

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 13, 2022

Chairman Bill Erdman called a regular meeting of the Lehigh County Conservation District Directors to order at 7:00 pm at the Lehigh County Conservation District Office, 4184 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Present were:

Directors:

Bill Erdman	Chairman/Public Director
Bill Royer	Public Director
Dan Hunsicker	Vice-Chairman/Farmer Director
Adele Bon-Shannon	Public Director
Paul Semmel	Treasurer/Secretary/Farmer Director
Antonio Pineda	Commissioner Director
Arland Schantz	Farmer Director

Associate Directors:

Staff:

Kevin Frederick	District Manager
Holly Kaplan	Assistant Manager
Laura Hopek	Environmental Education & Outreach Coordinator

Agencies:

Austin Drager	NRCS
Janet Creegan	Conservation District Field Representative

Public:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Paul Semmel appointed Antonio Pineda as the new Commissioner Director for the Lehigh County Conservation District,

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2022, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Dan Hunsicker and seconded by Adele Bon-Shannon to accept and approve the minutes from the September 8 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor

AGENCY REPORTS

Austin Dragger, NRCS Representative, highlighted from his report that September was a busy month. Austin stated that some projects are beginning in the county. They looked at a grazing system for some fence layout and met with a contractor to begin a larger project for one of the livestock they were working on. Austin continues to work with Amanda on conservation planning. Overall. The department is looking forward to a busy upcoming month.

Janet Creegan - Conservation District Field Representative, briefly shared, In addition to her report, that DEP is asking those working around poultry areas to be vigilant of an influenza outbreak. Also, there have been some new reassignments in contacts in DEP. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact her directly.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Semmel reported that September's Liabilities and Equity statements are \$140,000 less than August's.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS OF BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

It was on motion by Paule Semmel and seconded by Adele Bon-Shannon to accept and approve the Disbursement of Bills for September 2022. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach/Education

Laura Hopek provided a brief update on her partnerships with teachers/schools and her plans/projects for the upcoming year.

HR COMMITTEE

Bill Royer mentioned that appraisals would soon start in December.

WATER QUALITY

Holly Kaplan quickly mentioned that Kim Zieger has been working hard to create a NOT training/presentation. In addition, she will be conducting six programmed trainings across the whole state. Overall, the Water Quality department remains busy.

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

DCNR Grant Resolution – Lehigh Parkway Stream Enhancement

The DCNR Lehigh Parkway grant proposal for \$65,000 will supplement the 2021 DEP Growing Greener Lehigh Parkway grant that has already been awarded. It was a motion by Bill Royer and seconded by Adele Bon-Shannon to accept and approve the DCNR Grant Resolution-Lehigh Parkway Stream Enhancement. All were in favor.

Low Volume Road Application – Wertman Road, Lowhill Township

The scope of the project includes installing two pipes and catch basins at low spots directing stormwater drainage to the other side of the road, reshaping, and constructing a new one. This will eliminate the ice that forms on the roadway during the winter months and the stone that washes onto the roadway from the private drive. William McFadden briefly mentioned that this project could be done before winter if the weather permits. It was a motion by Adele Bon-Shannon and seconded by Dan Hunsicker to accept and approve Low Volume Road Application – Wertman Road, Lowhill Township. All were in favor.

LCCD Draft Audit

Campbell Rappold & Yurasits have completed their audit of the District's 2021 financial documents dated December 31, 2021. It was a motion by Dan Hunsicker and seconded by Adele Bon-Shannon to approve the signing of the LCCD Draft Audit. All were in favor.

LCCD MOU with NACD

Kevin Frederick briefly mentioned that LCCD enters a new MOU with NACD every year for a new yearly grant. This memorandum of understanding is for the technical assistance grant we applied for from the National Association of Conservation Districts to help fund our assistance with NRCS for agricultural projects in Lehigh County. It was in motion by Bill Royer and seconded by Adele-Bon Shannon to accept and approve the LCCD MOU with NACD.

Jaindl Nutrient Management Plan

The State Conservation Commission completed the final review of this plan and has recommended to District staff that our Board approve it. It was in motion by Dan Hunsicker and seconded by Bill Royer to accept and approve the Jaindl Nutrient Management Plan. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP)

Kevin Frederick mentioned that the state had received funding which was also transferred to the state conservation commission with the focus of implementing more BMPs practices in our AG community. Therefore, Lehigh County will roughly be receiving 1.2 million, which will go towards Administrative costs, technical assistance, and helping the AG community install BMPs on their farms.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Board Meetings Virtual/In-person

Bill Erdman shared the thought of possibly having an in-person meeting every quarter, with the possibility of starting in December. There were further questions and discussions on the topic

LCCD Conservation Ecologist Position

Kevin Frederick shared that Maggie Wallner has accepted the Ecologist position. Maggie has exceptional qualifications for this position and will start in January.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CALENDAR

1. PACD Leadership Development: Lunch & Learn Webinars, November 2, 9, 16, 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

ADJOURNMENT – Paul Semmel adjourned the meeting at

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Semmel
Secretary/Treasurer

Holly Kaplan
Recorder 8:00