



LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Lancaster Farm & Home Center

Zoom Info: <https://zoom.us/j/91731607863>

Business Meeting 7:30 P.M.

Timer

7:30	Invocation – Bob Shearer Call to Order, Chairman, Dan Heller Welcome & Introductions – Dan Heller Additions to the Agenda – Christopher Thompson Public Comment: Survey media/guests: Agenda items of interest – Dan Heller	<u>Page #</u>
7:40	I. <u>Agency Reports</u> 1. USDA, NRCS (attachment)..... 1 2. PA DEP Field Rep Report (day of packet)..... -	
7:45	II. <u>*Consent Agenda</u> 1. Meeting Minutes (attachment)..... 3 2. Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations (attachment) 9 3. Nutrient Management Plan Approval (attachment)..... 9 4. Conservation Plans Acknowledgement (attachment) 10	
7:55	III. <u>*Additional Business</u> 1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda 2. Treasurer’s Report – Hertz (day of packet) - 3. *Personnel Committee Report – Request to Hire – Wasco/Stern (day of packet)..... - 4. *Nutrient Management – Expiring Plans Pre-Approval – Lutz (attachment)..... 11 5. *ACAP Project Approval – Bitting (attachment) 11 6. *CAP Project Approval – Lutz (attachment)..... 13 7. *CAP – Watershed Restoration Project – Goldsmith (attachment) 13 8. *2024 Proposed BOD Meeting Dates – Thompson (day of packet)..... - 9. PACD Plan Reimbursement Program Update – Reuter/Lutz (attachment) 14	
8:40	IV. <u>Reports & Information</u> 1. Correspondence, News, and Updates – Thompson 2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report – Stern (day of packet) - 3. E&S Committee Report – J. Snyder/Stern (day of packet)..... - 4. Strategic Goals Update – Gregory (attachment) 14 5. Education Project Anniversary – Gregory (attachment) 17	
9:10	V. <u>Additional Public Comment</u>	
9:15	VI. <u>Adjourn</u>	

(Directors, please call the District office if you will not be attending)

Dates to Remember:

10/3, 1 pm Budget Work Session w/ Commissioners	10/17, 9 am-2 pm, PACD SCRO Director’s Meeting CCCD
10/5, 3:30 pm Conservation Foundation Meeting	10/? Budget & Finance Committee Meeting
10/10, 1 pm-3 pm, SCC Meeting Harrisburg	10/25, 5 pm-9 pm Ag Week Denim & Pearls Event

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 7:30 p.m.
At the Lancaster County Farm & Home Center

***Action Required**



Activity Report to LCCD Board of Directors September 2023

Lancaster Field Office Personnel:

Heather Grove, Supervisory District Conservationist
Mark Myers, Soil Conservationist
Joel Alicea Hernandez, Soil Conservationist
VACANT, Soil Conservationist
Christine Griesemer, Soil Conservationist
Brett Ramer, Soil Conservationist
Camila Martinez Sanchez, Soil Conservationist
Brittany Moore, Soil Conservation Technician

VACANT, Soil Conservation Technician
VACANT, Civil Engineering Technician
Lari Jo Walker, Program Assistant, RC&D
Jeff Sholly, Engineer, PACD
Ashley Spotts, Restoration Specialist, CBF
VACANT, Biologist, PF (York & Lancaster)
Elli Liput, Biologist, PF (Dauphin, Lebanon & Lancaster)

Conservation Planning Activities*:

FY22 Total (#)	FY22 Total (Ac)	FY23 Mo. Total (#)	FY23 Mo. Total (Ac)	FY23 Total (#)	FY23 Total (Ac)
33	3,809.92	15	684.1	67	2,825.9

*SEE "ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONSERVATION PLANS" REPORT

Conservation Practice Installation Activities*:

Practice Code & Name	FY22 Total	FY23 Mo. Total	FY23 Total
313 – Waste Storage Facility (no)	12	-	6
362 – Diversion (ft)	3,132	-	-
367 – Roofs & Covers (no)	8	-	3
382 – Fence (ft)	12,594	2,872	10,868
412 – Grassed Waterway (ac)	7.1	-	7.2
516 – Livestock Pipeline (ft)	2,559	915	2,996
561 – Heavy Use Area Protection (sq ft)	22,553	-	8,001
575 – Trails & Walkways (ft)	2,219	265	637
578 – Stream Crossings (no)	1	1	3
600 – Terraces (ft)	23,046	-	9,890
614 – Watering Facility	14	5	11
620 – Underground Outlet (ft)	10,837	130	5,883
634 – Waste Transfer System (no)	10	4	11
327 – CREP Conservation Cover (ac)	59.06	-	44.95
391 – CREP Riparian Forest Buffer (ac)	58.52	12.24	26.21
390 – CREP Riparian Herbaceous Buffer (ac)	0	-	-

*REFLECTS COMMON PRACTICES INSTALLED THROUGH NRCS & FSA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; DOES NOT REPRESENT ALL PRACTICES INSTALLED.

