

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS' BOARD MEETING HELD ON MAY 12, 2016

Chairman Bill Erdman called a regular meeting of the Lehigh County Conservation District Directors to order at 7:00 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
Mary Ellen Snyder	Public Director
Bill Royer	Public Director
Paul Semmel	Farmer Director

Agencies:

Linda Mackey	SCC/DEP Conservation District Field Representative
Pete Zakanycz	NRCS/USDA

Staff:

Bill McFadden	District Manager
Cammy Kiechel	Executive Assistant
Kim Zieger	Lead Resource Conservationist
Damian Painter	Ag Resource Conservationist

Public:

Alex Tamerler

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NO ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Mary Ellen Snyder & seconded by Bill Royer to accept & approve the minutes from the April 14, 2016 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor.

AGENCY REPORTS

Pete Zankanycz, NRCS/USDA, reported that they are getting a new engineer to help with their workload. He would like to get the LCCD Directors a tour of the Four Springs Farms that he has been working on. He noted that he had just looked at a high tunnel project on Bake Oven Rd. Mary Ellen Snyder suggested that he give the District the numbers of the projects being done in Lehigh Co. & the amount of funding that is provided for these projects.

Linda Mackey, SCC/PADEP Conservation District Rep., noted that the SCC meeting was this past Tuesday. She reported on some of the bullet points from that meeting which were the approval of different programs pending the budget. Much of the meeting was devoted to the Chesapeake Bay Region. Linda reported on the new EPA requirements for reporting that is being worked on. There was much discussion with the Directors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Contingency Monitoring

Bill Erdman noted that the funds are a little lower. Bill McFadden reported that the District recently received money due from the state.

Approval of Disbursement of Bills for April 2016

It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Bill Royer to accept & approve the Disbursement of Bills for April 2016. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water Quality

Kim Zieger noted that they are setting up an administrative conference within the next couple of weeks. All of the Water Quality staff are being trained to be able to run their own conferences.

Agricultural

Damian Painter noted that the Ag & Watershed Growing Greener Grants were declined this year.

Outreach

Mary Ellen Snyder requested a report on the 2016 Envirothon.

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

MOU Agreement

Bill Erdman noted that the District is re-approving the same executed MOU document since there is no new document.

It was on motion by Mary Ellen Snyder & seconded by Paul Semmel to approve the Mutual Agreement between the USDA & the Commonwealth of PA & the LCCD for their Cooperation in the Conservation of Natural Resources. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for Matthew Schmidt

Matthew Schmidt is an excavator & a farmer. Damian Painter suggested that he get a conservation plan.

It was on motion by Bill Royer & seconded by Paul Semmel to approve the cooperator's agreement for Matthew Schmidt, MLS Farms. All were in favor.

Cooperator's Agreement for George Schmidt

George Schmidt runs Schmidt's Berry Farm. Damian Painter suggested that he get a conservation plan & a manure management plan.

It was on motion by Mary Ellen Snyder & seconded by Bill Royer to approve the cooperator's agreement for George Schmidt. All were in favor.

Mini-Grant Application for Michael Crossley

Bill McFadden reported that there are stormwater pipes under the road which puts a good size ditch up & down the fields. It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Mary Ellen Snyder to approve the Mini-Grant Application for Michael Crossley to complete his waterway project. All were in favor.

Lynnview Registered Holsteins – Nutrient Management Plan

Damian Painter noted that this is for Steven Dietrich's farm. Pete Zakanycz is working with him.

It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Bill Royer to approve the Lynnview Registered Holsteins Nutrient Management Plan. All were in favor.

NO NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Update on Performance Evaluations

Bill Royer explained the Employee Performance Appraisal Procedure. There was much discussion.

It was on motion by Mary Ellen Snyder & seconded by Bill Royer to approve the Employee Performance Appraisal Procedure as written. All were in favor.

Scholarship Application

Bill Erdman noted that the intent of this application is to approve the form & when they get into budget planning they will put in the dollar amount.

It was on motion by Paul Semmel & seconded by Bill Royer to approve the scholarship application form so that if the budget permits the funding the District will implement it for 2017. All were in favor.

Alex Tamerler noted that the District could also ask for outside donations from other agencies towards the scholarship.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

CALENDAR ITEMS

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, June 9, 2016 – 7:00 PM – Classroom #108

ADJOURNMENT – Bill Erdman adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Souder
Secretary/Treasurer

Cammy Kiechel
Recording Treasurer