

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting June 29, 2011

Chairman Glenn R. Seidel called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Berks County Conservation District to order on Wednesday, June 29, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Berks County Agriculture Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533.

The group pledged their allegiance to the flag.

The following Directors were present: Glenn R. Seidel, Chairman; Piper L. Sherburne, Vice-Chairman; Mark A. Wolfskill, Treasurer; T. John Bicksler; Larry Kehl; Commissioner Christian Leinbach and Brian D. Boyer.

The following Associate Directors were present: Henry Bohn; John Schueller; Ross Stowell; Leonard Good and Jim McCarthy.

The following District Staff was present: Dan Greig, Interim District Manager; and Tammy Bartsch, Office Administrator.

The following Cooperating Agencies representatives were present: Nick Ramsey, NRCS and Elwood Blake, DEP.

Also present were: Richard Weinstein, Public and Val Lacin, Reading Eagle Newspaper.

Public Comment: None

Action on Minutes of May 25, 2011 meeting

Motion to accept the May 25, 2011 minutes was made by Piper Sherburne, seconded by T. John Bicksler, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Payment of June 2011 bills

Motion to pay the bills was made by Brian Boyer, seconded by Mark Wolfskill, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Correspondence: See Attachments

Cooperating Agency Reports

PA DEP – Elwood Blake - See Attachment

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PA DCNR – No Report

NRCS – Nick Ramsey

- The annual work group meeting was held prior to the Board meeting and emphasis was on making sure NRCS is getting their portion of the Chesapeake Bay funds.
- Interviews have been completed for an NRCS technician, the position has been offered, if accepted the applicant will begin at the end of July or beginning of August of this year.
- Nancy Dusko will not be returning.
- NRCS is working with FSA on CREP renewals, have 11 interested.
- Rent will be the same from FSA, but no funding from the Game Commission.
- Turned in 5 plans for 486 acres.
- Working on 83 active contracts.

FSA – See attachment

PA Fish & Boat Commission – No Report

PA Game Commission – No Report

Cooperative Extension Update – No Report

Berks County Association of Township Officials

Annual Meeting is October 20, 2011 – Oley Fairgrounds – Details to follow

Agricultural Coordinator – No Report

Agricultural Land Preservation – No Report

Committee Reports

SEPA RC&D – No report

D & G R Quality Assurance Board – Piper Sherburne

- The committee met today and have the following actions:

Motion to release final payment of \$10,837.75 to Bethel Township
was made by

Piper Sherburne, seconded by **Brian Boyer**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

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Motion to release ½ of grant request in the amount of \$2,669.55 to Richmond Township was made by

Piper Sherburne, seconded by **Brian Boyer**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Motion to approve a project in the amount of \$13,110.00 pending a GP7 approval in Hereford Township was made by

Piper Sherburne, seconded by **Brian Boyer**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Motion to release ½ of grant request in the amount of \$2,307.00 to Upper Tulpehocken Township for Dust Suppression was made by

Piper Sherburne, seconded by **Brian Boyer**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Workshop Conference Call – Meeting Cancelled

Admin Tech / Ag Committee – Minutes Attached

Resource Management Committee – Brian Boyer – Minutes Attached

Motion to move forward with the Pennvest loan application process for the projects in the Schuylkill River and Chesapeake Bay Watershed was made by

Brian Boyer seconded by **Christian Leinbach** motion passed.

Discussion: None

Unfinished Business:

- ***Curtis Bashore's "Artifacts" Update***

Two boxes were dropped off at the Conservation District by Mrs. Lane's husband. John Schueller and Dan Greig started going through the items.

Direction: After the rest of the items have been sorted through, bring recommendations to the Board.

- ***Impact Fee Legislation***

Glenn Seidel, Dan Greig and Ellie Scott attended a press conference at the Emmaus Community Park on Thursday June 23, 2011.

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Comments: There will not be movement on this until August / September.

- **Unemployment Compensation**
Dan Greig attended the hearing for the appeal, benefits were denied.
- **Good Shepherd Land Project**
A letter was sent thanking them for considering BCCD in regards to the properties.
- **Pennvest Update**
Dan Greig advised the Board procedures have changed as to how Pennvest applications are completed.
- **Annual District Picnic**
This year's picnic will be Wednesday July 27th beginning at 11:30 am in the auditorium of the Ag Center.

New Business:

- **Affiliate Membership(s)**

<i>Affiliate Member</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Borough of Fleetwood	\$25.00
Leesport Borough	\$200.00

- **Revised MOU's for Chapter 102**
The District has sent out the revised MOU's to the municipalities. Several municipalities have signed and returned the MOU. Signature of the Chairman is needed.

