



## 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, January 25, 2023

**Time** 1:00 p.m.

**Location** Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA

**The meeting was called to order at 1:05**

### **No public comment**

### **Attendees:**

#### Directors

Jason Bailey (V), Larry Gelsinger (IP), Larry Kehl (V), Joseph Rosenbaum (IP), Glenn Seidel (V), Piper Sherburne (V)

#### Associate Directors

David Beane (V)

#### Cooperating Agencies

B.A.R.N. – Courtney Shober (V)

Berks County Dept. of Ag & Berks County Ag Land Preservation – Kim Fies (IP)

Berks County Farm Bureau – Larry Gelsinger (IP), Joe Rosenbaum (IP)

DEP – Lauren Shaeffer (V)

FSA – Jessica Gerhart (V)

NRCS – Nicholas Ramsey (IP)

Penn State Extension – Berks County – Sarah Frame (V)

#### Berks County Conservation District Staff

Tammy Bartsch (IP), Dean Druckenmiller (IP), Josh Hanna (IP)

### **2023 Nominations and Appointments**

The Meeting was turned over to Dean Druckenmiller, District Executive to open nominations

The District Executive opened the nominations for the position of Chair

Joe Rosenbaum nominated Piper Sherburne for Chair, Larry Kehl seconded the nomination

No other nominations were made for chair; nominations for Chair were closed; all voted in favor of nominating Piper Sherburne as Chair.

The Meeting was turned over to the Chair, Piper Sherburne

The Chair opened the nominations for the position of Vice-Chair

Piper Sherburne nominated Joe Rosenbaum for Vice-Chair, Larry Gelsinger seconded the nomination

No other nominations were made for Vice-Chair, nominations for Vice-Chair were closed; all voted in favor of nominating Joe Rosenbaum as Vice-Chair.

The Chair opened the nominations for the position of Treasurer

Piper Sherburne nominated Jason Bailey for Treasurer, Larry Gelsinger seconded the nomination

No other nominations were made for Treasurer, nominations for Treasurer were closed; all voted in favor of nominating Jason Bailey as Treasurer

### **Appointments by Chair**

- The Chair appointed Tammy Bartsch as Secretary to the Board of Directors
- The Chair appointed David Beane, Leonard Good, Jim McCarthy, Geoffrey Price and John Rost as Associate Directors



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- **Committee Chairperson(s)**
  - The Chair appointed Glenn Seidel as the Chairperson for the Admin Tech Committee
  - The Chair appointed Jason Bailey as the Chairperson for the RMC Committee
  - The chair appointed Larry Kehl as the Chairperson for the Legislative Committee
- **Ad-hoc Committee Chairperson(s)**
  - The Chair appointed John Rost as the Chairperson for the Seedling Sale Committee
  - Banquet Committee – no Chairperson was appointed
- **PACD Voting Delegates**
  - The Chair appointed herself and Larry Kehl as the PACD 2023 Voting Delegates

### ***Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting***

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2022 Board Meeting by Joe Rosenbaum seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

### ***Financial Statements and E&S Fee Report***

### ***Approval of Payment of Bills***

A motion was made to approve paying the bills by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

### ***Correspondence***

### ***Cooperating Agency Reports***

- ❖ *Berks County Department of Agriculture & Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation – Kim Fies*
- ❖ *Berks County Farm Bureau – Larry Gelsinger, Joe Rosenbaum*
- ❖ *Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – Lauren Shaffer*
- ❖ *Farm Service Agency (FSA) – Jessica Gerhart*
- ❖ *Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Nick Ramsey*
- ❖ *Penn State Extension – Berks County – Sarah Frame*

### ***Committee Reports***

#### ***Admin Tech – Glenn Seidel***

##### **A Urban Ag Program Resolution**

Item is tabled until Resolution is received

##### **B AG Reimbursement Policy**

A motion was made to approve the Ag Reimbursement Policy by Glenn Seidel, seconded by Joe Rosenbaum, motion passed.

##### **C 2023 Berks County Conservation District Workplan**

A motion was made to approve the 2023 Berks County Conservation District Workplan by Glenn Seidel, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed

#### ***RMC – Dean Druckenmiller***

A motion was made to keep the Dirt and Gravel Road and Low Volume Roads bank accounts at Tompkins instead of transferring to PLIGIT as the motion made at last month's meeting stated, the motion was made by Glenn Seidel, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

### ***Workshop Conference Call – Piper Sherburne***

#### ***Dirt, Gravel Low Volume – Piper Sherburne***

- 5-Year Program Agreement  
The current agreement expires June 30, 2023  
An updated agreement has been provided for review and feedback.

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The revised agreement will have to be signed before July 2023

### **Contract Extension**

A motion was made to extend the contract for the Sittler Valley Road project in Greenwich Township until December 31, 2023, by Larry Gelsinger, seconded by Joe Rosenbaum, motion passed.

