

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 12, 2017

Vice Chairman Dan Hunsicker called a regular meeting of the Lehigh County Conservation District Directors to order at 6:40 PM at the Lehigh County Conservation District Office located at 4184 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Present were:

Directors:

Bill Erdman	Chairman/Public Director
Dan Hunsicker	Vice Chairman/Farmer Director
Paul Semmel	Treasurer/Secretary/Farmer Director
Geoff Brace	Commissioner Director
Anton Shannon	Farmer Director
Mary Ellen Snyder	Public Director

Staff:

Bill McFadden	District Manager
Damian Painter	Agricultural Resource Conservationist
Holly Kaplan	Resource Conservationist

Agencies:

Linda Mackey	SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative
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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Director Geoff Brace organized the 2017 Director Nominations.

Anton Shannon nominated Bill Erdman for Chairman and it was seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder. The nomination was accepted and closed. All were in favor.

Paul Semmel nominated Dan Hunsicker for Vice Chairman and it was seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder. The nomination was accepted and closed. All were in favor.

Bill Erdman nominated Paul Semmel for Secretary/Treasurer and it was seconded by Mary Ellen. The nomination was accepted and closed. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – none

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS - none

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Geoff Brace & seconded by Dan Hunsicker to accept & approve the minutes from the December 8, 2016 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor.

AGENCY REPORTS

Linda Mackey, SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative, reported on updates within DEP. Linda noted that DEP's listening sessions are ongoing with conservation districts and the regulated community, and noted that there will be one upcoming in Lehigh County.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Update on Contingency Monitoring

Paul Semmel reported that the budget was in order, and Bill McFadden added that we are also still waiting on more money to be disbursed by the State.

Approval of Disbursement of Bills for December 2016

It was on motion by Geoff Brace and seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder to approve & accept the Disbursement of Bills for December 2016. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education and Outreach Committee

Mary Ellen Snyder reported that they have just completed an Education and Outreach Committee meeting with the new staff. Mary Ellen noted that the meeting went well and that Jolie Chylack has a lot of new ideas and projects in the works, and that Caitlin Mercier has ongoing projects that are being worked on.

Agricultural Committee

Damian Painter reported that there is an Annual Manure Management Training upcoming on February 4th and 18th, and it will be a joint training with Northampton County. Damian requested that an Agricultural Committee meeting be set up in February or March.

Water Quality Committee

Holly Kaplan reported that the Water Quality department continues to be busy with permit applications. She noted that they have just completed a webinar for the new federal permit tracking program and will soon have to input all inspection and violation information into the system.

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

Jaindl Nutrient Management Plan

Damian Painter reported that a nutrient management plan has been reviewed for David Jaindl's operation, and he is recommending approval of the plan. A motion was made by Geoff Brace to approve the plan and seconded by Dan Hunsicker. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for Anderson Howat

Damian Painter reported that Anderson Howat is seeking a Cooperator's Agreement with the District for help in starting an organic vegetable farm. A motion was made by Anton Shannon and seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder to approve the agreement. All were in favor.

Items to be voted on at the PACD Executive Council on January 25, 2017

Bill Erdman reported that items to be voted on at the PACD meeting were included in the packet. Bill noted that within the items, a 'Water Extraction Fee' was being proposed for the Districts' vote; a discussion ensued. It was on a motion by Mary Ellen Snyder and seconded by Paul Semmel to authorize Bill to approve the measure at the meeting; the Directors voted to approve the motion by a 5-1 count.

Bill Erdman also noted that another vote that will upcoming at the meeting would allow Associate Directors of Conservation District Boards to serve as Regional Directors for PACD, provided that they would be re-appointed every year; a discussion ensued. It was on a motion by Paul Semmel and seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder to authorize Bill to approve the measure; all were in favor.

It was on a motion by Geoff Brace and seconded by Dan Hunsicker to approve the remaining items for the District's vote, all were in favor.

Approval for Authorization of Kevin Frederick to be added on LCCD Bank Accounts

It was on a motion by Mary Ellen Snyder and seconded by Dan Hunsicker to add Kevin Frederick, as Assistant District Manager to have authorization to sign checks. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – none

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS - none

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

CALENDAR ITEMS

January 16, 2017 – Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 24-25, 2017 – PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference – State College, PA

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 9, 2017 – 6:30 PM – Classroom #108

ADJOURNMENT – Bill Erdman adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Semmel
Secretary/Treasurer

Holly Kaplan
Recorder