

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 22, 2023

Time 1:00 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 1:03

No public comment

Attendees:

Directors

Larry Gelsinger (IP), Christian Leinbach, (IP), Joseph Rosenbaum (IP), Piper Sherburne (V)

Associate Directors

David Beane (V), Geoff Price (V)

Cooperating Agencies

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

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

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), Kent Himelright (IP)

Guests

PA Fish and Boat Commission - Derek Norman and Aaron Steager

Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2023, 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 Christian Leinbach, 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
- ❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Nick Ramsey
- ❖ Penn State Extension – Berks County – Sarah Frame

Committee Reports

Admin Tech – Glenn Seidel – No meeting

RMC – Dean Druckenmiller

BCCD Clean Water Fund Request

A motion was made to approve the BCCD Clean Water Fund Request in the amount of \$166 for the Licking Creek and Cacoosing Creek Long Term Temperature Monitoring by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment

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BCCD Mini-Grant Request

A motion was made to approve the BCCD Mini-Grant Request in the amount of \$1,600 for the Cover Crop Workshop by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment

Earth Day Sponsorship

A motion was made for a sponsorship in the amount of \$220 to the Berks County Earth Day by Christian Leinbach, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed, no comment

PACD Salary Study Project request for \$500 from each District

Tabled, not moving forward;

Should form a sub-committee to look at the information provided and take it to the Board at a later date.

Schuylkill Acts & Impacts Student Sponsorship

A motion was made to make a sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000 to the Schuylkill Act & Impacts by Larry Gelsinger, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment

Workshop Conference Call – Piper Sherburne – no meeting

Dirt, Gravel Low Volume – Piper Sherburne – no meeting

Legislative Committee – Larry Kehl

ACAP Committee – Dean Druckenmiller

Old Business

SWAG Bus

New Office Space / Floor Plan

Statement of Financial Interest

New Business

PACD Update

Upcoming Events, Conferences, Training

- 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
- 04/26/2023 – 04/28/2023 – We Conserve PA Conference
- 04/28/2023 High School Envirothon
- 05/06/2023 2nd Annual Conservation Celebration

Signatures Needed

- **MOU’s** for various municipalities

A motion was made to approve signing the MOUs for Spring Township by Larry Gelsinger, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment

- **Urban Agriculture Collaborative Matching Grant Program**

A motion was made to authorize the Chair to e-sign the Urban Agriculture Collaborative Grant by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed, no comment.

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- Flyways Excavating Contract Agreement**
 A motion was made to approve signing the Contractual Agreement between Berks County Conservation District and Flyway Excavating, Inc, in the amount of \$48,700 by Christian Leinbach, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed, no comment
- NACD Resolution**
 A motion was made to approve signing the NACD resolution which is needed to apply for Urban Ag funding by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment
- Final Payment Request – 2018 WRPP Grant**
 A motion was made to approve signing the reimbursement request in the amount of \$48,765.770 by Larry Gelsinger, seconded by Christian Leinbach, motion passed, no comment.

Pennsylvania Envirothon

Volunteers are needed for the 2023 Pennsylvania Envirothon, the deadline to register to volunteer is March 24th; Virtual Oral Component is May 17th – 19th; the Field Testing Event I May 24th

NPDES Permit Hearing Petition

2023 Annual Scholarship and Awards Dinner

Conservation Plans

Name	Municipality	Acres	Tract#	Planner
Christian Stoltzfus	Penn	79.3	1188	SDavani
Elijah Heiter	Lynn	131	2342	Hanna
Ryan Zerr	Spring	65	1364	Johanson
Lewis Sauder	Perry	15.2	11831	Johanson

A motion was made to concur with the Conservation Plans of Christian Stoltzfus, Elijah Heiter, Ryan Zerr and Lewis Sauder by Christian Leinbach, seconded by Joe Rosenbaum. 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".

SC-1 Requests

Name	OP/OW	Coop	Municipality	Watershed	Acres	Reason
Neil Martin	OP/OW	Yes	Upper Tulpehocken	Tulpehocken	123	Manure Storage Facility
Adam Light	OP/OW	Yes	Bethel	Chesapeake Bay	100	Cons. Planning

A motion was made to approve the SC-1 requests for Neil Martin and Adam Light by Christian Leinbach, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed, no comment

Urban Team Summary

January 2023

# Of Projects this Month	Item	+ / - Compared to Last Month
18	102 Applications Received	-3
1	105 Applications Received	+0
18	Plan Reviews	+0
32	Inspections (9 NOT)	+18
8	New Complaints	-1
16	E&S Plan Approvals Issued	+4
7	102 Permits Issued	+0
6	105 Permits Issued	+4
5	PCSM Reviews	NA



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102 Projects Disturbed Acres		
	Project Acres	Disturbed Acres
Total Disturbances	197.58	112.67
PennDOT 102 Projects	0	0

Ag Team Summary

February

- NM status reviews- 1
- New Complaints- 1
- Best Management Practice (BMP) certifications- 1 operation, 3 BMP's, \$85,000 in Ches. Bay RCPP funds paid out
- Conservation Plans in progress- 50
- Conservation Plans under review – 6
- Conservation Plans completed- 5 for 290.5 acres
- 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

- Green Hills Estates, Robeson Township (PAI030616004). The homeowner downstream at 465 Green Hills Rd pond is constantly stained and sediment will not settle out. There is not a constant sediment discharge from the site 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. 1/26/23 follow-up inspection. No significant non-compliance at this time. 2/13/23: Received a copy of a 60 Day Notice Letter from the property owner's attorney to the developer and contractor. No action is needed from BCCD or DEP at this time.

Reports

Comments

A motion to adjourn into the Executive Session was made at 3:20 p.m. by Christian Leinbach, seconded by Joe Rosenbaum, motion passed, no comment

The Board of Directors returned to the meeting at 3:38

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 3:38 was made by Joe Rosenbaum, seconded by Larry Gelsinger, motion passed, no comment

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Bartsch

Secretary to the Board of Directors