

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2016

Vice Chairman Dan Hunsicker called a regular meeting of the Lehigh County Conservation District Directors to order at 6:30 PM at the Lehigh County Conservation District Office located at 4184 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Present were:

Directors:

Dan Hunsicker	Vice Chairman/Farmer Director
Geoff Brace	Commissioner Director
Anton Shannon	Farmer Director
Bill Royer	Public Director

Associate Directors:

Chris Strohler	Wildlands Conservancy
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Staff:

Bill McFadden	District Manager
Kevin Frederick	Assistant District Manager
Holly Kaplan	Resource Conservationist

Agencies:

Linda Mackey	SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative
Andrea Tessier	Penn State Extension

Public:

Alex Tamerler

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – none

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS - none

AGENCY REPORTS

Andrea Tessier, Penn State Extension, handed out an updated map showing the spotted lanternfly quarantine. Andrea reported that a Sustainable Agricultural Educator and a Horticultural Educator are being brought on board, and also noted that the Farm show is coming up in January.

Linda Mackey, SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative, reported that the southeast regional meeting was held today and she provided updates to the Chapter 102 programs, including updated positions within DEP, and DEP's plans to provide ID's to conservation districts. Linda also noted that the grant programs from the Central DEP office are now being consolidated through a grant center.

Chris Strohler, Wildlands Conservancy, reported on the Wildlands Conservancy's ongoing projects including trail work continuing on the Jordan Creek Greenway and others, land protection projects, and education programs. Chris noted that they will be announcing the creation of a new position for an Aquatic Ecologist.

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Bill Royer & seconded by Anton Shannon to accept & approve the minutes from the November 10, 2016 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Update on Contingency Monitoring

Bill McFadden reported that we are waiting for money from the state to be disseminated, and the financials will be in good shape.

Approval of Disbursement of Bills for November 2016

It was on motion by Geoff Brace and seconded by Bill Royer to approve & accept the Disbursement of Bills for November 2016. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water Quality Committee

Kevin Frederick reported that permits continue to be submitted in large numbers, especially considering the time of year.

Dirt & Gravel Roads

Bill McFadden reported that they are still working to get Dirt and Gravel Road programs funded.

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS –

2017 LCCD Budget-

The 2017 LCCD Budget was included in the packets. It was on a motion by Geoff Brace and seconded by Bill Royer to accept & approve the 2017 Budget. All were in favor.

2017 Meeting Dates-

LCCD 2017 meeting dates were also included in the packet. It was on a motion by Anton Shannon and seconded by Bill Royer to approve the 2017 meeting dates. All were in favor.

TMDL with Upper Macungie Township and Keystone Engineering-

Kevin Frederick reported that Upper Macungie Township has reached out to the District and Keystone Consulting Engineers to provide assistance in putting together their TMDL plan for the Little Cedar Creek. The partnership was discussed and it was agreed that this would be an appropriate program for the Watershed Specialist to work on. It was on motion by Bill Royer and seconded by Geoff Brace to approve the District's involvement in the TMDL program with Upper Macungie Township. All were in favor.

MOU with Lehigh County-

Dan Hunsicker presented a finalized version of the Memorandum of Understanding with the County for the District's approval. Discussion ensued about whether it was appropriate for Geoff Brace to be involved in the vote based on his position with the County. It was agreed by all that his involvement created no conflict of interest, and he was encouraged to provide County perspective and not abstain from the motion. It was on a motion by Bill Royer and seconded by Anton Shannon to approve the MOU with Lehigh County. All were in favor.

Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant position-

Dan Hunsicker reported that the Administrative Committee is asking the Board to formally create a position for the Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant position. It was noted that the District has already advertised the position and has received qualified applicants. It was on a motion by Geoff Brace and seconded by Bill Royer to create the position and authorize the Administrative Committee to create the job description. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement-

Bill McFadden presented a Cooperator's Agreement that was proposed for Terry Wessner's operation. It was on a motion by Anton Shannon and seconded by Bill Royer to approve the agreement with Terry Wessner. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Letter from Glenn Seidel PACD President-

Bill McFadden presented a letter from Glenn Seidel which invites all Board members to the PACD meeting in State College in January.

Agenda for PACD Winter Meeting-

Dan Hunsicker noted that the Agenda for the PACD Winter Meeting was attached to Glenn's letter and included in the packet for the Board's information.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS - none

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

CALENDAR ITEMS

December 26th, 2016 – Office closed for the Christmas Holiday

January 2nd, 2017 – Office closed for the New Year's Day Holiday

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

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 12th, 2017 – 6:30 PM – Classroom #108

ADJOURNMENT – Dan Hunsicker adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Semmel
Secretary/Treasurer

Holly Kaplan
Recorder