

LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON APRIL 08, 2021

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, 4184 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Present were:

Directors:

Bill Erdman	Chairman/Public Director
Dan Hunsicker	Vice-Chairman/Farmer Director
Adele Bon-Shannon	Public Director
Arland Schantz	Farmer Director
Bob Elbich	Commissioner Director

Associate Directors:

Staff:

Kevin Frederick	District Manager
Marlene Mera	Executive Assistant
William McFadden	Conservationist
Ann Sellers	Resource Conservationist
Laura Hopek	Environmental Education & Outreach Coordinator

Agencies:

Linda Mackey	DEP/SCC Conservation District Field Representative
Austin Drager	NRCS Representative

Public:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

It was on motion by Adele Bon-Shannon and seconded by Bob Elbich to accept and approve the revised minutes from the February 11, 2021 Board of Directors' Meeting as written. All were in favor.

AGENCY REPORTS

Linda Mackey, DEP/SCC Conservation District Field, highlighted a virtual option available once COVID issues are abated. Being that these virtual meetings have been successful, many districts are considering continuing this option. Linda pointed out some tips for holding a virtual meeting in her report. Further discussion was done on the topic.

Austin Drager, NRCS Representative, mentioned he has been busy with rankings for upcoming programs. Austin has been spending some time with Amanda remotely to discuss programs such as Conservation Desktop, Conservation Resource Assessment tools, RUSLE, and resource concerns. Assisted Bill with RUSLE and coordinated conservation implementation. Overall, Austin has been busy with meetings and assisting others.

COUNTY UPDATES

TREASURER'S REPORT

Update on Contingency Monitoring

Kevin Frederick mentioned that quarterly reimbursements hadn't been received for the 3rd and 4th quarters.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS OF BILLS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH 2021

It was on motion by Adele Bon-Shannon and seconded by Dan Hunsicker to approve and accept the Disbursement of Bills for February 2021 & March 2021. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

Kuhns Hill Rd Culvert Replacement D&G Rd Application, Weisenberg Twp

William McFadden shared that Weisenberg Township is asking for a grant request of \$152,528.50 with an in-kind contribution of the same amount totaling the project value of \$305,057.00. The proposed work elements are to improve stream crossings, stormwater, and road surface stabilization. It was on motion by Arland Schantz and seconded by Adele Bon-Shannon to approve and accept the Kuhns Hill Rd Culvert Replacement D&G Rd Application, Weisenberg Twp. All were in favor; Bob Elbich, Commissioner Director, abstained. It should be noted that Paul Semmel provided his Proxy vote in favor via email.

Corning Farm Request for Technical Assistance, Lower Milford Twp

William McFadden shared the applicant is a new farmer who is requesting assistance from our organization. It was on motion by Adele Bon-Shannon and seconded by Dan Hunsicker to approve and accept the Corning Farm Request for Technical Assistance, Lower Milford Twp.

Water Quality Program Inspector Position – NOTs

Kevin Frederick shared that LCCD is hiring for a new position to help the water quality staff with current, old NOTs and inspections. There was a lengthy discussion on the topic between directors.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Vector-Borne Disease Control Coordinator Update

Kevin briefly shared some changes in the VBDC program and shared that Jeff Carroll will be leaving the organization. However, Louis Bugbee, who coordinated the program for Lehigh Valley from 2000-2017, will be back as our part-time VBDC coordinator.

Insurance Refund

Kevin motioned Mario, our insurance agent, to get us a 10% refund(rebate) applied to our upcoming bill.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Virtual Envirothon 2021

Laura Hopek gave us a brief update on this year's Envirothon. Five high schools and thirteen middle schools have joined to participate. Overall, looking forward to a positive and successful event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CALENDAR

1. April 12-15, 2021 Agricultural Conservation Technical "Boot Camp" Training – Basic Level
2. April - Lehigh County Envirothon

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, May 13, 2021 – 7:00 pm – Remotely

ADJOURNMENT – Bill Erdman adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Semmel
Secretary/Treasurer

Marlene Mera
Recorder