LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 2026

The 889th 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 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The following Directors were present: Gordon Hoover, Vice Chairman; Herb Kreider, Kent Weaver, Dale Herr, Commissioner Ray D'Agostino, Deryk Shaw (online), and Roger Rohrer.

The following Associate Directors were present: Jennifer Engle, Lori Kier, Philip Dunn (online), Kyle Solyak, and Bob Shearer.

The following District Staff were present: Chris Thompson, Stacey Hertz (online), Adam Stern, Matt Kofroth, Sallie Gregory (online), Isaac Carachilo, Eric Hout, Kevin Lutz, Grace Chamberlain, and Morgan Regan.

The following Cooperating Agency representatives were present: Chaz Heberlig, DEP Field Representative; Heather Grove (online), District Conservationist, NRCS-USDA; Officer Jeffrey Schmit, PA Fish and Boat Commission.

The following visitors were present: None present.

Invocation: Herb Kreider provided the invocation.

Introductions: Grace introduced Isaac Carachilo, one of the two new additions to the Watershed Team.

Additions to the Agenda: No Additions.

Adam Stern reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

An opportunity was given for public comment: None.

I. Agency Reports

1. **USDA, NRCS**
   Heather Grove had no additions to the written report and stated that next month there will be a summary for the fiscal year. Heather also highlighted the nationwide reorganization, specifically that Lancaster has three staff members out of nine that are being reassigned sometime after the first of October. The Lancaster office is receiving the same funding to distribute as last year, but will need to be more efficient as they are still under the hiring freeze.

2. **PA DEP Field Rep Report**
   Chaz highlighted multiple items from his written report, starting with Governor Shapiro's Executive Order for Protecting Pennsylvania Consumers from Data Center Impacts. There are also multiple Program Delegation Agreements being updated. The 2026 Management Summit is October 27-29, and the DGLVR Maintenance Workshop is being held September 29-October 1, and the Watershed Specialist Conference is October 21-22.

II. Consent Agenda

Dale Herr moved to accept the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Herb Kreider. Roger Rohrer abstained due to conflict of interest, and the motion passed unanimously.

#1 – Minutes of August 5, 2026, Board meetings.
#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)
August 2026 Activity
September 2, 2026 Board Meeting

To: The Lancaster County Conservation Board of Directors:
I respectfully submit these Nutrient Management Plans and/or Plan Amendments to the Review Committee and recommend they be approved by the Board. The plans are for the following operations:

OWNER	TOWNSHIP	OPERATION	DESIGNATION	AEU's/ ACRE	REVIEWER	PLAN #
Mark A. Rohrer	Strasburg/Paradise	Poultry	CAO	124.18	Brodbar	318
Dale Zimmerman	Penn	Layer	CAO	54.17	Riebling	291
Paul Riehl	West Earl	Layer	CAO	10.50	Heigel	1891
Brian Weaver	Rapho	Layer	CAO	4.37	Riebling	22
Mervin Weaver	Ephrata	Broiler	CAO	3.25	Heigel	19
Joe Burkholder	Ephrata	Swine, Steers	CAFO/CAO	4.64	Heigel	39
Robert Brubaker	Rapho	Ducks	CAFO/CAO	107.36	Riebling	51
Jeffrey Balmer	Warwick	Dairy	CAO	2.75	Riebling	376
Robert Brubaker Jr.	Rapho	Sow/Pullet	CAFO/CAO	596.63	Riebling	2
Randall Brubaker	Rapho	Broiler/Swine	CAFO/CAO	2007.9	Riebling	112
Jon & David Sweigart	Mt. Joy/ W. Donegal	Dairy/Swine	CAFO/CAO	9.47	Schavnis	369
Daniel S. Miller	Little Britain	Dairy	CAO	2.16	Adams	855
Mitch Shellenberger	East Donegal	Beef/Swine	CAFO/CAO	8.7	Schavnis	314
Joseph King	Fulton	Dairy	CAO	8.41	Schavnis	77
Samuel J. Stoltzfus	Fulton	Dairy	CAO	2.83	Adams	425
Harold & Wendy Merkey	Rapho	Beef/Swine/Horse	CAO	9.99	Brubaker – SCC	169

NMP Update Report to Lancaster County CD Board of Directors

Technician:

