

Minutes from the Berks County Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting November 30, 2011

Chairman Glenn Seidel called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Berks County Conservation District to order on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium 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; 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, District Executive; Ann Sellers, Agricultural Conservation Technician; Damian Painter, Agricultural Conservation Technician; Holly Kaplan Urban Conservation Technician; Stephanie Drzal, Agricultural Conservation Technician and Tammy Bartsch, Office Administrator.

The following Cooperating Agencies representatives were present: Nicholas Ramsey, NRCS; Elwood Blake, DEP and Mena Hautau, Penn State Extension.

The following were also present: Jeff Whalen, Government Liaison and Val Laxis, Reading Eagle

Public Comment: None

- Action on Minutes of October 26, 2011 meeting
Motion to accept the October 26, 2011 minutes, was made by **Piper Sherburne**, seconded by **Commissioner Leinbach**, motion passed.
Discussion: None
- Payment of November 2011 bills
Motion to pay the bills was made by **Brian Boyer**, seconded by **T. John Bicksler**, motion passed.
Discussion: None

Correspondence: See Attachments

Introductions:

- Damian Painter, Agriculture Conservation Technician; Ann Sellers Agriculture Conservation Technician and Holly Kaplan Urban Conservation Technician were introduced; they are new to the District.

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Presentation:

- Robert Hopkins gave a wrap-up presentation of the West Nile Virus program.

Cooperating Agency Reports

PA DEP – Elwood Blake – See Attachments

PA DCNR – No Report

NRCS – Nicholas Ramsey

- Seven Conservation plans were completed this month.
- Two positions remain open; do not know when positions will be filled

FSA – No Report

PA Fish & Boat Commission – John Sabaitis

- Go to the PA Fish & Boat website for details on recent report.
- Details for photo contest are on website.

PA Game Commission – No Report

Cooperative Extension Update – Mena Hautau

- Round Table in Bowers PA, December 13, 2011
- Organic Cover Crop Research Grant
- Cover Crops Conference is in January

Berks County Association of Township Officials – No Report

Agricultural Coordinator – No Report

Agricultural Land Preservation – No Report

Committee Reports

SEPA RC&D – No Report

D & G R Quality Assurance Board – Piper Sherburne

- \$20,073.77 in D&GR account.
- There will be a meeting in December and Steve Blosser will attend to evaluate projects.

Workshop Conference Call – Brian Boyer – Minutes Attached

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Admin Tech / Ag Committee – Meeting Cancelled

Resource Management Committee – Brian Boyer – Minutes Attached

Motion to decline PENNVEST loans, bundle projects for 2012 application and if necessary have 2011 audit started, was made by **Brian Boyer**, seconded by **Commissioner Leinbach**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Motion to purchase Ford Escape, was made by **Brian Boyer**, seconded by **Piper Sherburne**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

Direction: Dan Greig is to request in writing (email would be sufficient) to all three Commissioners asking that they make a donation towards the PA Envirothon.

Unfinished Business:

- **Position Bond**
Work in Progress

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Affiliate Membership(s) for 2012**

<i>Name of Affiliate Member</i>	<i>Amount of Membership</i>
Borough of St. Lawrence	\$ 50.00
East Coast Erosion Blankets, LLC	\$100.00

- **2012 Banquet**
The banquet will be held Monday March 19, 2012 at Pike Township Sportsmen's Club. Contact the club and have a contract sent.

Direction: Take the banquet to Admin Tech

- **Request for Waiver of E&S Fees**
Declined; letter will be sent to requestor.
- **2012 Board and Committee Dates for Publication**
Okay to publish dates for 2012

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- **Meeting with accountant and auditor**
Bring update to Board at a later date.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS: Two (2)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre	Reviewer
Daniel Musselman	Bethel	83,400 Broilers, 150 Beef	182.0	VAO	275.0	1.52	Drzal
Stephen Martin	Tulpehocken	85,000 Broilers	125	VAO	203.65	1.63	Drzal

Motion to accept the Nutrient Management plans for Daniel Musselman and Stephen Martin, was made by

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

Discussion: None

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMMENDMENTS: Zero (0)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre	Reviewer

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS EXPIRING: Zero (0)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS REQUESTING REMOVAL: Three (3)

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/Acre
Nancy Schaeffner & James McClean	Pike Twp.	8 Calf/Cow, 16 Steer, 4 Horses, 1 Bull	52.8	VAO	30.7	0.58
Robert Seip	Hereford Twp.	40 Steer	78.9	VAO	25.8	0.3
Daniel Schuler	Richmond Twp.	5 Horses	101.7	VAO	5	0.05

Motion to acknowledge removal of the Nutrient Management plans for Nancy Schaeffner & James McClean, Robert Seip, Daniel Schuler was made by

Mark Wolfskill, seconded by **Piper Sherburne**, motion passed.

Discussion: None

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SC-1 Requests

Name	OP/OW	Coop	Municipality	Acres	Reason
Joe Ruth	OP/OW	BCCD	Oley	77	REAP
David Martin	OP/OW	BCCD	Tulpehocken	100	E/S Regulations
Aaron Hoover	OP/OW	BCCD	Tulpehocken	149	E/S Regulations
Daryl Kunkel	OP/OW	Ag Pres	Greenwich	70	Ag Pres
Bruce Light	OP/OW	Ag Pres	Bethel	109	Ag Pres

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: Chesapeake Bay Compliance program is in good shape.
Nominations are behind schedule, but are being handled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made to adjourn at 2:21 p.m. by
T. John Bicksler, seconded by **Christian Leinbach**, motion passed.
Discussion: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS and HOLIDAYS:

December

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