

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2026**

The 884th 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 April 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The following Directors were present: Sonia Wasco, Chairperson; Gordon Hoover, Vice Chairman; Herb Kreider, Kent Weaver, Geoffrey Roher, Dale Herr, Commissioner Ray D’Agostino, Roger Rohrer, and Deryk Shaw.

The following Associate Directors were present: Jennifer Engle, Greg Strausser, Lori Keir, Bob Shearer, Dan Zimmerman, and Phil Dunn (online)

The following District Staff were present: Chris Thompson, Stacey Hertz, Kent Bitting, Kevin Lutz, Adam Stern, Eric Hout (online), Amanda Goldsmith, and Matt Kofroth

The following Cooperating Agency representatives were present: Chas Heberlig, DEP Field Representative; Heather Grove (online), District Conservationist, NRCS-USDA.

The following visitors were present: None present.

Invocation: Adam Stern shared two quotes from Rachel Carson.

Introductions: Sonia introduced Lori Kier, a potential new associate director.

Additions to the Agenda: No Additions.

Adam Stern reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

An opportunity was given for public comment: Sonia congratulated and thanked everyone involved in the banquet.

I. Agency Reports

1. USDA, NRCS

Heather Grove stated there were no updates to her report. They are working through the current EQUIP and CSP funding, and the ranking deadline is mid-April. They were able to bring on a new program assistant, Hannah Luckenbaugh, through the Capital RC&D program.

2. PA DEP Field Rep Report

Chas Heberlig highlighted the following information from the report: DEP is no longer requiring a match for the 2026-2027 Watershed Specialist Grants; Tier III mini-grants applications are open April 22 through June 22, and the Growing Greener Grant is open April 22 through June 22. The 2026 Annual Virtual Meeting is May 27 and 28. He mentioned a lot of things are going on with the ACAP program. CACAT is working on developing the Practice Approval System. Chapter 102 Program has emailed their newsletter and is working on delegation agreements. DEP’s Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division is hosting a webinar on May 1. Chris Thompson pointed out that the Chapter 105 Program training courses are open to all and encouraged Directors and Associates to attend the Leadership Development Director Workshop in Berks County on April 23. Chris encouraged the Directors and Associates to participate in the PA Envirothon as judges for the oral component.

II. Consent Agenda

No additions. Gordon Hoover moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion passed unanimously.

- #2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations
- #3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals
- #4 – Conservation Plan Acknowledgment

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

APPLICANT	TITLE	TOWNSHIP	SIZE	ASSISTANCE
None				

**Item II.3
Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)
March 2026 Activity
April 1, 2026 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 #
Roger Shirk	Salisbury	Duck	CAO	2.3	Brodbar	748
Leonard Nolt	Rapho	Layer	CAFO/CAO	13.4	Riebling	3288
Steve Glick	W. Cocalico	Dairy	CAO	114.70	Heigel	1543
Ammon Burkholder	W. Cocalico	Swine	CAO	198.0	Heigel	147
Melvin Beiler Jr.	Salisbury	Dairy	CAO	6.84	Brodbar	138
Jarred Vanderplate	Rapho	Layer	CAFO/CAO	21.71	Riebling	483
John B. Stoltzfus Jr.	E. Hempfield	Dairy	CAO	3.1	Riebling	593
David Rosenberry	Mt. Joy	Layer	CAFO/CAO	45.58	Lutz	161

NMP Update Report to Lancaster County CD Board of Directors

Technician:

Date Range: Feb-26 Mar-26

NMP Name	Municipality	Plan Update Submission Date	Original NMP Approval Date	Planner ¹	Species ²	AEUs	Regulated Operation Type 3	Date Plan Acknowledgement Letter Sent	Reason for Update
John Petersheim	Rapho	2/23/2026	10/4/2023	William Rogers	Dairy/ Layers	288.03	CAO	3/3/2026	Simple Update
Jay Deiter	Conoy	3/6/2026	9/4/2024	Jay Deiter	Swine	552.8	CAO CAFO	3/11/2026	Simple Update
Hope Valley Dairy	East Drumore	3/17/2026	11/6/2025	Britton Hartzok	Dairy	1252.85	CAO CAFO	3/19/2026	Simple Update

**Nutrient Management Plan Transfer for Board Acknowledgment:
March 2026 Activity
April 1, 2026 Board Meeting**

Owner	Proposed Transfer Date	Township	Operation	Designation	AEU's/Acre	Reviewer	Plan #
Merlin Martin to James Rutt	2/4/2026	West Donegal	Swine	CAO	67.63	Schavnis	670

Item II.4

**Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)
The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the following plans for the
April 1, 2026 Board Meeting:**

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Daniel W. Ebersol	1	Camila Martinez Sancez	Salisbury

LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Michael Esh	1	Jason Reuter	Colerain
John Smucker	1	Lauren Brodbar	Upper Leacock
James Landis	1	Lauren Brodbar	Upper Leacock

III. Additional Business

1. Items removed from Consent Agenda

None.