Financial Assistance Conservation Program Activities:

- Financial Assistance Contract Obligation:

Program	FY22 Total (#)	FY22 Total (\$)	FY23 Total (#)	FY23 Total (\$)
EQIP/AMA	22	\$1,926,714	19	\$1,614,731
CSP	3	\$298,017	2	\$32,317
RCP	15	\$3,421,648	9	\$1,604,968

- Financial Assistance Payments:

Program	FY22 Total (\$)	FY23 Mo. Total (\$)	FY23 Total (\$)
ALL PROGRAMS	\$2,247,795.72	\$88,889.04	\$1,153,898.90

Conservation Easement Program Activities (ACEP):

- Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) Acquisition Activities:

Program/Activity	FY22 Total (#)	FY22 Total (ac)	FY23 Total (#)	FY23 Total (ac)
ALE Easement Requests	-	-	1	39.18
ALE Easement Closings	3	149.28	1	117.1

- Easement Annual Monitoring Activities

Program/Activity	FY22 Total (#)	FY23 Total (#)
GRP Monitoring - Offsite	1	-
GRP Monitoring - Onsite	-	1
WRP/WRE Monitoring - Offsite	4	6
WRP/WRE Monitoring - Onsite	10	5
FRPP/ALE Monitoring - Onsite	8	3

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Activities (CREP):

- Approved Plans:

	FY22 Total (#)	FY22 Total (Ac)	FY23 Total (#)	FY23 Total (Ac)
New	16	62.92	10	37.92
Re-enrollments	28	177.98	12	197.18

Administrative Activities:

- Sophia Gilbert will begin 10/2 as the new Pheasants Forever Partner Biologist, providing CREP assistance in York & Lancaster Counties.
- 9/7 – Lancaster NRCS Field Office Quality Assurance Review (QAR) – QARs are completed every 5 years.

Notable Meetings & Trainings:

- 9/11-12 - ACA & Manure Storage Workshop, Lewisburg, PA (Sanchez)
- 9/19 – FY24 SE PA NRCS Program Roll-out Meeting, Lebanon (Grove, Griesemer, Myers, Ramer, Sanchez)
- 9/21 – Lancaster NRCS Team Meeting, Lancaster (All NRCS & Affiliates)
- 9/26-28 - Stormwater/RUSLE & P-Index Training, Spring Mills (Sanchez)

Respectfully Submitted,



Heather L. Grove
District Conservationist

Item II.1

LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 6, 2023

The 856th regularly scheduled Board Meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) was held in person at the Farm and Home Center for Directors and via Zoom Call-In on September 6, 2023, at 7:30 PM.

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

The following Associate Directors were present: Frank Burkhart, Jennifer Engle, Greg Strausser, Justin Welk, and Dan Zimmerman.

The following District Staff were present: Samantha Adams, Grace Chamberlain, Emma Findeisen, Allyson Gibson, Sallie Gregory, Stacey Hertz, Tyler Keefer, Jon Knorr, Matt Kofroth, Kevin Seibert, Adam Stern, and Christopher Thompson.

The following Cooperating Agency representative was present: Heather Grove; District Conservationist, NRCS.

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

Frank Burkhart provided the invocation for the meeting.

Introductions: Matt Kofroth introduced Grace Chamberlain, Assistant Watershed Specialist, and Christopher Thompson introduced Tyler Keefer, Emma Findeisen, Samantha Adams, and Allyson Gibson. The Directors and Associate Directors introduced themselves to the Staff attending the meeting.

Additions to the Agenda: Chris Thompson stated that there are no additions to the agenda.

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

I. Agency Reports

1. USDA, NRCS Report

Heather Grove reported that they are wrapping up for the fiscal year this month. She stated that they are struggling with hiring and are re-advertising positions.

2. PA DEP Field Rep Report

Chris Thompson highlighted the following information in the report: 2024 Conservation District Director Nominations, CDFAP Allocations, NPDES PAG-12 Permit, Reap Tax Credit, ACAP, and the Sunshine Act.

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.

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

The Consent Agenda includes the following approved items.

