

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Mission Statement: "Dedicated to the encouragement and instruction of the wise stewardship of the soil and waters of Berks County, so that the present and future generations may have healthy land on which to live and work, and clean water for drinking and recreation."

Date Wednesday February 24, 2021
Time 1:00 p.m.
Location Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA and via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 1:01 by Chair Piper Sherburne

Pledge the Flag

Public Comment – None

Swearing In – Renominated Farmer Director Glenn Seidel – on hold until next month

Presentation – Brandy Savani, Ag Resource Conservationist – on hold until next month

Attendees:

Directors:

Jesse Bitler, Larry Gelsing, Commissioner Leinbach, Joseph Rosenbaum, Piper Sheburne

Associate Directors:

David Beane, Jason Bailey, Jim McCarthy

Cooperating Agencies:

Berks County Department of Agriculture: Kim Fies

NRCS: Nick Ramsey

Penn State: Stephanie Shirk

DEP: Elwood Blake

Staff:

Tammy Bartsch, Dean Druckenmiller

Guests:

Lisa Scheid, Reading Eagle

Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting

A was made motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2021 Board Meeting - J. Rosenbaum, L. Gelsing – motion passed - no comment

Financial Statements for the Month – on file

Approval of Payment of Bills

A was made motion to approve payment of the bills - L. Gelsing, J. Rosenbaum - motion passed - no comment

Correspondence -- filed

Cooperating Agency Reports

Committee Reports

Admin Tech – Glenn Seidel

A Full-time / Part-time Employee Policy

A was made motion to approve the Full-time/Part-time Employee policy with the revisions suggested at the January 27, 2021 Board Meeting - J. Rosenbaum, C. Leinbach - motion passed, no comment

B Remote Work Policy

A was made motion to approve the Remote Work policy - C. Leinbach, J. Rosenbaum - motion passed, no comment

RMC - Brian Boyer – no actionable items

D&GR – Piper Sherburne – no actionable items

Building Committee – Dean Druckenmiller – no actionable items

Legislative Committee – Larry Kehl – no actionable items

Old Business

A Countywide Action Plan MOU Update

New Business

A PACD Update

B Affiliate Memberships



Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

C Upcoming Events, Conferences, Trainings

- PACD SE Region Meeting – Virtual – March 25, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Seedling Sale – Pre-Orders Required – No Contact Pick-Up, April 16, 2021, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- High School Envirothon – Virtual – April 20, 2021
- Middle School Envirothon – Virtual – April 27, 2021
- Scholarship Essay – Deadline for submission is March 26, 2021

D PCSM Update

E Urban Ag Grant

Paperwork submitted; response expected late March

F Position Bond

A motion was made to increase coverage to \$1,000,000 and annual premium increase to \$928.00 -

C.Leinbach, J. Rosenbaum - motion passed - no comment

G Letter of Recommendation

Directors and Associate Directors discussed and general consensus felt a Letter of Recommendation could be a conflict of interest, will not approve moving forward with letter.

Nutrient Management Plans – New

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU / Acre	Reviewer
Weiler Creek Farms	Bethel	144,000 Broilers	20.8	CAO/CAFO	283.7	36.2	Overstreet
A motion was made to approve the Nutrient Management Plan for Weiler Creek Farms – J. Rosenbaum, L. Gelsinger – motion passed – no comment							

Nutrient Management Plan – Amendments

Name	Municipality	Animal Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU / Acre	Reviewer
Hetrickdale	Jefferson	1,430 Dairy Cows, 1,556 Young Stock	2,165	VAO/CAFO	2,968.61	1.54	Seidel
A motion was made to approve the Nutrient Management Plan Amendment for Hetrickdale – L. Gelsinger, J. Rosenbaum – motion passed – no comment							

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 Request Forms

Name	OP/OW	Coop	Municipality	Watershed	Acres	Reason
Michael & Suzanne Hoffman	OP/OW	No	District	Manatawny	44	Conservation Planning
A motion was made to approve the SC-1 Request Form for Michael and Suzanne Hoffman – C. Leinbach, J. Rosenbaum – motion passed – no comment						



Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Conservation Plans

Conservation Plans Name	Municipality	Acres	Tract#	Planner
Dean Kirkhoff	Penn	35.7	1178	Seidel
John Oberholtzer	Marlon	65.5	11205	Hanna
John Oberholtzer	Marlon	8.5	1123	Hanna
A motion was made to concur with the Conservation Plans of Dean Kirkhoff and John Oberholtzer (2 plans) – L. Gelsiner, C. Leinbach – motion passed – no comment				

“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”.

Reports

Comments

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. – J. Rosenbaum, L. Gelsinger – motion passed – no comment

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy L. Bartsch, Secretary

Berks County Conservation District Board of Directors