

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 1, 2016**

The 773rd regularly scheduled Board Meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2016, at 7:30 PM, in the multi-purpose room of the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA.

The following Directors were present: Robert Shearer, Vice-Chairman; Dan Heller, Treasurer; Herb Kreider, Roger Rohrer, Dick Shellenberger, Jay Snyder, and Sonia Wasco. Don Robinson, Director Emeritus, was also present.

The following Associate Directors were present: Frank Burkhart, Lisa Graybeal, Stuart Herr, and Kent Weaver.

The following District Staff were present: Christopher Thompson, District Manager; Gerald Heistand, Business Manager; Jeff Hill, Ag Program Manager; Kevin Seibert, Ag Compliance Coordinator; Nate Kurtz, E&S Program Manager; and James Fricke, Erosion Control Technician.

The following Cooperating Agency representatives were present: Heather Grove, Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Elwood Blake, PA DEP.

Vice-Chairman Robert Shearer called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM, and Herb Kreider provided the invocation for the meeting.

Chris Thompson introduced James Fricke to the Board, as one of our new E&S technicians.

The following additions to the agenda were announced:

1. Outstanding Cooperator Committee Report to be addressed as #8 in the Additional Business Section
2. SCC letters of recommendation
3. Ag Night at the Barnstormers
4. Possible adjustment of the date of the July Board meeting

Opportunity was given for public comment. None was offered.

Agency Reports

1. USDA, NRCS

The NRCS report was provided in the mailing. Heather Grove had nothing additional to add to the report.

2. PA DEP Field Rep Report

Elwood Blake referred to the June 2016 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points that were provided at the meeting. He highlighted the Envirothon program and mentioned that the Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Roads program funding will be similar to this past year. The Nutrient Management Program budget allocations are also similar to the current year. He informed the Board that Bill Zett and Lynn Langer have retired. Bob Conrad is acting director for the DEP South Central region. The Bay Reboot SOP and inspection report forms have been finalized, and the training for compliance inspections will be held in early July.

Consent Agenda

Vice-Chairman Shearer gave opportunity for directors to withdraw any of the items from the Consent Agenda for additional discussion. Dick Shellenberger moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the four items listed below. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda included the following items:

- 1. Minutes of May 4, 2016 Board meeting**
- 2. Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations**
- 3. Nutrient Management Plan Approvals**
- 4. Conservation Plans Acknowledgement**

Additional Business

1. There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

2. Treasurer's Report

Gerald Heistand reviewed the balance sheet figures compared to last month and explained that net income for General Operations is less than expected due to reimbursements coming in later than expected. The treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit.

3. Chesapeake Bay Program

Elwood Blake reported that, despite the resignation of Secretary John Quigley, the PA Reboot Strategy is moving along. Thompson reviewed details of the new program and that Lancaster will be required to conduct 300 compliance checks. Thompson reported that he currently knows of four districts that have voted not to go along with the delegation agreement, but seven have signed on. In response to the question about LCCD's efforts to coordinate farm visits to complete multiple elements of what we do and minimize farmer disruptions, Kevin Seibert reported that everyone is trying to be efficient with scheduling the compliance visits. Roger Rohrer moved that the Lancaster District accept and sign the Bay Technician, Bay Engineer, and SWAT agreements with DEP/NRCS. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Ag Program Purchases

Jeff Hill reported that the current Total Station survey equipment owned by the District is from the previous decade, uses old technology and manpower inefficiently. The new proposed GPS survey systems can be run by one person and will be more efficient and useful. Transferring the field data to GIS will be more straightforward and surveys can be loaded directly into our database. Hill reviewed the three bid options and informed the Board that he is looking to go with Print-O-Stat as the provided training to use the unit makes the service complete and the bid more competitive. Comments were made concerning warranty and insurance. Sonia Wasco moved that the District purchase the GPS Survey System from Print-O-Stat as presented in Item III.4. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Hill provided background information on the different bids he received for the Nutrient Management vehicle purchase, and that using COSTARS saved approximately \$3,000. The biggest selling points of the Ford Explorer were the rugged suspension, the rubber coated floor mats, black interior, and more space for equipment. Dick Shellenberger moved to purchase the Ford Explorer vehicle from Hondru Ford, and to authorize Jeff Hill to sign for the vehicle. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #II.1

Hill reported that the Ag Compliance group is gearing up to be as efficient as possible as they start doing compliance inspections. DEP is also looking to use mobile tablets for their compliance work, and suggested that they may provide tablets for districts. Due to time constraints and the need to start work, the Ag Program Manager is requesting permission to purchase three tablets with software and accessories to use for compliance. Dan Heller moved to purchase the equipment as stated in Item III.4 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 in total. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Act 38 Tech Approval

Hill reported that the SCC is suggesting that districts adopt a Technical Assistance Policy to go with the Act 38 requirements. Board members should review the policy as it will be presented for a vote at the July Board meeting. Thompson mentioned that we want to have this on file to give back up for how we do our work with Act 38.