- #1 – Minutes of August 2, 2023 Board meeting.
- #2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations
- #3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals
- #4 – Conservation Plans Acknowledgement

Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)
August 2023 Activity
September 6, 2023 Board Meeting

The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	OPERATION	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN #
Evan Augsburg	West Cocalico	Swine	CAFO/CAO	152.27	Heigel	690
Jeffrey Balmer	Warwick	Dairy	CAO	2.92	Findeisen	376
Noah W. Kreider & Sons	Mount Joy	Layer	CAFO/CAO	24.84	Findeisen	2719
Davin Martin	Ephrata	Broiler	CAO	12.79	Heigel	154
Samuel Kauffman	Sadsbury	Dairy	CAO	10.19	Reuter	311
Jonas K. Fisher	Colerain	Dairy	CAO	3.06	Reuter	2734
Steve Keener	Mount Joy	Swine	CAO	3.48	Lutz	457
Clair Shirk	East Earl	Broiler	CAO	3.20	Hartz	321
Samuel J. Stoltzfus	Fulton	Dairy	CAO	3.74	Reuter	425
Robert Barley	Manor	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	242.94	Reuter	421
Joe Burkholder	Ephrata	Swine/Steer	CAFO/CAO	4.64	Heigel	39
Samuel M. Esch	West Lampeter	Dairy	CAO	2.74	Brodbar	389
Daniel King	Earl	Dairy	CAO	2.47	Bosworth	155
Don Risser	Conoy	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	2.09	Lutz	40
Jerry Stoltzfus	Upper Leacock	Dairy	CAO	2.33	Heigel	1608
Jeff Nolt	Rapho	Broiler	CAO	233.9	Lutz	53
Joseph King	Fulton	Dairy	CAO	8.35	Adams	77
Amos G. Miller	Upper Leacock	Goat Dairy	CAO	47.33	Brodbar	377
Lester Moyer	Rapho	Broiler	CAO	83.16	Findeisen	426
Geoffrey Rohrer	Manor	Dairy/Broiler	CAFO/VAO	1.7	Reuter	52

III. Additional Business

1. Items removed from the Consent Agenda

None removed.

2. Treasurer's Report

Stacey Hertz stated that there was a small loss in the Fulton account. She highlighted that the Grants income amount is a little over 4.2 million because the second round of ACAP funds was received.

3. Personnel Committee report

Sonia Wasco reviewed the August 18, 2023 committee report and benefits package and asked for approval by the Board. A motion was made by Sonia Wasco and seconded by Herb Kreider to approve the benefit package. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. ACAP Project Report

Herb Kreider abstained from voting. Samantha Adams reported that there are eleven applications submitted for ACAP funds that total \$2,669,731.62. This is the largest amount of outside private consultants to submit projects.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Josh Stoltzfus	TeamAg	Strasburg Twp.	Manure Storage, Roofed HUA, Roofed Stacking Shed, Access Road, Underground Outlet, Roof Runoff Structure, Waste Transfer, Stream Crossing, Fencing	\$595,641.00	\$500,000.00
James L. Ranck	District	Sadsbury Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, HUA, Structure for Water Control, Underground Outlets	\$293,854.34	\$264,468.90
David Lantz	Weaver Environmental	Upper Leacock Twp.	Manure Storage, Roofed Stacking Area, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet, Waste Transfer, Fencing	\$267,631.00	\$212,391.80
John S. Miller	TeamAg	Upper Leacock Twp.	Fence, Roof Runoff Structure, Roofed HUA, Livestock Pipeline, Trails and Walkways	\$291,775.56	\$265,007.16
Scott Kreider	TeamAg	East Drumore Twp.	Manure Storage, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlets	\$333,801.60	\$249,999.00
Christian S. Miller	Weaver Environmental	Bart Twp.	Manure Storage, Roofed Stacking Area, HUA, Fencing, Roof Runoff Structure, Access Road, Trails and Walkways, Lined Outlet	\$454,728.90	\$386,296.91

Fred L. Ranck	District	Strasburg Twp.	Roofed Stacking Area, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet	\$65,846.39	\$59,261.75
Aaron F. Stoltzfus	NRCS	Colerain Twp.	Manure Storage, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlets, Structure for Water Control	\$470,976.00 Price includes barn not funded	\$190,456.00
Scattered Acres, Inc.	TeamAg	West Cocalico Twp.	Roofed Mortality Area, Access Road, Waste Transfer, HUA, VTA	\$327,495.30	\$297,723.00
Christian S. Esh	Lancaster Farmland Trust	Fulton Twp.	Manure Storage, HUA, Fence, Grassed Waterway, Lined Outlet, Roof Runoff Controls, Access Road, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlets	\$313,927.10	\$233,927.10
Darryl Rohrer	District	West Lampeter Twp.	Terrace Rebuild, Underground Outlet	\$11,340.00	\$10,200.00
Totals				\$3,427,017.19	\$2,669,731.62

A motion was made by Jay Snyder and seconded by Sonia Wasco to approve the ACAP projects. Chris Thompson commented that we have now finished the first-year allocation of \$5 million. There was a discussion about ranking projects. The vote was unanimous with one abstention.

