Lancaster County Conservation District Watershed Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Farm & Home Center - Multipurpose Room, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA

6:00 PM Meeting Called to Order

The following people were present: Amanda Goldsmith, Tyler Keefer, Grace Chamberlain, Matt Kofroth, Christopher Thompson, Deryk Shaw, Jay Snyder, Dan Zimmerman, Roger Rohrer, Jenny Engle

Watershed Program & Grants

Amanda Goldsmith highlighted what the department does including stream restoration projects, water quality monitoring, education and technical assistance, and Dirt & Gravel/Low Volume Roads Program. She gave a brief overview of current grants, grant applications, and future applications. Board members questioned if funding is sustainable and how we can advertise all of the good work we are doing. Amanda commented that careful grant writing and project prioritization are key to keep up with grant changes. The Watershed website, watershed report cards, and countywide data dashboard were cited as three examples of increasing public interaction and accessibility.

Projects & Monitoring

Amanda discussed two projects completed in 2024 including one on Reynolds Run and an UNT to Muddy Run. She also discussed issues with increasing permitting, bidding, and prevailing wage requirements. Board members agreed with the challenges and questioned how we can improve. Last, Amanda discussed the district's volunteer and sonde monitoring data including issues that Tyler faces while maintaining them. Board members suggested private funding to sustain sondes into the future. Ongoing education was also mentioned to showcase the diverse work the department does.

2025 Vision for Watershed Program

Amanda discussed some thoughts that could move the program further including adding a new position, project prioritization, expanding partnerships, and finding new restoration techniques.

6:58 PM Meeting Adjourned

Next Scheduled Meeting Wednesday, December 6th @ 6pm LCCD Conference Room