Motion to have the Chairman sign the *Revised MOU's* was made by ***Piper Sherburne***, seconded by ***T. John Bicksler***, motion passed

Discussion: None

- **Chesapeake Bay Technician Contract**
The new Chesapeake Bay Technician Contract which covers July 1, 2011 until June 30, 2012 has been received. Signatures are required of the District Chairman and the District Treasurer.

Motion to have the Chairman sign the *Revised MOU's* was made by ***Brian Boyer***, seconded by ***Piper Sherburne***, motion passed

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Discussion: Were corrections made? Yes!

- **Topton Borough/Toad Creek (See copy of letter)**
Dan Greig, Larry Kehl, Kate O'Brien and Thomas Gombar from Senator Schwank's office met with Anthony Branco at the Toad Creek site.

Discussion: Toad Creek is located in a High Quality Watershed; perhaps Topton should contact Trout Unlimited for assistance.

- **PACD Joint Annual Conference at State College, PA on July 11-12, 2011**
- **NACD Northeast Regional at Plymouth, MA on August 7 – 10, 2011**

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS: One (1)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/ Acre	Reviewer
Rick Sheidy (Another Chance 4 Horses)	North Heidelberg	65	0	CAO	47.5	47.5	Drzal

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMMENDMENTS: Zero (0)

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS REQUESTING REMOVAL: Four (4)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/ Acre
T. John Bicksler	Tulephocken / Bethel	84,000 Broilers, 115 Beef Cows	355	VAO	275.6	0.78
Robert and Randy Shaner (Peterson * Shaner Farm)	Douglass	110 Beef Cows	192	VAO	145.9	0.76
Dennis Bross	Bethel	100 Dairy Cows	250	VAO	198.0	0.79
Jason Kelifelter	Penn	14 Goats, 20 Heifers, 15 Pigs	34.5	VAO	53.7	1.56

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS EXPIRING: Two (2)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/ Acre
Aaron Martin	Centre	100,000 Broilers, 105 Dairy Cows	82	CAO/CAFO	342.6	4.2

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May-Ann Rutt	Penn	5,000 Hogs, 100 Beef Cows	171.1	CAO/CAFO	742.2	4.34
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The delegated conservation district shall approve, modify or disapprove any NMP within 90 days of receipt of the complete plan.

The district's action on the plan requires a formal action of the board.

If a NMP operation plan is disapproved, the NMP operation submitting the plan for the first time shall have 90 days after receipt of a written notice explaining specific reasons for the disapproval to resubmit a revised plan.

“The Berks County Conservation District concurs with these plans, based on NRCS certification that the plans meet the standards and specifications of the Pennsylvania Field Office Technical Guide for NRCS.”

OR AS APPROPRIATE

“The Berks County Conservation District concurs with these plans, based on the contracted 3rd Party Planner's certification that the plans meet the standards and specifications of the Pennsylvania Field Office Technical Guide for NRCS.”

REPORTS: District Manager and Staff Reports are attached.

COMMENTS:

Brian Boyer was concerned about two items on the BMP Trail. Item #1 is the fact that the rain garden does not collect rain; item #2 the outfall basin has inferior stone.

Dan Greig is to follow up on these items and bring findings back to the Board in July.

Piper Sherburne asked if the Draft Workplan was primarily for information purposes. Dan Greig encouraged the Board to review and bring suggestions or changes to Dan or Tammy. The 2012 Draft Workplan should be ready to bring to the August Admin Tech meeting.

Piper also asked if the District would hold a Watershed Conference this year. Dan will handle.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There will be an executive session immediately following the Board meeting today regarding personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was recessed at 2:14 p.m. into an Executive Session.

Directors returned to the Board meeting, no action was taken.

Motion was made to adjourn by
Piper Sherburne seconded by **Christian Leinbach**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS and HOLIDAYS:

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting June 29, 2011

June

- Jun. 27 – Jul. 1, 2011 Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School
- Jun. 29, 2011 D&GR Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- Jun. 29, 2011 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

July

- Jul. 4, 2011 Independence Day Observed
- Jul. 13, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Jul. 14, 2011 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- Jul. 19, 2011 RMC Committee Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Jul. 27, 2011 Annual Picnic – 11:00 a.m. Ag Center Auditorium
- Jul. 27, 2011 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

August

- Aug. 10, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Aug 11, 2011 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 am.
- Aug. 15 – 16, 2011 BCIU & BCCD Teacher Workshop
- Aug 16, 2011 RMC Committee Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Aug. 25, 2011 BCTV Appearance
- Aug. 31, 2011 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

September

- Sep. 8, 2011 Admin Tech / Ag Committee – 9:00 a.m.
- Sep. 14, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Sep. 20, 2011 RMC Committee Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Sep. 28, 2011 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

October

- Oct. 20, 2011 Berks County Association of Township Officials Annual Meeting Oley Fairgrounds; detail to follow