5. Ag Committee Report

The committee met prior to the BOD meeting and discussed the following issues:

Samantha Adams reported on Walnut Run Dairy compliance issues and efforts. The Ag committee recommended referral to the State Conservation Commission. Bob Shearer made a motion to refer the operation to the SCC and it was seconded by John Trescot. The motion was passed unanimously.

Samantha Adams reported on the Manure Storage Setback Waiver Request by Randy Brubaker. A site meeting was held with DEP, SCC, and the District and it was determined that the location for the new well was an improvement over the current location. The Ag Committee recommended approving the waiver. A motion was made by Sonia Wasco to grant the waiver. It was seconded by Jay Snyder. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CEG Agreement Renewal

Samantha Adams reviewed the CEG Budget Proposal. Chris shared that the CEG Grant amount is a reduction from last year due to the overall funding amount being reduced. A

motion was made by Kent Weaver to submit the final application for the agreement. The motion was seconded by John Trescot. It was passed unanimously.

7. Low Volume Road

The QAB met prior to the BOD meeting and Herb Kreider reported on the discussion items. The QAB Board recommended the following grant funding: Rapho Township and Sadsbury Township for a total of \$99,932.00 and Lancaster City for \$137,925.00. A motion was made by Herb Kreider to approve the project recommendations of the QAB. It was seconded by Jay Snyder. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Reports/Information

1. Correspondence, News and Updates

- News article in the Lititz Record on the District's Annual Awards Banquet
- News article in the Lancaster New Era Paper – Sediment Solution – PL566 program
- News article in the Merchandiser on the PACD Annual Conference
- Youth Conservation District group picture
- Plain Sect Outreach brochure
- Dungster brochure
- Press release from CBF relative to ACAP

2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report

Adam Stern reported that there is an amended June report and a combined July and August report in the Board Packet. He highlighted a PPL project, a commercial project on Columbia Avenue, and a Rock Lititz project. Adam stated that the outstanding project report list has decreased from 51 at the end of July to 38. Chris shared that the 38 plans are a part of the 142 plans in process. Adam reported that he is working on decreasing the number of review letters sent by physical mail. There is a resource conservation position posted and open at this time.

3. Youth Conservation School Report

Sallie Gregory and Sonia Wasco presented a detailed report on the 45th Lancaster County Youth Conservation School that included all the District staff that supported the school. Sonia pointed out that there are many people who believe in the value of the school.

4. Clean Water Partner Update

Allyson Gibson explained the relationship structure of the Conservation District, Foundation, and Clean Water Partners; and she shared the vision and mission of the Clean Water Partners. She emphasized the accountability required by the funding source and shared that they are bringing in new resources to support each other. Allyson introduced the current staff of the Clean Water Partners and shared that there is an opening for a Director of Strategic Partnerships. Allyson shared that \$9 million has been received from DEP over the last four years through the CAP Program and \$3.4 million through the ARPA program in 2022. She gave examples of how the funds were utilized and explained the ARPA and CAP application process for future utilization of the funds. In closing, Allyson shared ways to engage and future events.

5. Nominating Organization Meeting Update

Chris Thompson reminded the Directors of the breakfast meeting tomorrow morning. Sallie Gregory shared the history of the current Nominating Organizations.

V. Additional Public Comment:

None were given.

Meeting Adjourned

Chairman Dan Heller adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly J. N. Shaub

Holly J. N. Shaub
Admin. Support Specialist, Ag Program

Item II.2

Requests for Technical Assistance

APPLICANT	TITLE	TOWNSHIP	SIZE	ASSISTANCE
None				

Item II.3

Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)

September 2023 Activity

October 4, 2023 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.

