

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2026, A.C.C.D. BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Adams County Conservation District (District) Board of Directors (Board or BOD) was held on January 22, 2026, at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with a call-in option. Chair, Carl Keller, Jr. called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM. A quorum was met. The following were present in person or by phone (* if present via phone):

Carl Keller Jr., Chair/Farm Director	Ed Wilkinson, Vice-chair/Farm Director
Adam McClain, District Manager	Dave Benner, Farm Director
Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director	Christopher Santore, DEP
Lindsay Bream, NRCS	Susan Landauer, Admin Spec/Board Secretary
Brian Sneeringer, Ag Cons. Supervisor	Christina Anders, Resource Cons. Tech
Deb Musselman, Resource Cons. Supervisor	Mary Smith, Staff Accountant
Ricky Whitmore, CAP Coordinator	Ben Smith, Ag Cons. Tech
Vy Trinh, Water Specialist	Maya Callenbach, Resource Cons. Tech
Brock Clouser, Ag Cons. Tech	

Adam McClain went over the additional measures the District is taking to maintain transparency: advertised in the Gettysburg Times that Board meetings may be held as virtual meetings, Board meeting agenda was posted in the District Office and on the County website, Board meeting call-in information was posted on the County website and the Ag Center entrance. To join this meeting by phone or for other means to provide public comment, the request must have been received by noon yesterday. Request to join by phone: None

Welcome and Roll Call: Chair, Carl Keller, Jr. welcomed all and a roll call was done by Adam McClain.

Public Comments: There were no comments from the public.

Additional Agenda Items and Flexibility of the Agenda Order: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve having flexibility of the agenda order. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Swearing in of Directors: *Carl Keller, Jr. swore in Commissioner Jim Martin and Commissioner Jim Martin swore in Ed Wilkinson.*

Election of Officers: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the reappointment of slated officers of Carl Keller, Jr. as Chair, Ed Wilkinson as Vice-Chair, Michelle Kirk as Treasurer, and Susan Landauer as Secretary. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes: *Dave Benner moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025, BOD meeting. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: *Ed Wilkinson reviewed the Treasurer's report for December 2025, found everything to be in order, and recommended that it be filed for audit.*

Cooperating Agency Reports:

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – Christopher Santore, Conservation District Field Representative, highlighted the January 2026 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Lindsey Bream, District Conservationist, highlighted the NRCS monthly report.

Committee Reports:

Ag Center – Ed Wilkinson shared that no outside work was done at the Ag Center and Jeff Hydock is still working on obtaining quotes for a backup generator system.

Safety Committee – *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve a PCoRP Safety Grant for \$3,820 for Dave Keller to level the yard near the trial gardens and for Hull's Electric to replace emergency lighting. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Hull's Electric: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the Hull's Electric quote of \$2,120 to remove, supply, and reinstall emergency lighting. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

2026 Associate Directors: Adam McClain recommended the approval of the current Associate Directors for 2026. *Dave Benner moved to approve Alan Zepp, George Weikert, Sue Cipperly, Pat Naugle, Eric Mains and Harry McKean as Associate Directors for 2026. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

2026 District Committees: Adam McClain presented the draft 2026 District Committees. *Dave Benner moved to approve the 2026 District Committees. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

2025 Goals & Objectives – Accomplishments: Adam McClain highlighted the 2025 Goals and Objectives. The Board had no questions or suggested edits.

2025 State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interest Form: Adam McClain discussed the annual form and the need for it to be completed by District staff and Board members.

Program/Staff Reports:

Brian Sneeringer announced that the Soil Quality Meeting will be held February 25, 2026, as a half-day morning session at the Ag Center. The drone operator will demonstrate seeding at the meeting, and it is a 2026 goal to establish a committee to plan future Soil Quality Meetings if we are to continue hosting them. He has been laying tile, is working on a few waterways and noted that the ground is very dry. ACAP may want to consider adding a provision to exclude funding projects for operations less than 3 years old similar to Lancaster.

Brock Clouser shared that this month he is receiving sealed bids for 3 different ACAP projects he is working on, the final payment has been made for the Benuel King project, and the ACAP application period ends at the end of January, but no applications have been received. The ACAP GIS continues to have some technical issues that are affecting quarterly reporting.

Deb Musselman shared that the Dirt & Gravel program may experience some delays with the impending snow and Mount Joy Township is looking to apply for funding for a project this summer or fall. The E&S team is busy with reviews, performing inspections, working through enforcement issues, and receiving annual reports.

Mary Smith shared that she completed end of year reporting and filings, and the SEK annual audit and single audit will be done the first week of April 2026.

Ricky Whitmore shared that he is working on the PNDIs and permits for his CAP projects, is starting the request for proposals for upcoming projects, and is working on a final schedule with the PA Fish & Boat Commission for the projects that will occur in May, August and September.

Susan Landauer shared that all 64 compliance letters have been sent and about half of them have returned their Annual Reports but many need revisions because they are not completed correctly.

Vy Trinh shared that she is planning the Earth Day and Envirothon events and getting new Ag Center BMP signage to be posted around the Ag Center. She is doing field work that includes tile and terraces, planning 2 spring planting projects, and acquired funding for a rain barrel decoration contest.

Ben Smith shared that he is installing tile, laying out waterways, getting GPS points processed for NRCS records, and attending trainings for certification.

Maya Callenbach shared that the E&S team has been busy with enforcements and reviews, is reaching out to other Conservation Districts to acquire information on electronic submission, and will soon be attending the defensive driver training.

Christina Anders shared that the E&S team is dealing with several enforcements and trying to get out in the field.

District Manager – Adam McClain shared that the PACD executive council meeting will be held 1/29, he will be off a week in February, and he is working with Penn State to collect certificates of liability from tenant-related groups using the Ag Center.

Director Comments: Commissioner Jim Martin shared that he attended the America250PA kick-off prior to the Board meeting, suggested that the Conservation District be involved in some events, and shared some future planned events. He also recognized Rick Crouse for the many hours he spent at the PA Farm Show for the State Association of Fruit Growers.

Adjournment: Carl Keller, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 3:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Landauer, Administrative Specialist/Board Secretary
Adams County Conservation District