### **Legislative Committee – Larry Kehl**

#### **ACAP Committee – Dean Druckenmiller**

##### **A ACAP Delegation Agreement**

- An overview of the program will be presented at the Board Meeting

A motion was made to approve signing the ACAP Delegation Agreement by Larry Kehl, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

### **Old Business**

#### **A SWAG Bus**

#### **B New Office Space / Floor Plan**

### **New Business**

#### **A PACD Update**

#### **B Upcoming Events, Conferences, Training**

- 2023 PACD Winter Meeting  
01/26/2023 10 am – 12 pm, PACD Executive Council Video Conference
- 03/17/2023 Reading Royals “Go Green Night”, BCCD is a sponsor
- 03/23/2023 PACD South East Region Meeting, 9:30 am – 11:30 am, Henning’s Market, Harleysville PA
- 04/06/2023 Spring Tire Collection for Municipalities and the Public, appointments are required
- 04/21/2023 Annual Seedling Sale, 3 pm – 7 pm, drive-through format, pre-order deadline is 02/24/2023
- 04/28/2023 High School Envirothon
- 05/06/2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conservation Celebration

#### **C Signatures Needed**

- **MOU’s** for various municipalities  
A motion was made to approve signing the MOUs for Exeter Township, Jefferson Township, Kenhorst Borough, Lenhartsville Borough, and Maiden creek Township by Larry Gelsinger, Glenn Seidel seconded the motion, motion passed
- **NFWF Grant**  
Use of funds: Implementation of Nitrogen Reduction BMPs in the Chesapeake Bay Headwaters (PA)  
The total amount of the award is \$868,135.00  
The period of Performance is October 1, 2022, through December 30, 2024  
A motion was made to approve signing the NFWF Grant by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Glenn Seidel, motion passed
- **Nutrient Management Delegation Program**  
A motion was made to electronically sign the Nutrient Management Delegation agreement by Larry Gelsinger, seconded by Joe Rosenbaum, motion passed.

#### **D BCCD Website Upgrade**

A motion was made to approve the website upgrade, in the amount of \$8,500.00, since it was not a budgeted item by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

Comment: take to the RMC committee to determine what funds will be used

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### E Statement of Financial Interest

Please complete the form and return to Tammy on or before May 1, 2023

#### Conservation Plans

Name	Municipality	Acres	Tract#	Planner
Dean Hartman	Lower Heidelberg	139	1320	Hanna
Christopher Beitler	Penn	40	1197	Savani
Brandon Schroeder	Richmond	123	2244	Hanna
Todd Schroeder	Perry	2.5	1878	Hanna
Otto Schick	Greenwich	23	2593	Hanna
A motion was made to concur with the Conservation Plans of Dean Hartman, Christopher Beitler, Brandon Schroeder, Todd Schroeder, and Otto Schick by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger. Motion passed. Comment: Larry Kehl abstained from voting				

*"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".*

#### Urban Team Summary

##### December 2022

# Of Projects this Month	Item	+ / - Compared to Last Month
21	102 Applications Received	+2
1	105 Applications Received	-1
22	Plan Reviews	-28
14	Inspections (9 NOT)	+12
7	New Complaints	-2
12	E&S Plan Approvals Issued	-6
7	102 Permits Issued	+5
2	105 Permits Issued	-1
<b>102 Projects Disturbed Acres</b>		
	<b>Project Acres</b>	<b>Disturbed Acres</b>
Total Disturbances	57.15	6.79
PennDOT 102 Projects	0.00	0.00

#### Ag Team Summary

##### January 2023

- NM status reviews- 16
- New Complaints- 1
- Best Management Practice (BMP) certifications- 1 operation, 4 BMP's, \$40,186.80 in EQIP funds paid out
- Conservation Plans in progress- 37
- Conservation Plans under review - 6
- Outreach events- Cover crop/Soil health workshop being planned for April
- BCCD Staff are currently responsible for contract management of **26** contracts including overseeing BMP implementation and certification. These **26** contracts total more than **\$3.8 M** in cost share from 5 different funding sources. These contracts are at different stages of Implementation.

#### Enforcement and Potential Enforcement Actions



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- Green Hills Estates, Robeson Township (PAI030616004). The homeowner downstream at 465 Green Hills Rd pond is constantly stained and sediment will not settle out. Sediment discharge is from them pumping out their sediment basin and inadequate stabilization of a stream crossing. There is not a constant sediment discharge but the soil types do not promote settling. DEP and PFBC are aware of the pond situation and have been in touch with the developer and homeowner. 12/20/22 site inspection with DEP and PFBC. No significant non-compliance at this time.

### Reports

### Comments

### Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:18 p.m. by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tammy L. Bartsch*

Secretary to the Board of Directors