

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

The 860th 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 January 3, 2024, at 7:30 PM.

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

The following Associate Directors were present: Jenny Engle

The following District Staff were present: Kent Bitting, Amanda Goldsmith, Sallie Gregory, Adam Hartz, Matt Kofroth, Kevin Lutz, Andrew Pauls-Thomas, Holly Shaub, Adam Stern, and Christopher Thompson

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

The following Visitors were present: None were present

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.

Herb Kreider provided the invocation for the meeting.

Introductions: All present introduced themselves.

Additions to the Agenda: There were no additions.

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

I. Reorganization of the Board

1. Reorganization of the Board of Directors

Chris Thompson stated the voting of new officers has been delayed until the February Board Meeting. The current Directors can hold their office for up to 6 months according to Conservation District Law. A motion was made by Jay Snyder to continue the succession of the current officers until new officers can be appointed. The motion was seconded by Bob Shearer. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Agency Reports

1. USDA, NRCS Report

Heather Grove reported there are no additions or changes to the report this month.

2. PA DEP Field Rep Report

Chris Thompson highlighted some of the information from the DEP report. There are updates to the Chapter 105 Program, the PA State Water Plan is being updated and DEP is looking for committee members, and the PA Fertilizer Law has gone into effect this month. The ACAP program now has an informational website and has adopted a financial reporting tool. Lancaster

County was awarded 4 million dollars to implement the Countywide Action Plan (CAP) and the funding should be available soon.

III. 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.

Roger Rohrer moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Dale Herr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda includes the following approved items.

- #1 – Minutes of December 6, 2023 Board meeting.**
- #2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations**
- #3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals**
- #4 – Conservation Plans Acknowledgement**

Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz) December 2023 Activity January 3, 2023 Board Meeting

The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	OPERATION	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN #
John B. Stoltzfus Jr.	East Hempfield	Dairy	CAO	3.02	Schavnis	593
Brent L. Gehman	Clay	Dairy	CAO	3.35	Schavnis	689
Wilmer Nolt	Fulton	Dairy/Ducks	CAFO/VAO	0.88	Adams	2842
Harold Merkey	Rapho	Swine, Beef, Horse	CAFO/CAO	9.94	Brubaker, SCC	169

IV. Additional Business

1. Items removed from the Consent Agenda

None removed.

2. Treasurer's Report

Chris Thompson stated that as in years past there would be no Treasure Reports tonight. There will be a full 2023 report and the January 2024 report at the February meeting. He also reported that the auditors are still on track with the 2022 audit to be completed by the end of January.

3. Personnel Committee

Sonia Wasco recommended Morgan Regan as the candidate for the new E&S Administrative Support Position. Morgan's resume was circulated. A motion was made by Sonia Wasco that the Board accept Morgan Regan as the Administrative Support candidate. The motion was seconded by Dale Herr and the motion carried. Morgan's start date will be January 22, 2024.

4. E&S Committee

Adam Stern reviewed the E&S Committee meeting notes from December 8, 2023, stated that no items require action. Adam shared that the Technician Coverage Map was updated on January 1, 2024, and they now have a full team of staff.

5. Exelon Project Approval

Amanda Goldsmith presented five projects totaling \$305,835.00 for funding through the Constellation Energy Habitat Improvement Project.

Landowner	Technician	2024 Incentive Payment	Administration Cost (5% of Incentive Payment)	Total Grant Requested
E. Lampeter/Suzi Sutton (Waterfall Retreat)	Amanda Goldsmith, LCCD	\$ 71,250.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 75,000.00
Ed and Jeana Linzy (Red Run Campground)	Tyler Keefer, LCCD	\$ 71,000.00	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 74,550.00
Enos Miller (Miller Farm)	Grace Chamberlain, LCCD	\$ 71,250.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 75,000.00
Rick Brooks (UNT Strickler Run)	Brady Riedel, ARRC	\$ 62,415.00	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 65,535.00
Adrian Shelley (Warbler Run AOP)	Amanda Goldsmith, LCCD	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 15,750.00
Totals				\$305,835.00

Roger Rohrer moved to accept all 5 projects as presented. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chris Thompson highlighted this as an example of our partnership with other state agencies and this is part of the re-licensing agreement with the energy company. The list will be sent to DEP for final review and approval.

6. PFBC Grant Approval

Amanda Goldsmith presented two applications for the PA Fish and Boat Commission's Habitat Improvement Grant Program. The first application is for dam removal and will pair with a Stroud-funded 35' riparian buffer and fencing project for the Glick Farm, totaling \$15,000 for the dam removal and grade control structures. The second application is a stream restoration project with a 35' riparian buffer and associated fencing on the Fisher farm, totaling \$75,000. Herb Kreider moved to accept the grant applications. Bob Shearer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

7. ACAP Project Approval

Kent Bitting presented ten applications for ACAP funding. He and the Ag Program Manager recommend positive action for approving \$1,920,273.29 worth of ACAP funding.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Dwight Stoltzfoos	TeamAg	Sadsbury Twp.	Roofed Compost Building, HUA, Grassed Waterway	\$256,328.60	\$233,026.00
Daniel S. Miller	Lancaster Farmland Trust	Little Britain Twp.	Access Road, Grassed Waterways,	\$135,967.30	\$115,967.30