6. PACD Executive Committee Report

Chris Thompson reported that Robert Shearer will be our PACD voting delegate and he wanted to be sure that the Board was up to date on the issues that will be voted on at the Joint Annual Meeting in July. The first item will be using properly permitted and treated acid mine drainage (AMD) water for fracking. The second item deals with establishing a good procedure for a PACD dues structure. The vote is to approve a framework on how to move forward. The Board supported using AMD for fracking, as well as supported a PACD dues structure that is tiered by county class and provides for projected reasonable organizational growth.

7. Cubicle for Additional Workspace

Heistand reported that the District requested bids on four different projects from three companies. The most urgent project is to provide an additional cubicle for the sixth E&S professional staff member. Bids were received from two of the three companies for this project; one using new furniture and another to re-use the furniture left behind by USDA APHIS. The Farm & Home Foundation is offering to sell all of the furniture in the office vacated by APHIS to the District for \$1,500. Dan Heller moved to build the additional workspace and purchase the used office furniture. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Outstanding Cooperator Committee Report

Robert Shearer reported that the committee met to review candidates for the 2017 Outstanding Cooperator award, and the committee report was provided as a handout at the meeting. The committee is recommending that the 2017 Outstanding Cooperator award be presented to Paul Hess of Drumore Township. The dairy farm has installed several constructed BMPs over a relatively short period of time. Shearer also reported that the committee would like to recognize Jeff Stoltzfus Jr., an organic dairy grazer in the Kirkwood area, with the 2017 Conservation Advocate Award. Jay Snyder moved that the District honor Paul Hess and Jeff Stoltzfus, Jr. with the 2017 Outstanding Cooperator and 2017 Conservation Advocate awards at the March 2017, Awards Banquet. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

9. SCC Letters of Recommendation

Thompson reported that there are several names being presented to serve as members of the State Conservation Commission. Letters of support have been prepared for MaryAnn Warren, Don Kuntz, Ross Orner, Ron Kopp and Matt Ehrhart. Jay Snyder moved that the District send letters of support for these individual to serve on the SCC. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Date Change for July Board meeting

Thompson reported that next month's Board meeting date of July 6, 2016, conflicts with his schedule. After discussion, Roger Rohrer moved that the July Board meeting date be change to July 7, 2016. Sonia Wasco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Ag Night at the Barnstormers

Thompson reported that there is an effort to revitalize Ag Night at the Barnstormers, which will be observed this year on July 13th. After discussion, Sonia Wasco moved that the District support this effort with a \$2,500 sponsorship. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E&S Committee Report

Nate Kurtz reported that there are five different sites that are up for discussion on enforcement. DEP will be taking the lead on the Sunoco Blainsport Pump Station and Wildflower Ridge sites, and the District will need to decide whether to pursue the other three. After reviewing details, Jay Snyder moved that the District pursue compliance efforts on the Christ King, Elmer Stoltzfus, and Raleigh Drive sites, and support DEP with their efforts on the other two sites. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports/Information

1. Correspondence, News and Updates

The following correspondence, news and update items will be circulated at Board meeting:

- Thank You note – from Dave Weidman, recipient of the District's Watershed Volunteer award.
- Thank you notes – from Brittany Keener, Katie Lakehart, Marissa Kopp and Anthony Vozzella – recipients of 2016/2017 Ann Brown Scholarships.
- 2015 Annual Summary Report – Pennsylvania Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Road Maintenance Program
- News Article – Park, creek become classroom for MC fourth graders – Manheim for the Record, May 19, 2016
- News Article – Warwick wins Lancaster County Envirothon competition – The Lititz Record Express, May 19, 2016
- News Article – Cooperate With Bay Inspectors, Attorneys Say – Lancaster Farming, May 21, 2016
- News Article – Environment Secretary Lays Out Plan for Inspections, Lancaster Farming, May 21, 2016
- News Article – Water Monitors Seen as Key to Chesapeake Bay Cleanup, Lancaster Farming, May 21, 2016
- News Article – Is More Farm Scrutiny the Answer to Better Food?, by Lisa Graybeal, Lancaster Farming, May 21, 2016

2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report

Nate Kurtz referred to the E&S report that was provided as a handout at the meeting. He mentioned that DEP is requesting more information on the various projects which will create a larger workload for E&S staff.

3. E&S Committee Report

This item was addressed in the Additional Business section.

4. PennVest Update

Gerald Heistand reported that a settlement on the assumption agreement by ElectroCell is scheduled for June 9, 2016. This would transfer the PennVest loan completely to ElectroCell.

5. Eden and Colerain Update

Jeff Hill referred to the letter from Eden Township on page 23 of the mailing. They are looking to address any compliance issues that may exist in their township. The Ag department is working with Colerain Township this season, and will plan to coordinate with Eden Township in the winter or spring of 2017.

6. PACD/SCC Joint Meeting Registration

The PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference will be held on July 27 and July 28, at the Ramada Conference Center in State College. Any director interested in attending should contact Chris Thompson by June 29th.

Additional Public Comment:

There was a question related to public relations as the District continues to work with farm compliance checks and enforcement. There was a consensus that since we are teaming up with DEP on these efforts, there should be a press release. The Ag department is working on one, and Lisa Graybeal agreed to review/contribute to it.

Vice-Chairman Robert Shearer thanked the Board for their presence and discussion at the meeting.

Meeting Adjournment

Dan Heller moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM. Roger Rohrer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Gerald M. Heistand
Recording Secretary