I recommend these plans to be approved by the Board. The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	Operation	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN #
Julian Martin	East Earl	Broiler	CAO	68.81	Hartz	15
Steve Glick	West Cocalico	Dairy	CAO	105.02	Heigel	1543
Doug Wolgemuth	West Donegal	Swine	CAFO/VAO	1.20	Findeisen	20
John Petersheim	Rapho	Dairy/Poultry	CAO	4.06	Findeisen	450
Matt Young	Little Britain	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	2.45	Adams	193
Jason Martin	Ephrata	Broiler	CAO	93.32	Heigel	256
Brad Byers	Drumore	Broiler	CAO	126.80	Adams	461
Chris Hoover	East Drumore	Layer	CAO	22.40	Adams	966
Lawrence Leid	Ephrata	Swine/Steers	CAO	6.63	Heigel	692
Greg Herr	Rapho	Broiler	CAO	274.56	Reuter	355
Steve Good	Strasburg	Broiler	CAFO/CAO	6.40	Brodbar	300
Tom Zartman	Clay	Swine	CAFO/CAO	1.68	Bosworth	18
Stephen E. Stoltzfus	Penn	Swine/Sheep	CAO	3.05	Schavnis	1771
John Hoover	Brecknock	Turkey/Sheep	CAO	49.55	Heigel	713
Leroy Zimmerman	East Donegal	Swine/Steers	CAFO/CAO	4.86	Lutz	96
Nicholas Brubaker	Rapho	Ducks	CAFO/CAO	107.36	Lutz	51
Robert Brubaker Jr.	Rapho	Pullet	CAFO/CAO	596.63	Lutz	2
Scott Kreider	East Drumore	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	2.94	Adams	250
Edward Hartman	West Cocalico	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	15.70	Heigel	8

**NMP Update Report to Lancaster County Conservation District Board of Directors
September 2023 Activity
October 4, 2023 Board Meeting**

NMP Name	Municipality	Plan Update Submission Date	Original NMP Approval Date	Planner¹	Species²	AEUs	Regulated Operation Type³	Date Plan Acknowledgment Letter Sent	Reason for Update
Glenn & Joel Martin	Penn	8/21/2023	12/7/2022	Bill Rogers	Ducks	73.55	VAO CAFO	9/1/2023	Yearly Plan Submissions Update
Amos King	Drumore	8/28/2023	10/5/2022	Jedd Moncavage	Dairy	125.76	CAO	9/19/2023	Simple Update
Walnut Run Farms	Penn	9/15/2023	12/7/2022	Devin Gerlach	Dairy	1557.15	VAO CAFO	9/26/2023	Yearly Plan Submissions Update
Sweigart Farms	East Donegal	9/18/2023	3/1/2023	Corey Grove	Dairy, Swine, Pullets	1648.96	CAO CAFO	9/22/2023	Yearly Plan Submissions Update
Chris Landis	Clay	9/13/2023	4/6/2022	Austin Hanssen	Dairy, Broilers	226.04	CAO	9/21/2023	Simple Update

Item II.4

Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)

**The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the following plans for the
October 4, 2023 Board Meeting:**

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Marvin J. Esh	3	Brett Ramer	Bart
Rodney J. Groff	1	TeamAg Inc./Christine Griesemer	Penn
Elmer D. Stoltzfus	2	Mowery Environmental/Christine Griesemer	Leacock
Central Manor Dairy LLC	4	TeamAg Inc./Heather Grove	Manor
Lloyd M. Reiff	3	TeamAg/Mark Myers	Warwick
Lloyd M. Reiff	1	TeamAg/Mark Myers	Ephrata
Amos S. Lapp Jr.	1	TeamAg/Mark Myers	East Drumore

LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Omar Esh	1	Jason Reuter	Leacock

**Item III.4
Nutrient Management Expired Plan Referrals**

Act 38 Nutrient Management Plans approved for Crop Years 2021-2023 expired September 30, 2023. The District Ag Department, as required by our N.M. Delegation Agreement, started the process of notifying Act 38 operations whose plans were expiring with a series of three (3) SCC-provided form letters beginning in April 2023. Those plans were to be revised by a commercial planner and submitted to the District for review and approval by September 30th. Currently, there are three (3) expired CAO plans that have yet to be received based on this timeline (listed below). The State Conservation Commission has reached out to the remaining operators via phone as well, but no plan has been submitted as of yet. There have been various degrees of communication between the District and the operators or their consultants, ranging from multiple conversations to none. At this point, following SCC guidance, the District may act and make referrals to the SCC for further follow-up and potential enforcement (if required). These operations have also been reviewed by the Agriculture Committee prior to this meeting. Assuming a positive recommendation from the Agriculture Committee, the Ag Program Manager respectfully requests for approval to refer any of these operations to the SCC immediately, or at a date determined by the Agriculture Committee.

