.04	Lutz	252
Scott Gochenaur	Mount Joy	Layer	CAFO/CAO	370.52	Lutz	255
Cloyd Martin	East Earl	Layer	CAO	11.05	Hartz	1944
Randall Bleacher	Manor	Layer	CAFO/CAO	8.45	Adams	262
Landis Hoover	West Earl	Swine/Veal	CAO	9.58	Rueter	274
David Breckbill	Strasburg	Layer	CAO	140.91	Brodbar	446

**III. Additional Business**

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

None removed.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

Stacey Hertz stated there were no additions to her submitted reports. Stacey highlighted that the ACAP Funds were received and deposited in an interest-bearing account currently earning about 4%. Also, \$1.7 million in reimbursement funds for the first quarter have been received.

**3. Watershed Specialist Delegation Agreement**

Chris Thompson reported that it is time to renew the PA DEP Conservation District Watershed Specialist contract. This contract pays part of the Watershed Specialist salary. The contract runs from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and is a maximum of \$50,250/year. Other than additional data reporting required, all deliverables and project goals remain the same. Board approval is requested for this contract renewal.

Jay Snyder moved to approve renewing the Watershed Specialist contract. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

**4. Personnel Committee Report - Request to Hire**

Sonia Wasco reported that interviews have been held to fill the open BMP Verification position. This is a new position that would assist in verifying Ag and stream BMPs that have dropped out of the Bay model because the BMPs lifespan had expired. Several candidates were interviewed. Caitlyn Tynes is being recommended to the Board for this new BMP Verification Coordinator position. If approved her start date will be June 28, 2023.

Sonia Wasco moved to approve hiring Caitlyn Tynes for the new BMP Verification Coordinator position. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. NM/MM Delegation Agreement**

Kevin Lutz reported that we are in the second year of the 5-year delegation agreement. Delegation agreement allocations approved by the Commission again include funding resources from the Nutrient Management Program and the Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program to support respective nutrient management and manure management program activities. New funding was added from Federal COVID Funds and will only be available during the lifespan of this delegation period and the anticipated allocation for Lancaster County is \$640,000 for eight positions.

Dale Herr moved to approve the delegation agreement as stated. Kent Weaver seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. ACAP Project Approval**

Kent Bitting reported that there are two applications, that have been reviewed by staff, submitted for ACAP Funds requesting \$204,924.88 for the following:

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Received
Stephen K. Beiler	District	Leacock Twp	Manure Storage, HUA, Stacking Shed, Fence, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlet	\$169,859.31	\$152,873.38
Levi King	District	East Lampeter Twp	2 Liquid Manure Storages, Waste Transfer Pipe, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlets	\$255,341.00	\$52,051.50
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>\$425,200.31</b>	<b>\$204,924.88</b>

Jay Snyder moved to approve \$204,924. worth of ACAP Funding as stated. John Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. CB Phase II Grant Approval**

Kent Bitting reported that there was one previously approved project that was only partially funded due to the amount requested by other projects and insufficient funds. One of the previously approved projects has decided to use other funding and therefore funds are now available. CBAOIP funding requested is \$92,250.00 for the following:

Landowner	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Received
John Wanner	Salisbury Twp.	Roofed Manure Stacking Area, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet	\$123,000.00	\$92,250.00
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$123,000.00</b>	<b>\$92,250.00</b>

Roger Rohrer moved to approve \$92,250.00 worth of CBAOIP funding as stated. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **8. RC&D Report and Dues Request**

Chris Thompson reported that Capital RC&D 2022 Impact which shows accomplishments is included in the meeting packet. Greg Strausser reported that Capital RC&D was able to bring \$594,468.00 to projects focused on the need of our seven county region and \$58,139.00 specifically spent to bring services specifically to Lancaster County. LCCD has been an active member of the Capital Board of Directors for several years and is being asked to continue our involvement by submitting a check for annual dues which total \$300.00.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve submitting the annual dues to renew our membership in RC&D. John Trescot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **9. Ag Program – Equipment Request**

Kent Bitting reported that with increased staff and the ACAP program have created an additional demand for the use of our current GPS surveying equipment. Multiple people need the equipment on the same days. It is being requested that we purchase new GPS equipment to eliminate these scheduling bottlenecks. As part of the ACAP program, the LCCD can receive up to 16% of the grant for technical assistance, which includes staff time and equipment. An estimate was received from Print-O-Stat and the quote is in the Board packet. Staff are requesting to purchase the equipment, not to exceed \$28,750.00 utilizing the ACAP technical assistance fund to cover the expense.