			Animal Trails, Fencing, Underground Outlets		
Reuben Esh	Weaver Environmental	LeacockTwp.	Manure Storage, Animal Trail, Fencing, Roof Runoff Controls, Access Road, Subsurface Drain Underground Outlet	\$601,978.17	\$380,880.35
Jeffrey S. Barley	TeamAg	Manor Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Underground Outlets, Roof Runoff Structure, Subsurface Drain	\$195,091.00	\$173,331.90
John M. Glick	District	Providence Twp.	Manure Storage, Fence, Animals Trails, Underground Outlet, Waste Transfer	\$202,042.92	\$181,838.63
Benuel Ebersol	TeamAg	Fulton Twp.	Manure Storage, Waste Transfer, Fence, Underground Outlet	\$103,080.72	\$92,149.91
Josiah Lantz	TeamAg	Salisbury Twp.	Manure Storage, Waste Storage, Pumping Plant, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlet, Access Road	\$230,927.40	\$209,934.00
Ervin Zook	Weaver Environmental	Bart Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Fencing, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet	\$126,778.00	\$64,275.20
Chris Landis	Mowery Environmental	Clay Twp.	Roofed Compost Facility, HUA, Underground Outlet, Roof Runoff Structure, Lined Outlet	\$27,335.00	\$24,850.00
Allen King	TeamAg	Salisbury Twp.	Roofed Stacking Area, Roofed HUA, Underground Outlets, Access Road, Buffer, Fencing, Stream	\$500,078.00	\$444,020.00

			Crossing, Roofed Runoff Structure		
Totals				\$2,379,607.11	\$1,920,273.29

A motion was made by Jay Snyder and seconded by Herb Kreider to approve the ACAP projects. Roger Rohrer expressed concern about the long-term viability of dairy operations. Chris Thompson stated that in the future there may be a ranking system as funds become more limited. The motion passed unanimously.

8. CEG Approval

Kent Bitting presented two projects for approval through the CEG Program.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Steven Keener	District	West Donegal Twp.	Roofed Manure Stacking Area, HUA, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet	\$56,790.00	\$51,110.00
James L. Ranck	District	Sadsbury Twp.	Structure for Water Control, Underground Outlet, Lined Outlet	\$7,969.85	\$7,172.86
Totals				\$64,759.85	\$58,282.86

Kent Weaver made a motion to approve the projects. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. The motion passed.

9. Banquet Award Nominations

Adam Hartz stated that the Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26 at the Farm and Home Center. He presented the list of recipients and noted that there would not be a Dirt & Gravel award since there was only one project this year. The cost of the banquet will be \$25 and there will be an auction again this year to benefit the Scholarship Fund. A motion was made by Herb Kreider and seconded by Roger Rohrer to accept the Banquet Committee Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Membership Renewal

Chris Thompson presented the list of membership renewals for 2024 and pointed out that the annual dues for PACD may change. Jay Snyder made a motion to approve the membership renewals. Dale Herr seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Reports/Information

1. Correspondence, News and Updates

- Thank you notes from Staff for the year-end Amazon gift card were circulated.
- News Article, Lancaster New Era, December 10, 2023 – Matt Kofroth and Amanda Goldsmith's promotion announcement

2. Campbell Foundation IT Audit Grant

Andrew Pauls-Thomas reported that an application was submitted to the Keith Campbell Foundation for a grant to fund the development of a Technology Plan. Nimbus Nonprofit Solutions was chosen by the Technology Committee as the preferred consultant.

3. BEST Program Presentation

Andrew Pauls-Thomas shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Buffer Establishment Support Team fund. The purpose of the BEST fund is to help with the establishment care of buffer work and maintenance. Roger Rohrer and Dale Herr expressed their appreciation and support for the program.

4. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report

Adam Stern highlighted the NPDES Permit Fees Collected of \$103,000 for the year and shared that the budgeted amount for 2023 was \$102,000. The E&S Plan Review Fees amount was budgeted at \$640,000 in 2023 and went well above at \$794,850. Adam highlighted two significant plan submissions, the PPL Line Rebuild Project and the Lampeter Orchard residential subdivision in West Lampeter. Adam reported the number of Outstanding NPDES Projects received greater than 3 months ago has been holding steady. Chris Thompson highlighted that some of the projects on the list are at DEP or the consultants so only 15 projects of the 37 listed are in our office.

5. LCCD Planning Meeting

Chris reminded everyone that the Annual Planning Meeting is on Wednesday, February 7. He encouraged all Directors and Associate Directors to attend if possible. An Email with an RSVP will be sent out soon.

6. PACD/SCC Report and Winter Meeting Registration

Chris Thompson shared the information about the 2024 PACD Winter Meetings. He offered to help Directors and Associate Directors register for any of the videoconferences they were interested in attending.

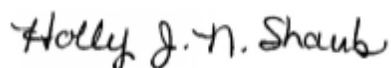
VI. Additional Public Comment

Chris Thompson highlighted for the Board that they have approved over \$2.3 million tonight through the ACAP and CEG programs which was more than our total annual budget just a few years ago. Gordon Hoover pointed out that the work the District is doing is a significant component to the success of the partnerships with other agencies.

VII. Meeting Adjourned

Chairman Dan Heller adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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