Operator	Municipality
Eli Smucker	East Drumore
Kenton Martin	Elizabeth
Charles Craig	Little Britain

***Action Required**

**Item III.5
Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program Grant Approval**

The Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) currently has eight applications that have been reviewed by district staff and are ready for board action. The following table outlines the projects and amounts requested.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Lee and Sherri Brown	District	Caernarvon Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, HUA, Underground Outlet, Subsurface Drain	\$36,228.04	\$32,605.28
John S. Beiler	Mowery Environmental	Colerain Twp.	Roofed HUA, Fence, Manure Storage, Underground Outlets, Roof Runoff Structure, Access Road, Livestock Pipeline, Watering Facility	\$466,901.56	\$242,415.18

Steven Smucker	TeamAg	Brecknock Twp.	Manure Storage, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet, Animal Trails, Waste Transfer, Pumping Plant, Lined Outlets	\$303,450.00	\$264,775.50
Delton and Bridget Good	Mowery Environmental	West Earl Twp.	Manure Storage, Animal Walkway, Access Road, Stream Crossing, Fencing, Diversion, Structure for Water Control, Underground Outlet, Roof Runoff Structure	\$124,706.69	\$51,791.72*
Warren Brubaker	TeamAg	Caernarvon Twp.	Roofed HUA, Manure Storage, Waste Transfer, Fencing, Waste Facility Closure, Roof Runoff Structure	\$655,800.00	\$500,000.00
Abner Glick	District	Eden Twp.	Grassed Waterway, Fencing, Pumping Plant, HUA, Animal Trails, Stream Crossing, Waste Transfer	\$69,500.00	\$62,500.00
Benuel F. King	District	Colerain Twp.	Underground Outlet	\$4,839.90	\$4,355.91
Levi Z. King	District	East Lampeter Twp.	2 Liquid Manure Storages, Waste Transfer Pipe, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlets	\$223,417.50	\$149,024.25*
Totals				\$1,884,843.69	\$1,307,467.84

*Projects previously approved with additional funds requested.

ACAP Funds Requested: \$1,307,467.84

The Ag Program Manager and Assistant Ag Program Manager recommend positive action for approving \$1,307,467.84 worth of ACAP funding for the multiple applications. Positive action is recommended for approving the John S. Beiler project contingent upon repair of the grassed waterway which was part of the previously approved ACAP project.

***Action Required**

**Item III.6
Countywide Action Implementation Grant Approval**

The Countywide Action Implementation Grant (CAP) currently has one application submitted through the CAP Coordinator by a private consultant that has been reviewed by district staff and is ready for board action. The following table outlines the project and the amount requested.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
John S. Beiler	Mowery Environmental	Colerain Twp.	Roofed HUA, Fence, Manure Storage, Underground Outlets, Roof Runoff Structure, Access Road, Livestock Pipeline, Watering Facility	\$466,901.56	\$200,000.00
Totals				\$466,901.56	\$200,000.00

The Ag Program Manager and CAP Coordinator recommend positive action for approving \$200,000.00 worth of CAP funding for this application.

***Action Required**

**Item III.7
Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Grant Proposal**

The Clean Water Partners announced another round of the CAP Clean Water Fund and the District applied for funding for two stream restoration and buffer projects in the Pequea watershed. One of these projects is Reuben Beiler which was also included in the ARPA proposal the Clean Water Partners is submitting. In total, the project is approximately 3,000 linear feet of restoration and 3.2 acres of riparian buffer on Indian Spring Run. The other project was Darryl Landis and was only applied under CAP. In total, the project is 1,600 linear feet of restoration and will establish a 3.6 acre CREP buffer on Goods Run. Both projects are partnerships with our continuing partners USFWS and Unique Excavating.

***Action Required**

Item III.9

Ag Plan Reimbursement Program

PACD received funding for a cost-share program to encourage farmers across Pennsylvania to either receive or update their plans for their operation. \$500,000 has been allocated for this program. Currently, the district has received 57 applications for plan reimbursement, 46 of which have been paid out.

Item IV.4

Strategic Goals Update

At the Annual Planning meeting, three Strategic Goals were developed following group discussions. Several District staff, Directors, and Associate Directors have been working in small groups to address the goals with action steps. Attached please find the Strategic Goals dashboard with updates as of September 2023.

April 2023-April 2024 Operating Plan

GOAL ONE: Create a marketing and communication plan that leverages current relationships and identifies new strategic alliances - Champion Sallie

Team: Communications Committee, Jennifer (Assoc. Board Member), Sonia (Director), Amanda, Shelly, Brady

