

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 3, 2024**

The 866th 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 July 3, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

The following Directors were present: Sonia Wasco, Chairwoman; Gordon Hoover, Herb Kreider, Deryk Shaw, Roger Rohrer, and Kent Weaver.

The following Associate Directors were present: Jay Snyder and Dan Zimmerman.

The following District Staff were present: Adam Stern, Chris Thompson, Stacey Hertz, Amanda Goldsmith, Sallie Gregory, and Kevin Lutz.

The following Cooperating Agency representative was present: Chaz Heberlig, DEP Field Representative.

The following visitors were present: None present.

Sonia Wasco called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Sonia welcomed everyone both in person and on Zoom.

Introductions: None.

Additions to the Agenda: None

Adam Stern reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

An opportunity was given for public comment: None

Gordon Hoover motioned to table the non-action items and address business items only, Herb Kreider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Agency Reports

Agency reports were included in the BOD packet, but no discussion was provided.

1. PA DEP Field Rep Report

2. USDA, NRCS

II. Consent Agenda

Chairwoman Sonia Wasco gave the opportunity for Directors to withdraw any of the items from the Consent Agenda to have additional discussion. Hearing none, she requested a motion to approve the agenda. Gordon Hoover moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda includes the following approved items.

- #1 – Minutes of May 1, 2024 Board meeting.
- #2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations
- #3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals
- #4 – Conservation Plan Acknowledgement

**Item II.2
Requests for Technical Assistance**

APPLICANT ASSISTANCE	TITLE	TOWNSHIP	SIZE	
None				

**Item II.3
Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)
June 2024 Activity
July 3, 2024 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 #
Elmer Kauffman	West Cocalico	Layer	CAO	1.94	Heigel	2960
James & Melissa Landis	Little Britain	Broiler	CAO	210.08	Adams	338
Darvin Myer	Penn/Elizabeth	Steer, Pullet	VAO	0.57	Riebling	2305
Lawrence N. Shirk	Ephrata	Broiler	CAO	14.48	Heigel	1723
Benjamin Beiler	Colerain	Dairy	VAO	1.40	Johanson	1015
Terry Hershey	Paradise	Swine	CAFO/CAO	123.09	Brodbar	90
Crist Fisher	Strasburg	Layer	CAO	5.01	Brodbar	216
Jere Grube	East Hempfield	Swine/Sheep	CAO	2.20	Riebling	1132
Mitch Shellenberger	East Donegal	Beef/Swine	CAFO/CAO	7.30	Schvanis	314
Mike Martin	Clay	Duck	CAFO/CAO	12.18	Bosworth	465

Item II.4
Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)
The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the followings plans for the
July 3, 2024 Board Meeting:
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Clarence E. Fittery	1	Brett Ramer	West Cocalico

LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Joseph King	1	Samantha Adams	Fulton

III. Additional Business

1. Items removed from Agenda

None removed.

2. Treasurer’s Report

Stacey Hertz gave a brief review of the treasures report and offered to answer questions. There were no questions.

3. Ag Committee Meeting Report – Three Items were presented.

- Kevin Lutz reported on the 2024-2025 Chesapeake Bay Program Technician & Engineer Funding Agreements After much discussion about the sustainability of the program, the BOD approved submitting a CBP Agreement for the full year, but with the caveat that we internally evaluate at the 3 and 6 month time-frame two specific issues:

1). Can we adequately staff the program? – With senior staff’s pending retirement and our continued struggle to find staff to perform compliance inspections is there another way to achieve our conservation goals in the county?

2). Is the program being adequately supported by DEP? - Specifically, the announcement of a state-wide limit of 10 referrals has the Committee concerned. The Directors voted to include the review periods to make sure we continue to evaluate the benefits of our participation in the CB program. We do not view dropping the CB program as a value-added action, but we do not want to participate in a program that is not adequately supported as it would undermine our staff’s credibility and authority in the field.

Gordon Hoover moved to approve the Engineer & Technician contracts for 12 months seconded by Derek Shaw. Sonia faced some technical difficulties, so Vice Chair Roger Rohrer called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

- Secondly, Kevin reported on the Technical Assistance policy, as was discussed at the last meeting for the 30-day review. Roger Rohrer motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Gordon Hoover. The motion passed unanimously.
- Lastly, Kevin reported on the Act 38 program compliance for Samuel K. Stoltzfus dairy operation. Per Kevin’s discussions with Mr. Stoltzfus and the planner Bill Rogers, Kevin requested a referral extension to August 1, 2024, or he can be sent now to the State Conservation

Commission (SCC). Herb Kreider requested clarification on what the SCC would do. After discussion, Gordon Hoover motioned to give him 30 30-day extension before referring to the SCC, seconded by Herb Kreider. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Watershed Specialist Agreement

Amanda Goldsmith reported on the renewal of the Watershed Specialist Contract and reported that there were no changes in the scope of work from previous years. Roger Rohrer motioned to approve the application as presented, seconded by Herb Kreider. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Clean Water Project Funding Proposal

Amanda Goldsmith reported on how this \$9000 grant proposed will help support the Water Quality Volunteer Coalition (WQVC). Roger Rohrer motioned to approve the request as presented, seconded by Deryk Shaw. Roger asked if there were grants that could give more money. Sonia asked for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

6. PACD Executive Council Action Items

A summary of the three action items to be considered by the PACD Executive Council meeting on July 17, 2024, was reviewed. The board reaffirmed their June 5th votes to support the PACD Ways and Means Committee's request for a voluntary Donation of \$500 from each Conservation District to help close a budget shortfall in 2024. They also reaffirmed their support for the Legislative Committee's proposal to request an increase to the Growing Greener Grants Program Administrative Expense Limitation from the 5% cap to a minimum of 10% in all future awards.

The Board then discussed the Legislative Committee's proposed Policy Statement in response to HB 1275 which allows state agencies and municipalities to mandate installing riparian buffers. After several discussions, pro and con, regarding the requirement of installing buffers, Gordon Hoover made the motion to support PACD's policy statement as written below. Roger Rohrer seconded and the motion carried.

The policy statement reads: PACD recognizes the significant environmental benefit of riparian buffers along surface bodies of water. PACD supports education and incentives for voluntary installation of riparian buffers, but is opposed to legislation allowing administrative agencies of the Commonwealth and municipalities to require buffers along any body of water more restrictive than current law and regulation.

IV. Reports/Information

1. Correspondence, News and Updates

Legislator Letter requesting support for conservation in the State Budget.

2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report

Due to the vote at the beginning of the meeting, no report was verbally given.

3. Youth Conservation School Update

Sallie Gregory extended an invitation to directors to the sponsor night dinner (7/21).

V. Additional Public Comment:

No additional comments.

VI. Meeting Adjourned

Sonia Wasco adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morgan Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'R'.

Morgan Regan

E&S Administrative Support Specialist