Date Range: July-26 Aug-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 B. Stoltzfus Jr.	East Hempfield	7/8/2026	4/1/2026	Dean Patches	Dairy	113.35	CAO	7/30/2026	Yearly Plan Submissions Update
Lester Moyer	Rapho	7/29/2026	9/6/2023	William Rogers	Broilers	83.16	CAO	7/29/2026	Triennial Review Update
The Barley Farms	Manor	8/14/2026	7/2/2025	Amanda Sweger	Pullets/ Steers	355.57	VAO /CAFO	8/20/2026	Yearly Plan Submissions Update

Nutrient Management Plan Transfer for Board Acknowledgment
August 2026 Activity
September 2, 2026 Board Meeting

Owner	Proposed Transfer Date	Township	Operation	Designation	AEU's/Acre	Reviewer	Plan #
Nelson Burkholder to Mattilio Farms	8/26/2026	Fulton	Broiler	CAO	109.41	Adams	335

Item II.4
Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)
The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the following plans for the September 2, 2026 Board Meeting:
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Mending Meadows LLC	1	Heather Grove	Manor
Meadow Spring Farm LLC	16	Camila Martinez Sanchez	Ephrata
Smucker Dairy LLC	5	Camila Martinez Sanchez	Earl
Willows Farm LLC	10	Brittany Moore	West Lampeter
John W. McSparran	1	Mark Myers	Drumore

LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Solomon Fisher	1	Lauren Brodbar	East Lampeter
Eli Glick	1	Matt Schavnis	Mount Joy
Doug Metzler	1	Samantha Adams	Martic

III. Additional Business

1. **Items Removed from Consent Agenda**
   None.

2. **Treasurer's Report**
   Stacey Hertz highlighted her finance report stating that the Raymond James account at the time of the report was valued at $907,365 which was a 21% gain, and as the day of the meeting was now at a $904,914 which was a small loss. She also stated the Invest Interest is being held steady at about 3.81%, and as of the day of the meeting it was 3.82%. She also highlighted that Program Contracts line item is expected to increase as payments continue to be received, and that line items for Grants expenses will change as well to reflect payments being processed.

3. **ACAP/CEG Project Funding Approval**
   Kevin Lutz requested approval for two applications for the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP). Herb Kreider moved to approve the funding for the 2 projects, seconded by Roger Rohrer. The motion passed unanimously.

Landowner	District/Private Consultant	Municipality	BMPs	Total Project Cost	Total Grant Requested
Robin Kauffman	District	East Donegal Twp.	Fencing	$3,853.35	$3,468.02
Michael Brubaker	District	East Donegal Twp.	2 Stream Crossings, Fencing	$38,385.75	$34,547.18
Totals				**$42,239.10**	**$38,015.20**

4. **Ag Committee Report**
   Kevin Lutz reported that the Bill Hershey Family will accept the 2027 Outstanding Cooperator Award on behalf of the late Bill Hershey who recently passed. There was also discussion about the SCC and CEG funds from the 2024-2025 year that have already been spent, but some of those funds were later found to be ARPA. Some of those funds were not spent in the allotted timeframe and may have to be returned. There will be more details in October on how to move forward. Staff are also working with a CAFO operator who has exceeded the grace period to submit their Nutrient Management Plan. Kevin verified that the operator had contacted a planner before the deadline. The Committee recommended giving an additional 30 days and then reevaluate if the plan has moved forward or if the landowner should be deemed out of compliance and referred to the S.C.C. Roger moved to approve the Committee's recommendation to reevaluate, seconded by Herb Kreider. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **E&S Committee Report**
   Eric Hout reported on the Enforcement Action for East High Street Elementary School in Elizabethtown Borough. The committee recommended to not proceed with an enforcement action at this time, but instead to have District staff work with the contractors and school district to demonstrate compliance within a reasonable timeframe. Failure to do so will result in reconsideration for enforcement actions. The committee also discussed developing guidelines to assist in determining Chapter 102 violations warranting an enforcement action. Adam Stern then highlighted the Chapter 102 Program Evaluation follow up next steps, and reported that the committee will be working on a service fee update to account for the additional work and tasks that we would take on with a PCSM delegation.