Jay Snyder moved to approve the purchase of the equipment as stated. Herb Kreider seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **10. Outstanding Cooperator 2024**

Kevin Lutz stated that it was time to select the Outstanding Cooperator award for 2024 award. There was a committee of staff members that met to listen and select from a list of submitted farms for consideration. The Committee is recommending that the Clark Oberholtzer Farm in Fulton Township be awarded the 2024 Outstanding Cooperator Award and that the Lloyd King Farm in Salisbury Township be awarded the Soil Stewardship Award.

Bob Shearer moved to approve the farms as stated. Kent Weaver seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **11. Growing Greener and 319 Grant**

Chris Thompson stated that we have two different applications as follows:

1. Growing Greener - The Hoover Farm Restoration Project is approximately \$300,000 to restore a 3,400' riparian buffer along Muddy Creek.

John Trescot moved to approve submitting this application. Jay Snyder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. DEP 319 - The Supplee Farm Restoration Project is approximately \$400,000 to restore 3,200' of riparian buffer along Conestoga Creek.

Herb Kreider moved to approve submitting this application. Dale Herr seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **12. July BOD Meeting**

Chris Thompson stated that a few directors and staff have challenges attending the July 5, 2023 meeting. The request is to hold the meeting virtually or reschedule the meeting to July 12, 2023. The Directors decided that the meeting agenda will be compressed and held totally virtually on July 5, 2023.

### **IV. Reports/Information**

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

Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week was just announced by State Legislative on May 6, 2023. Adam Ortiz the administrator of EPA's Region 3. – Article, Cooperation Key to Meeting Bay Cleanup Goals, dated May 13, 2023.

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

Adam Stern stated that there are no additions to the submitted reports. Complaints are down from last year for two reasons, returning the 105 program back to DEP and the fact that we have had very little rain lately.

**3. Tree Sale Report:**

Jason Rueter reported that there were 623 orders submitted with total sales of \$49,973.50 and a net profit of \$15,343.08. Over 17,500 pieces of plant/tree material were planted into the soil of the Commonwealth. Chris Thompson stated that Sallie Gregory and Matt Kofroth are stepping out of the Co-Chair job of the tree sale and the committee will be taken over by Amanda Goldsmith, Tyler Keefer and Jason Rueter next year.

**4. Envirothon Event Report:**

Chris Thompson reported that Conestoga Valley High School won the Lancaster County Senior High Envirothon and went on to the State Envirothon held in Mifflinburg and placed 16<sup>th</sup> at States.

**5. Strategic Plan Dashboard:**

Chris Thompson reported that there is good progress through many of the goals that are on the strategic plan. More will be shared at the next Board meeting.

**6. PACD/SCC Report and JAC Registration Announcement:**

Chris Thompson announced that the annual summer meeting joint conference will be held in Grantville on July 19 and 20, 2023. There are several committee meetings that anyone can attend and those dates are in the board packet and Chris encourages everyone to register to attend. Sonia Wasco stated that the Joint Annual Conference means that the SCC and DEP are in it with PACD. Scott Martin is receiving the award for the PACD Legislator Award – so all are encouraged to attend to see him receive his award.

**7. Procurement Policy Update:**

Chris Thompson reported that there were significant changes made to the version of the Procurement Policy to make the policy more comprehensive. A redlined copy of the policy is being resubmitted for review for another 30 days before requesting a formal action.

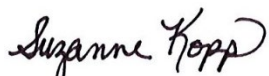
**V. Additional Public Comment:**

None given.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Chairman Dan Heller adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Suzanne Kopp  
Recording Secretary for the Board of Directors