

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

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Chairman Glenn R. Seidel called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Berks County Conservation District to order on Monday, January 31, 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, and Brian D. Boyer.

***The following Associate Directors were present:*** Henry Bohn, John Schueller, Leonard Good and Ross Stowell.

***The following District Staff was present:*** Joe Crea, District Manager; Stephanie Drzal, Agriculture Conservation Technician, Brett Lentz, Agriculture Conservation Technician, Kate O'Brien Watershed Specialist/Environmental Educator and Tammy Bartsch, Administrative Assistant.

***The following Cooperating Agencies representatives were present:*** Karlyn Haas, NRCS

***Also present were:*** Val Lacis, Reading Eagle

## **Nominations and Elections**

Meeting was turned over to Joe Crea for Election of Chairperson

### ***Election of Chairperson:***

- Nominations were opened for Chairperson  
Brian Boyer and Piper Sherburne nominated Glenn Seidel.  
No other nominations were made.  
Nominations were closed.  
Call for vote. Glenn Seidel was nominated as Chairperson.

Meeting was turned over to Chairman Glenn Seidel

### ***Election of Vice Chairperson:***

- Nominations were opened for Vice Chairperson  
Mark Wolfskill and Brian Boyer nominated Piper Sherburne.  
No other nominations were made.  
Nominations were closed.  
Call for vote: Piper Sherburne was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

## ***Election of Treasurer:***

- Nominations were opened for Treasurer  
Piper Sherburne and Brian Boyer nominated Mark Wolfskill.  
No other nominations were made.  
Nominations were closed.  
Call for vote. Mark Wolfskill was nominated as Treasurer.

Associate Directors will remain the same in 2011 as they were in 2010.

- Chairman Seidel appointed Steve Miller for RC&D Committee chair person.
- PACD Voting delegates are Glenn Seidel, Larry Kehl and Piper Sherburne.
- Chair person(s) for the Administrative Tech/Ag Committee and Resource Management Committees will stay the same.
- Annual Banquet and Seedling Sale Committees will stay the same.

***Nominations and elections were closed.***

**Public Comment:** None

*Action on Minutes* of December 29, 2010;

**Motion** to accept the minutes was made  
by Piper Sherburne, seconded by Larry Kehl, motion passed.  
Discussion: None

**Motion** to use Ruhl and Associates as accountant and payroll preparer and  
Long and Barrel as annual auditor was made  
by Brian Boyer, seconded by Larry Kehl, motion passed.  
Discussion: None

*Payment of November 2010 bills.*

**Motion** to pay the bills was made  
by Mark Wolfskill, seconded by Brian Boyer, motion passed.  
Discussion: None

**Correspondence:** See Attached

## **Cooperating Agency Reports**

***PA DEP*** – No Report

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

*PA DCNR* – No Report

*NRCS – Karlyn Haas*

- Received 12 applications for CSP; deadline for first round was January 21, 2011; NRCS will begin ranking those applicants.
- The 2011 Equip / Ches. Bay allocation is for around \$1 million dollars; there will be a request for additional funds for the Bay program submitted.
- Nancy Dusko will be on maternity leave until June 6, 2011.

*FSA* – See Attached

*PA Fish & Boat Commission* – No Report

*PA Game Commission* – No Report

*Cooperative Extension Update* – No Report

*Agricultural Coordinator* – No Report

*Agricultural Land Preservation* – No Report

## *Committee Reports*

*SEPA RC&D* – No Report

*D & G R Quality Assurance Board* – No Meeting

*Workshop Conference Call* – Meeting Cancelled

*Admin Tech / Ag Committee* – *Piper Sherburne* – Minutes Attached

*Motion* was made to approve Employee Handbook with the following two changes:

- 1) Change office hours from 7:30 am - 5:00 pm to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- 2) Date of Handbook needs to be December 31, 2010

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

Discussion: None

*Motion* was made to approve the following five policies:

- 1) New Employee Orientation Policy
- 2) Employer Performance Evaluations Policy
- 3) Credit Card Purchase Limits Policy
- 4) Internal Preference Process for New Position Policy
- 5) Establishing Policies Policy

by Larry Kehl, seconded by Brian Boyer, motion passed.

Discussion: None.

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

## Resource Management Committee – Meeting Cancelled

### Unfinished Business

- *Fax Machine Update*
- *Accountant Update*
- *Rodale Update*

*To Do:* Joe Crea is to provide Glenn Seidel with a name at the Rodale Institute; upon receipt of information Chairman Seidel will contact Rodale and ask if they would be interested in becoming an Associate Director of the District.

- *Leadership Development Training*

*Chairman Seidel* felt holding training sessions before monthly Board meetings for Directors is a good idea.

### New Business

#### *Affiliate Memberships*

- Marion Township - \$50.00
- Township of District - \$100.00
- Environmental Design Group - \$50.00
- Township of Richmond - \$15.00
- Commissioners of Colebrookdale Township - \$25.00
- South Heidelberg Township - \$100.00
- Township of Spring - \$100.00
- North Heidelberg Township - \$25.00

#### *DCED Agreement*

Signature is required.

*Motion* to sign agreement was made  
by *Brian Boyer*, seconded by *Larry Kehl*, motion passed.

Discussion: Brian Boyer requested to contact Amity Twp. to cancel a previous fee schedule for the BCCD regarding floodplain work.

#### *Grant Agreement – Surface Water Assessments Project in the Wyomissing Creek Watershed*

Signature is required

*Motion* to sign the agreement was made  
by *Larry Kehl*, seconded by *Brian Boyer*, motion passed.

