

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON MARCH 9, 2017

Vice Chairman Dan Hunsicker called a regular meeting of the Lehigh County Conservation District Directors to order at 6:30 PM at the Lehigh County Conservation District Office located at 4184 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Present were:

Directors:

Bill Erdman	Chairman/Public Director
Dan Hunsicker	Vice Chairman/Farmer Director
Paul Semmel	Treasurer/Secretary/Farmer Director
Anton Shannon	Farmer Director
Mary Ellen Snyder	Public Director
Bill Royer	Public Director

Associate Director:

Chris Strohler	Wildlands Conservancy
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Staff:

Bill McFadden	District Manager
Cammy Kiechel	Executive Assistant

Agencies:

Linda Mackey	SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative
Travis Miller	PA Fish & Boat Commission
Pete Zakanyycz	USDA/NRCS

Public:

Alex Tamerler

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – no comments

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – no additional items

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Bill Royer & seconded by Anton Shannon to accept & approve the minutes from the January 12, 2017 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor.

AGENCY REPORTS

Travis Miller, PA Fish & Boat Commission, introduced himself as he is new to the Lehigh County. He reported that he has been already working with LCCD on encroachment issues, pollution events & earth disturbance issues. He noted that PA Fish & Boat Commission have started stocking trout streams for the upcoming fishing season.

Pete Zakanyycz, USDA/NRCS, reported that he wrote a large contract for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) & that they received \$240, 000.00. He also noted that the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) has been approved for this area. Pete remarked that the money is out there so you just have to make the effort to go after it.

Linda Mackey, SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative, reported on the Listening Sessions regarding NPDES & the Chapter 102 program with DEP staff that have been going on around the state & that LCCD recently hosted the last one. DEP was there to listen to concerns & hopefully offer some guidance. They will go back & compile the information & then come up with a list of things that people can agree on & hopefully improve the program. She also noted that Kelly Heffner has been appointed to Executive Deputy Secretary for Programs.

Chris Strohler, Wildlands Conservancy, reported on land deals on South Mountain, DCNR grants, stewardship programs & restoration projects that the Wildlands is working on. He noted that they have great partnerships with multiple agencies in the Lehigh County.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Update on Contingency Monitoring

Bill Erdman noted that the balance is up a bit this month.

Approval of Disbursement of Bills for December 2016

It was on motion by Bill Royer and seconded by Dave Hunsicker to approve & accept the Disbursement of Bills for January 2017 & February 2017. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – no reports

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

Pappy's Orchard Nutrient Management Plan

Bill McFadden reported that they want to expand their operation & they need a new NMP.

It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Anton Shannon to approve the Pappy's Orchard Nutrient Management Plan in Lower Milford Township. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for Ronald Metzger Farm

Bill McFadden reported that they need help with a new pasture & feed lot.

It was on motion by Anton Shannon & seconded by Dan Hunsicker to approve the Cooperator's Agreement for the Ronald Metzger Farm in Weisenberg Township. All were in favor.

Watershed Specialist Grant Application

Bill Erdman noted that it is a fairly straight forward application that is filed every year for this position.

It was on motion by Dan Hunsicker & seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder to approve the Watershed Specialist Grant Application. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for William & Randall Boyd Farm

Bill McFadden noted that they need to have a Conservation Plan.

It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Anton Shannon to approve the Cooperator's Agreement for the Williams & Randall Boyd Farm. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for Barbara Stauffer Farm

Bill McFadden explained the pipe work that needs to be done on the property.

It was on motion by Mary Ellen Snyder & seconded by Bill Royer to approve the Cooperator's Agreement for the Barbara Stauffer Farm in Weisenberg Township. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Werner & Co. Report

There was discussion among the Directors regarding this report. The 2nd part of the report is on hold.

Summer Intern

Bill McFadden reported that Sean Faust has been hired on for this summer as an intern.

Nutrient Management & Manure Management Program Delegation Agreement Performance Evaluation

Bill Erdman noted that according to the report it found that the staff is doing a good job administering the program.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS - none

PUBLIC COMMENT

Per Alex Tamerler's question there was discussion regarding sinkhole prone areas & regulations.

CALENDAR ITEMS

Bill Erdman added the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, April 28, 2017 from 8:30 – 10:00 am.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, April 13, 2017 – 7:00 PM – Classroom #108

ADJOURNMENT – Bill Erdman adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Semmel
Secretary/Treasurer

Cammy Kiechel
Recorder