Tactics	Action Steps	Responsible	Measurements	Notes/Update	Status
Public Awareness	Create a scope of work for marketing and determine if plan will be created in house or with the help of an outside consultant	Team	Scope of Work must created and budget	Meeting June 29, current communication committee: Matt, Alex, Ryan, Emma, Andrew Amanda, Shelly (Director), Jennifer (Associate Director) Brady added to group Sonia Aug.11 -	In Process - per mtg, Sallie - contacts for Graphic Design (Brand Guide)Marketing Plan (Capacity Building) Sallie mtg with Kelly Snavey (Conservancy 2019), Val (Comm Foundation 2014, ExtraGive), 9/18 - Greg Yoder, Yoder Design Co to create Branding Guidelines
Nurture new and existing relationships	Identify relationships that need to be nurtured to increase funding for district	Team and Andrew	Captured in CRM	You currently have the following licensing which comes up for renewal on 9/30/23. As mentioned earlier this year, there is a price increase coming at renewal: Qty License Annual Cost per License 6 Sales Enterprise \$342.00 10 Team Member \$28.80 Here are user rights by license tier. Please note that an organization can either have Sales Professional or Enterprise (not a combination), so your additional license choices are Sales Enterprise or Team Member. I will be able to align the renewal date of your new licenses with your old to make things easier going forward. Therefore, you would only need to pay a prorated amount if you purchase these prior to 9/30/23 (i.e.: purchase 7/1 and be invoice would be prorated for 3 months of usage). Upon renewal on 9/30, you would be invoiced for a full year for all licenses.	Aug 28 - CRM Overview with team scheduled Sept. 18 - 6 admin/10 team licenses. Matt has the ability to update members.
Use IT and technology (CRM) to document and coordinate communication; licensure agreements	Marketing Plan by Department	Team	# of licenses	Part of marketing plan and budget	
Engage the Board	Board onboarding program	Chris and Board Member	Onboarding plan launched		

GOAL TWO: Create an agile organizational framework that can support current and future growth

Team: Matt, Andrew, Chris, Stacey

Tactics	Action Steps	Responsible	Measurements	Notes/Update	Status
Fully Support and Transition Asst. Manager	Onboarding of Matt in new role: timeline and communication (internal and external transition)	Chris	Public announcement; media and web; Watershed announcement and transition plan dirt and gravel	Transition plan formalized by Chris and Matt. Public Announcement; internal changes; update on website	
Evaluate and implement new financial Processes	Implement Quickbooks online version for Foundation first	Stacey, Chris, CFO consultant	Stacey to get training; go through quarterly report	Quarterly Report complete by September 1	Still waiting on training. Online Quickbooks implemented
Department Needs Assessment; identify what processes are bogging down	Start with budgeting process	Matt and Stacey	Budget template created and training provided	Use template for department budgeting process in June	In Process

productivity and efficiencies

	Better grant management with Quick Books	Andrew and Stacey	clearer process flow between finance and grants.	Andrew getting trained on Quickbooks reporting	In Process
IT and Technology Plan	Identify technology needs by Program Area	Andrew and Matt	Need 3 vendors by September 1.	Campbell Grant funding	

GOAL THREE: Staff retention - Kimberley II

Tactics	Action Steps	Responsible	Measurements	Notes/Update	Status
Continue to evaluate total rewards, work life balance, flexibility in scheduling and job duties in lieu of salary increases	Salary increases approved bringing total salary and benefits to competitive level.	Kimberley and Chris	Salary adjustments approved for each employee	Salary increases captured in department budget process	In Process
Advancement Opportunities	Build career paths for each program area, starting with Ag Department	Kimberley, Program Managers, Chris	All Program Areas completed	Met with Sam; need to validate with Kevin L.	
Empower Staff through 121 coaching	Quarterly 121 meetings with Program managers and staff	Program Managers	Documented quarterly 121 meetings with each staff member	121s being conducted quarterly	Completed
Implement New ideas and practices	In response to operational assessment feedback	Operational Assessment Committee	All new employees have a mentor	Training completed April 19; program active	Completed

Item IV.5

Education Project Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary

It was ten years ago, Sallie Gregory had the chance to coordinate film connections to best management practices with students installing a log deflector as part of a stream restoration project during Youth Conservation School and a tour of BMPs on Lancaster County farm led by Kevin Lutz and owner Robert Fox. News article from September 2013 below featured in Lancaster Farming.

Cousteau's Grandson Shoots Film at Pa. Farm

- Philip Gruber Staff Writer



- Sep 14, 2013

CLAY, Pa. — An ocean explorer on a dairy farm in northern Lancaster County might seem like a fish out of water, but to Philippe Cousteau it makes perfect sense.

The grandson of famed French oceanographer and filmmaker Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the younger Cousteau spent the afternoon of Sept. 7 at Robert and Ruth Fox's farm filming part of his own documentary series about the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

"It's no secret," Cousteau said, "that farming gets blamed for a lot of the problems" causing dead zones, swaths of the bay ruinously overloaded with nutrients from fertilizer, animal waste and other pollutants.

