

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 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, April 27, 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; Larry E. Kehl, T. John Bicksler; Commissioner Christian Leinbach and Brian D. Boyer.

The following Associate Directors were present: Henry Bohn; John Schueller; Ross Stowell; Bruce Latshaw, Berks County Association of Township Officials and Leonard Good.

The following District Staff was present: Joe Crea, District Manager; Stephanie Drzal, Agriculture Conservation Technician and Tammy Bartsch, Administrative Assistant.

The following Cooperating Agencies representatives were present: Nick Ramsey, NRCS; Morgan Firestine, Cooperative Extension and Elwood Blake, DEP.

Also present was: Paul Herner, PACD; John Latscher, Glatfelter Pulpwood Company and Jennifer Thompson, Berks County Chamber of Commerce.

Public Comment: John Latscher, Glatfelter Pulpwood Company expressed concern that Timber Harvest fees are based on total acres and not disturbed acres.

Discussion:

Piper Sherburne asked if this is something that should be revisited in October?

Chairman Seidel suggested there may be a compromise?

John Latscher explained he removes bad wood which allows the good wood to grow.

Chairman Seidel asked Mr. Latscher is he was aware of how many forested acres are on the radar; Mr. Latscher did not know.

Brian Boyer asked if other counties were using disturbed acres or total acres; Mr. Latscher did not know.

Mr. Latscher asked if he could get a copy of the signed MOU; he was advised he would need to complete a Right-to-Know request.

Action on Minutes of March 30, 2011 meeting -

Motion to accept the minutes was made by
Brian Boyer, seconded by **Piper Sherburne** motion passed.

Discussion: None

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

Payment of April 2011 bills -

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

Discussion: None

To Do: Joe Crea is to review general reserve and make sure vacation and sick time are not included. Come up with a target amount as well as a range (percentage) as to what needs to be set aside. Do not include any restricted funds in target amount. Take findings to RMC.

Correspondence: See Attachments

Cooperating Agency Reports

PA DEP – Elwood Blake - See Attachment

PA DCNR – No Report

NRCS – Nick Ramsey

- Compiled two more conservation plans bringing the total to 1,800.

FSA – See Attachment

PA Fish & Boat Commission – No Report

PA Game Commission – No Report

Cooperative Extension Update – Morgan Firestine – See Attachments

Berks County Association of Township Officials – Bruce Latshaw

- Asked for clarification of the 20/30 plan.

Agricultural Coordinator – Joe Crea for Sheila Miller

- June 6, 2011 is Farmers Night at the Reading Phillies.
- A District staff member will attend the BARN meeting next month.

Agricultural Land Preservation – No Report

Committee Reports

SEPA RC&D – No Report

D & G R Quality Assurance Board – Piper Sherburne

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

- Committee is reviewing projects that were submitted.
- There will be a D&GR meeting after the Board meeting today.
- Account balance is \$35,816.02.

Workshop Conference Call – Meeting Cancelled

Admin Tech / Ag Committee – Larry Kehl – Minutes Attached

To Do: Conservation District Office Administrator position is tabled until next month so that questions can be answered and changes made to the description.

Resource Management Committee – Brian Boyer – Minutes Attached

Unfinished Business:

- ***Vehicle 1 Update***
Vehicle 1 was sold for \$610.00

New Business:

- ***Affiliate Membership(s)***

<i>Affiliate Member</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Affiliate Member</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Exeter Twp.	\$100.00	Boro. of Sinking Spring	\$25.00
Windsor Twp	\$100.00	Rockland Twp.	\$25.00
S. Heidelberg Twp.	\$100.00	Centerport Boro.	\$25.00
Boro. of W.Reading	\$100.00	Bethel Twp	\$25.00
Boro. of Laureldale	\$50.00	Boro. of Kenhorst	\$25.00
Brecknock Twp	\$50.00	Boro. of Robesonia	\$25.00
Twp. of Spring	\$50.00	Bern Twp.	\$25.00
Boro. of Hamburg	\$50.00	Colebrookdale Twp.	\$25.00
Boro. of Wernersville	\$25.00		

- ***Accounting Contract***
Joe Crea requested a contract from Ruhl & Associates for their accounting and payroll services; contract needs signature.
- ***Impact Fee Legislation***
Brenda Shambaugh forwarded an email via Managers Listserve regarding new legislative initiative to secure dedicated funding for the Conservation District Fund; email and attachments are included.

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

- ***PENN VEST Funding Opportunity***

Joe Crea will provide details

- ***DISC Management Training Proposal***

Joe Crea will provide details

To Do: Take DISC Management Training Proposal to the Admin Tech meeting.