Discussion: None

*Lehigh County Conservation District – Watershed project in Berks County*

*Prior to February's Board meeting (February 23, 2011) there will be an Executive Session at the request of Commissioner Leinbach.*

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

## **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION: Four (4)**

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre	Reviewer
David P. Etchberger	Bethel Twp.	17 cow/calf pairs with 1 bull and 60,000 broilers	44	CAO	118.34	2.69	Brett
Jeff Rohrer	Upper Bern Twp.	1175 sows & boars, 225 nursery sows, 4400 nursery pigs, 500 replacement gilts, & 12 steers	0	CAO & CAFO	786.96	786.96	Brett
Calvin Zerbe	Jefferson Twp.	131,000 Pullets	143.3	VAO & CAFO	151.87	1.06	Steph
William E. Trusty	Brecknock Twp.	12 Cow/Calf; 19 Steers	38	VAO	33.5		*

\*Reviewer - Matthew Miller / Chester County Conservation District.

Plan Writer - Rosalynd Orr

This is the first credit for plan writing towards Rosalynd's Nutrient Management Certification.

**Motion** was made to acknowledge the four (4) Nutrient Management Plans of

- 1) David P. Etchberger
- 2) Jeff Rohrer
- 3) Calvin Zerbe and
- 4) William E. Trusty

By Piper Sherburne, seconded by Mark Wolfskill, motion passed,

Discussion: None

## **NUTRIENT PLAN REQUESTING REMOVAL FROM PROGRAM: Four (4)**

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre
Brian Berube	Penn Twp.	23 cow/calf pairs (now 5), 4 steers, & 20 feeder pigs (now gone)	56.9	VAO	37.7	0.66
J. Michael Musselman	Bethel Twp.	60 heifers (yearlings), 60 calves, & 1200 piglets	118	VAO	108.44	0.83
Phares Newswanger	Maxatawny Twp.	60 milking cows, 20 calves, 20 yearlings, 10 dry cows, & 40 steers	152.5	VAO	150.5	0.99

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

Wills Daal Farm (Timothy P. Boch)	Greenwich Twp.	30 beef cows, 30 calves, 30 finishing beef animals & 2 bulls (now 7 goats)	164.4	VAO	68.9	0.62
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**Motion** was made to acknowledge removal of four (4) Nutrient Management Plans of

- 1) Brian Berube
- 2) J. Michael Musselman
- 3) Phares Newswanger and
- 4) Wills Dall Farm (Timothy P. Boch)

By Brian Boyer, seconded by Piper Sherburne, motion passed,

Discussion: Board requested that prior to acknowledging request for removal that any other required plans are up-to-date.

**PLANS EXPIRING BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING: Two (2)**

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre
Meck Brothers	Marion Twp.	150 dairy cows, 30 dry cows, 20 heifers, & 60 calves	151	VAO	218.1	1.44
Joe Jurgielewicz & Sons (Lynn [Bethel] Farm)	Bethel Twp.	22,500 ducks	10.4	CAO & CAFO	73.5	7.07

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: None**

**B.C.C.D. CONSERVATION PLANS:**

Name	Municipality	Acres	Tract	Planner	Program / Reason
Larry D. Grumbine	Bethel Twp.	122.3	317	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Larry D. Grumbine	Bethel Twp.	41.2	91	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	27.6	996	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	Bethel Twp.	50.5	11264	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	19.7	995	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	55.9	9771	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	207.6	9363/9632	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	56.0	11408	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

Steven J. Wenger	South Heidelberg Twp.	244.1	11078	Rosalynd	Ches. Bay
Joseph Maleski	Windsor, Perry & Greenwich Twp.	113.7	2266	Lentz	102 Complaint

**Motion** was made to acknowledge the BCCD Conservation Plans of

- 1) Larry D. Grumbine (Two {2} Plans)
- 2) Steven J. Wenger (Seven {7} Plans) and
- 3) Joseph Masleski (One {1} Plan)

By Piper Sherburne, seconded by Brian Boyer, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Planner’s certification that the plans meet the standards and specifications of the Pennsylvania Field Office Technical Guide for NRCS.”

**REPORTS:** District Manager, Staff (See Attachments)

***Comments:***

- Joe Crea learned a lot at the PACD conference and it also gave him time to network with other District Managers.
- Brian Boyer learned some things pertaining to PennVest.
- Henry Bohn has District Banquet tickets for sale.
- Larry Kehl advised Bryon Ruhl got a job with Penn Dot; he is a major trouble shooter. Snyder County thanked the District for Brian Herber, he now works at their facility.
- Mark Wolfskill wanted to make sure everyone knew Curtis Bashore, one of the founding members of the Conservation District, had passed away.

**Motion** was made to add funds to the Memorial Endowment Fund (research amount that is to be added to fund)

By Brian Boyer, seconded by Piper Sherburne, motion passed,

Discussion: Make sure to update the plaque outside of the conference room.

***To Do:*** Contact people to sell tickets.

# Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting January 31, 2011

---

- Glenn Seidel noted that he and Joe Crea need to see the new congressional people in the County.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

- Feb. 9, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Feb. 10, 2010 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- Feb. 15, 2010 RMC Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Feb. 23, 2010 D&GR Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- Feb. 23, 2010 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.
- Mar. 9, 2011 Workshop Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
- Mar. 10, 2010 Admin Tech / Ag Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- Mar. 15, 2010 RMC Meeting – 8:00 a.m.
- Mar. 28, 2010 Annual Banquet – 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 30, 2010 D&GR Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- Mar. 30, 2010 Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.
- Apr. 12, 2010 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Operators Workshop – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Apr. 14 – 16, 2010 Annual Seedling Sale

## **Adjournment**

*Motion* was made to adjourn to an Executive Session  
by *Piper Sherburne*, seconded by *Brian Boyer*, motion passed,

Discussion: None

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Agricultural Building located at 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Bartsch  
Secretary to the Board