6. **Watershed Grant Approval**
   Grace Chamberlain requested approval to accept and sign the grant awarded by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's Habitat Improvement Grant for the Petersheim Farm Restoration. The $75,000 awarded is sourced from the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station and the Muddy Run Pumped Storage liscensing Project. Dale Herr moved to approve the grant, seconded by Roger Rohrer. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **A.I. Policy Review/Approval**
   Matt Kofroth requested approval of the A.I. Policy that reflected the amendments requested at the August board meeting. There were two additional amendments requested firstly in the second paragraph of the policy section where it states, "copyright issues" to be "intellectual property issues." Also to add that current staff will acknowledge and take this policy into effect immediately. Roger Rohrer moved to approve the policy with the listed two amendments, seconded by Kent Weaver. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Copier Purchase/Agreement**
   Matt Kofroth requested approval to accept the purchase agreement from Toshiba Business Solutions to replace the administrative and receptionist printers/copiers. There were four bids received but $10,135 for both units and a 5 year price lock for printing, Toshiba had the most cost-effective option and is who we have been using. Herb Kreider moved to approve, seconded by Kent Weaver. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **DG/LVR Quality Assurance Board**
   Matt Kofroth requested approval for policy amendments and funding for four projects. The policy amendment is to update the designated staff administering the program be changed to Isaac Carachilo and Jordan Miller, and Matt will continue to assist them. There was also the discussion to amend the policy regarding applications funding rounds, currently there are two funding rounds a year to review projects, and it was discussed to open it to an open enrollment. At this time it is recommended that the process stays how it is operating with two funding rounds in the spring and fall.

   Matt also reported on the QAB recommendation to fund four projects, one is a Dirt & Gravel Road project and the other 3 are Low Volume Road projects: Johnson Mill Road #4 in Rapho Township for $42,200, Buckwalter Road in Rapho Township for $29,258.45, Grove Lane in Lancaster City for $371,4241.58, and Ice Avenue in Lancaster City for $371,928.09.

   Roger Rohrer moved to approve as presented, seconded by Dale Herr. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Scholarship Committee Report**
    Morgan Regan reviewed the Scholarship Committee's written report requesting approval to update the scholarship name and funding for the 2027 scholarship year. Historical background of how funding has worked for the scholarship was given, and since money is being funded from many sources the committee want to recognize this and remove Ann Brown's name from the scholarship and give a name mor inclusive for more funding opportunities. Also requested was the goal to increase the Scholarship to two $2,000 awards from $1,000, eventually offering more in the future. For the 2027 Scholarship year, the Committee would like to present two scholarships for a total of $4,000. Roger Rohrer moved to approve as presented, seconded by Dale Herr. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reports & Information

1. **Correspondence, News, and Updates**
    - Lititz Merchandiser Article about Youth Conservation School
    - New Executive Secretary SCC, Marty Qually, announcement
    - Data Center Executive Order 2026-05 and additional 102 guidance from DEP Central Office

2. **E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report**
    Eric Hout presented the report highlighting that the fees received are lower compared to 2025 because looking at the disturbed acres compared in 2025 and 2026 there are smaller projects being received.

3. **Budget & Finance Committee Report**
    Matt Kofroth presented the committee report highlighting that they met with Robert Hoffman from Fulton Financial to discuss the Raymond James investment account, and that it is performing well since it is up about 18% since inception. Bob also stated that he anticipates the current Lord Abbett bond funds may slip in coming quarters. The Committee also discussed that the 2027 budget for LCCD stands at $16.3 Million but currently has a $400,000 deficit. The deficit is attributed to a few factors such as anticipated decreased grant awards, adding the PCSM Delegation, increasing staff size, new vehicles, and new communication systems. There were discussions about how to balance the budget, but more will come following the September 23rd committee meeting.

4. **Conservation Foundation Report**
    Matt Kofroth reported that back in January the Foundation Board enlisted the consulting services of Knorr Consulting to assist with new initiatives for 2027. The largest initiative the Foundation Board wants to pursue is enrolling in the state's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, or EITC. Knorr Consulting is also assisting the Foundation Board in updating and implementing the Strategic Plan.

VI. Additional Public Comment:

None offered.

VII. Meeting Adjourned

Roger Rohrer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dale Herr. Gordon Hoover adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:36 PM.

Yours for a better environment,



Morgan Regan
E&S Administrative Support Specialist

LANCASTER COUNTY
Conservation District

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Christopher Thompson, Lancaster County Conservation District**

FROM: Roger Rohrer

SUBJECT: **Abstention from Voting and Deliberations**

To comply with Section 1103(j) of the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act, I wish to publicly announce at today's meeting my abstention from voting or deliberating on Agenda 'Item # II - Consent Agenda

Please also have this memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting.

Reasons for Abstention: Nutrient Management Plan Approval
Mark B. Rohrer - my Son
Also Have Farming Entity: R Farm LLC
which he is also a member.

Signature

9/3/26
Date