2. Treasurer's Report

Stacey Hertz reported that there is a new Reserve Account for LCCD Health 2026, which is funds received from Benecon/Highmark. There is no Health 2025 because no funds were received from Eliance. The INVEST accounts as of March 24 had a gain of 17.4%, and as of today, with the gains, the balance is \$884,499. The interest earned in the INVEST account so far this year is \$105,666. Account 890 has a negative \$300 due to income in 2025 from permits that will be a 2026 expense. Account 540 has a negative balance of \$333.33 because of funds received in 2025, but the funds went out in 2026. Account 830 is high due to the expenses being spread over a 12-month period.

3. Personnel Committee – Request to Hire

Dan Zimmerman presented the information on the summer intern candidate, Laurel Marx. Gordon Hoover made a motion to approve her as the summer intern, seconded by Roger Rohrer. The motion passed unanimously. Dan Zimmerman then shared the two candidates for the Watershed Resource positions, Isaac Carachilo and Jordan Miller. A motion was made by Roger Roher and seconded by Herb Krieder to hire both candidates. The motion passed unanimously. Chris Thompson shared that Amanda Goldsmith's last day with the District is April 10, and Grace Chamberlain will be acting as interim Watershed Specialist. He also shared that Elizabeth Work has resigned due to health issues, and the position will be advertised along with the open Ag Compliance position.

4. Ag Committee – Set Back Waiver

Kevin Lutz reported on the details of the manure storage setback waiver request. Herb Kreider moved to approve the setback waiver request, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion passed unanimously.

5. ACAP Project Approval

Kent Bitting presented 18 projects for approval. A motion was made by Herb Kreider and seconded by Roger Rohrer to approve the applications. The motion passed unanimously. Gordon Hoover abstained.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Samuel Long	District	Fulton Twp.	Stream Crossing, Access Road	\$6,707.19	\$6,036.47
Josiah Martin	District	Brecknock Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Heavy Use Area, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet, Animal Trail	\$62,880.85	\$56,592.77
Samuel L. Glick	District	East Drumore Twp.	Liquid Manure Storage, Roofed Stacking Shed, Diversion, Fence, Lined Outlet, Roof Runoff Structure, Heavy Use Area, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlet, Vegetated Treatment Area	\$509,693.73	\$458,724.35
David Sweigart	District	Mount Joy Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Access Road, Heavy Use Area, Roof Runoff Structure, Underground Outlet	\$311,112.00	\$280,000.00
David Zimmerman	District	Terre Hill Borough and East Earl Twp.	Liquid Manure Storage, Fence, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlet	\$244,166.14	\$219,749.59
Scott Wagner	District	Little Britain Twp.	Terraces and Underground Outlet	\$94,503.44	\$85,053.09
Marvin Zimmerman	District	East Earl Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Grassed Waterway, Access Road, Heavy Use Area, Underground Outlet	\$171,229.96	\$154,106.96
Dwight Lehman	District	West Lampeter Twp.	Heavy Use Area, Access Road	\$115,990.40	\$104,391.36
Michael Esh	District	Colerain Twp.	Grassed Waterway, Lined Outlet, Animal Trail, Stream Crossing	\$15,917.14	\$14,325.43
Benuel Zook	District	Rapho Twp.	Grassed Waterway, Lined Outlet, Roof Runoff Structure	\$38,597.80	\$34,738.02
Leonard Nolt	District	Rapho Twp.	Grassed Waterways, Lined Outlets, Underground	\$72,336.05	\$65,102.45

			Outlets, Structure for Water Control		
Samuel L Esh	NRCS	Salisbury Twp.	Animal Trail, Fence, Structure for Water Control, Livestock Pipeline, Lined Outlet, Watering Facility	\$112,053.57	\$37,818.08
Benuel S Beiler	Mowery Environmental	Strasburg Twp.	Liquid Manure Storage, Roofed Heavy use Area, Fence, Grassed Waterway, Roof Runoff Structure, Livestock Pipeline, Animal Trail, Watering Facility, Waste Transfer, Underground Outlet	\$371,418.38	\$116,418.38
Alvin F Beiler	Lancaster Farmland Trust	Salisbury Twp.	Roofed Stacking Shed, Fence, Livestock Pipeline, Roof Runoff Structure, Access Road, Heavy Use Area, Stream Crossing, Watering Facility, Underground Outlets	\$218,905.61	\$169,939.05
Gil-Lad Farm LLC	NRCS	Clay Twp.	Lined Outlet	\$11,287.00	\$2,958.00
Powl Associates LLC	TeamAg	Fulton Twp.	Waste Storage, Obstruction Removal, Underground Outlet, Waste Transfer, Access Road, Fence	\$280,917.72	\$228,895.92
Landon Hess	Weaver Environmental	Warwick Twp.	Grassed Waterway, Critical Planting	\$26,225.18	\$23,841.18
Jonathan Stoltzfus	AET Consulting	Mount Joy Twp.	Liquid Manure Storage, Roofed Heavy Use Area, Roofed Stacking Shed, Roof Runoff Structures, Underground Outlets	\$479,493.18	\$435,502.98
Totals				\$3,143,435.34	\$2,494,194.08