- ***Strategic Plan Update***

Joe Crea will provide details

- ***Envirothon Lunch Delivery***

On Thursday May 5th and Tuesday May 10th a volunteer is needed to pick up lunch at 11:30 am at the Giant grocery store on Lancaster Avenue in Shillington and deliver to Nolde Forest by 12:00 pm.

- ***Computers, Server, Wiring, Internet Service***

Would like approval to solicit three quotes; review quotes; award the bid; and make the necessary purchases, keeping within the approved budgeted amount.

Motion was made to solicit quotes and take results to RMC committee by **Brian Boyer**, seconded by, **T. John Bicksler** motion passed.

Discussion: None

- ***Artifacts***

Carol Lane (Curtis Bashore's daughter) has artifacts, paperwork, awards and other items her father has obtained through the years. Mrs. Lane wants to know if the District would be interested in these items.

NUTRIENT PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION: One (1)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre	Reviewer
Mountain View Farms	Bethel Twp	14,300 Finishing Pigs	358.6	CAO/CAFO	1,988.3	1,988	Lentz

Motion was made to acknowledge Mountain View Farms Nutrient Management plan by **Commissioner Christian Leinbach**, seconded by **Larry Kehl** motion passed.

Discussion: None

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

NUTRIENT PLAN REQUESTING REMOVAL FROM PROGRAM: Two (2)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre
W.T. Palmer & Son	Upper Bern Twp.	132 Finishing Beef	198.5	VAO	112.2	0.57
Carl Z. Hoover	Womelsdorf	100 Lactating Cows, 20 Dry Cows	125	VAO	156	1.27

Motion was made to remove W.T. Palmer & Son and Carl Z. Hoover from the Nutrient Management program by

T. John Bicksler, seconded by **Commissioner Christian Leinbach** motion passed.

Discussion: None

PLANS EXPIRING BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING: One (1)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre
Elvin L. Martin	Bethel Twp.	1,200 Nursery Pigs, 2,200 Finishing Pigs, 11 Beef Cows, 11 Calves & 11 Finishing Beef Animals	138.0	CAO / CAFO	349.6	2.7

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.

SC-1 FORMS/MULTI AGENCY FORMS: One (1)

Name	OP/OW	COOP	Munic	W/S	Acres	Type/Reason
Bitler, Christopher	OO	Multi	Bethel	Swatara/Ches Bay	3.6	BCCD-CP Assistance

Motion was made to acknowledge SC 1 for Christopher Bitler by **Piper Sherburne**, seconded by **Commissioner Christian Leinbach** motion passed.

Discussion: None

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

B.C.C.D. CONSERVATION PLANS: (2)

Name	Municipality	Acres	Tract	Planner	Program / Reason
James L. Stoltzfus	Bethel Twp.	100.4	11281	Orr	Ches. Bay
Michael W. Martin	Penn Twp.	50.1	10679	Orr/Lentz	Nutrient Mgt.

Motion was made to acknowledge two (2) Conservation Plans by

Larry Kehl, seconded by **T. John Bicksler**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

“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.”

Chesapeake Bay Special projects Funding Program Landowner Request Form(CBP-SP1)

C. Eugene Siegrist – Enroll in No-Till Special Project Program starting this year.

REPORTS: District Manager and Staff Reports are attached.

COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made at 2:21 p.m. to have the Board of Directors recess for an Executive Session by **Commissioner Christian Leinbach**, seconded by, **Larry Kehl** motion passed.

Discussion: None

The Board of Directors returned from their Executive Session and voted on Personnel Issues; the vote was majority of six (6) in agreement with one (1) Director, T. John Bicksler abstaining from the vote.

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS and HOLIDAYS:

April

- Apr. 29, 2011 Tulpehocken School District Ag Adventure Day
- Apr. 29, 2011 Chamber of Commerce Sustainability Conference
- Apr. 29, 2011 Berks County Grange Legislative Banquet – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting April 27, 2011

May

- May 1, 2011 City of Reading Earth Day Event
- May 3, 2011 Capitol Day
- May 5, 2011 High School Envirothon
- May 7, 2011 Tilden Township/BCCD Rain Barrel Workshop
- May 10, 2011 Middle School Envirothon
- May 11, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- May 12, 2011 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- May 17, 2011 RMC Committee Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- May 18, 2011 Wilson High School STEM Career Fair
- May 25, 2011 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.
- May 30, 2011 Memorial Day Observed

June

- Jun. 3, 2011 Kernsville Dam Environmental Education Day
- Jun. 8, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Jun. 9, 2011 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- Jun. 21, 2011 RMC Committee Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Jun. 23, 2011 BCTV Appearance
- Jun. 27 – Jul. 1, 2011 Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School
- 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 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

August

- Aug. 15 – 16, 2011 BCIU & BCCD Teacher Workshop
- Aug. 25, 2011 BCTV Appearance