But Cousteau said he had come to highlight solutions, not to cast blame.

"We were really impressed by some of the things this farm was doing" to reduce water pollution, he said.

Fox is a no-till farmer who has put in grass contour strips that channel water through vegetation, tree plantings as riparian buffers along streams, stream-bank reinforcements, a manure digester and other conservation works on his 120-acre preserved farm.

The Lancaster County Conservation District, which recommended Fox to Cousteau's crew, gave the farmer an Outstanding Cooperator Award in 2012.

The Lancaster County Youth Conservation School, a program of the conservation district and Federated Sportsmen of Lancaster County, also comes for a day each summer to build a device that will help clean the streams on Fox's property.

A film crew taped the students building a sediment trap in July, and a few of the students were invited back to meet Cousteau and be interviewed for the film.

The documentary project, called "EarthEcho Expedition: Into the Dead Zone," will be released as a series of six free 10-minute videos. One clip will be released on the organization's website each week starting Oct. 10.

The films are designed as curriculum enhancements for teachers and are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards.

The gradual release is designed to give teachers time to review the videos before using them with their students. The program comes with ready-made lesson plans and worksheets.

"We're not giving them more work to do," Cousteau said, noting that the production crew has worked extensively with teachers to make "Into the Dead Zone" fit their needs.

"In the classroom, they don't want anything longer than 10 minutes," he said.

Cousteau said the films will be "very adventure-based," featuring fly-fishing, scuba diving at the edge of the dead zone and even skydiving.

While the Pennsylvania segment focuses on agriculture, clips shot in other states in the watershed will touch on other water-quality issues.

From Sept. 3-13, Cousteau and his team shot spotlights on children cleaning up the tributaries of Virginia's Rappahannock River, helping with stormwater projects in the District of Columbia and working on wastewater solutions in West Virginia.

Several of the other segments will relate at least tangentially to agriculture, such as one involving a visit to a chicken farm.

Another one will showcase a new wastewater treatment plant in Moorefield, W.Va. The plant should ease residents' concerns about the safety of their drinking water, which is so bad that fishermen are advised to not even touch their catches.

Cousteau credits his grandfather with the idea of catering to young people and showing them that they can help out, "not just when they grow up, but now."

The younger Cousteau said that while advertisers have long aimed their appeals at young people, environmentalists have not always done enough to engage students.

"We hate to do the same things others are doing," so the online video series will "fill some gaps," he said.

"We don't tell them to do this or this or this," he said. Instead, he encourages youth to work on something they care about that affects their area.

Jacques Cousteau died in 1997, so his life did not coincide with the lives of current high school freshmen.

But Philippe Cousteau said many youths recognize the family name despite the intervening years. And for students who are not familiar with the name, "we're bringing it back," he said.

Grace Nelson, a Lititz resident who attended the Youth Conservation School this summer, said she had heard of the elder Cousteau before EarthEcho announced its visit.

The school may seem small, but the film series is allowing the Lancaster youths to set an example for children around the country and potentially around the world, Sallie Gregory, education coordinator at the conservation district, said.

“It’s an exciting opportunity to work with (EarthEcho) with an international focus,” she said.

Caleb Enck, a Manheim resident and 2013 conservation school attendee, said Cousteau, who ate lunch with the students and regaled them with fly-fishing stories, was engaging and smart.

“It sounds like an interesting career,” he said.

Enck plans to go into ag science, ag engineering or wildlife management.

Patrick Greene, the film director for “Into the Dead Zone,” said he was enjoying his first trip to Lancaster County. The well-traveled leader of D.C.-based Symbio Studios specializes in nature and science filming.

The project has given him “insights into the bay I didn’t even know existed,” he said.

Greene was also impressed by how much farmers are doing to ensure the sustainability of agriculture. “It’s quite inspiring, really,” he said.

Cousteau said that water quality is “fundamental to the future of humanity.”

All human activities consume resources and create pollution, he said, and agriculture has a great responsibility because the industry is one of the world’s main water consumers.

“It’s never a one-size-fits-all solution,” he said, but many of the improvements, such as fencing cattle out of streams, are easy.

“We’re not necessarily talking about massively high-tech solutions,” he said. “We can all be part of that.”

“The good news (about water quality) is we believe it’s been more of an issue” in agriculture, Cousteau said. “These types of best practices are more modeled, more available.”

“Farmers do a very important job, and that’s why we’re here” filming at the farm, he said.

Fox, the dairy farmer, said he never expected someone from a famously nautical family would want to make a movie about his land-management strategies.

“It kind of takes a while for the magnitude of it to sink in,” he said.