6. NFWF Grant Application

Amanda Goldsmith requested approval to apply for an NFWF Small Watershed Grant (SWG) for planning and technical assistance to help cover staff time supporting grassroots watershed groups. Deryk Shaw moved to approve the request, seconded by Herb Kreider. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Report on Exelon Projects

Amanda Goldsmith shared that DEP has approved all six applications for grant funding. Matt Kofroth commended Amada for the tour she put together for DEP staff from the Central and Regional offices who wanted to see funded habitat projects. He also thanked Grace Chamberlain and Tyler Keefer.

Landowner	Technician	Total Cost	Administrative Cost	Total Grant Requested
Ray Becker (Becker Farm)	Tyler Keefer, LCCD	\$232,676.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Mark Beiler (M. Beiler Farm)	Tyler Keefer, LCCD	\$158,180.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Christian Petersheim (Petersheim Farm)	Grace Chamberlain, LCCD	\$133,150.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Caitlin Markham	Amanda Goldsmith, LCCD	\$140,950.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Sam Miller (S. Miller Farm)	Grace Chamberlain, LCCD	\$95,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Fred Ranck (Ranck Farm)	Grace Chamberlain, LCCD	\$159,100.00	\$3,750.00	\$75,000.00
Totals		\$919,056.00		\$450,000.00

8. Appointing a New Associate Director

Sonia Wasco presented Lori Kier for appointment as a new Associate Director. Gordon Hoover moved to approve the appointment, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Ray D’Agostino installed Lori Kier as an Associate Director in the 2026 – 2027 class.

IV. Reports & Information

1. Correspondence, News, and Updates

- District-Wide Brochure developed by Sallie Gregory with input from program managers.
- Thank you notes to Sallie Gregory and Noelle Cudney for supporting the FFA Next Generation Day.
- Brochure where Chris Thompson spoke at a press event held at Deer Country Farm and Lawn, announcing the Most Effective Basin – Public Private Partnership Grant awards. Kevin Lutz was also in attendance.
- Commissioner D’Agostino reported on a meeting he held, and Chris attended, regarding affordable housing.

2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report

Adam Stern highlighted the March report and the Outstanding NPDES Projects report. He shared that the E&S Committee did not meet this month. As of today, April 1, the department is accepting digital submissions. The newest Resource Conservationist, Andrea Acosta, started about two weeks ago, and training is going well. Adam reported on the status of the Stormwater Management Delegation, which they are working on with DEP. A meeting is scheduled for May 26. Adam, Eric Hout, and Chris Thompson are working on developing a job description for a professional engineer in the Stormwater program.

3. PACD Executive Committee Report

Sonia Wasco reported that the 2026 summer Joint Annual Conference (JAC) will be held at the Farm Show building in August. This week, the latest Leadership Development webinar was released and is well done. She highlighted the Director Leadership training on April 23. Sonia announced that SCC Executive Secretary Doug Wolfgang will be retiring in June. She also noted that a Biosolids comment will be issued by Lebanon County, with the hope that the policy will be voted on in August.

4. Banquet Report

Chris Thompson thanked everyone for attending the Annual Awards Banquet and for their participation in the Scholarship Auction. Sonia Wasco congratulated Bob Shear on his Cooperator of the Year Award.

5. E&S Committee Report

No meeting was held.

6. Tree Sale Report

Amanda Goldsmith reported that orders are a little lower this year. The order deadline was extended by a couple of days, which helped boost orders. The event is an outreach opportunity, with partnering agencies in attendance. Any Directors and Associate Directors are welcome to help.

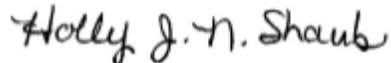
VI. Additional Public Comment:

Chris reviewed the information and dates at the bottom of the agenda, and additional information was presented about the Ag Conservation Funding Field Day tomorrow. Chris shared the status of the ongoing Farm and Home Center sewer line improvement.

VII. Meeting Adjourned

Sonia Wasco adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully,



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