

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 23, 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 April 23, 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 7:31 PM. A quorum was met. The following were present in person or by phone (* if present via phone):

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| Carl Keller, Jr., Chair/Farm Director | Ed Wilkinson, Vice-chair/Farm Director |
| Adam McClain, District Manager | Dave Benner, Farm Director |
| Charlie Bennett, Public Director | Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director |
| Michelle Kirk, Treasurer/Farm Director | Rick Crouse, Public Director |
| Lindsay Bream, NRCS | Christopher Santore, DEP |
| Susan Landauer, Admin Spec/Board Secretary | Rachael Thurner-Diaz, PFBC |
| Reese Walter, PFBC trainee | |

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 today. 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. Charlie Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2026, BOD meeting. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Treasurer’s Report: *Michelle Kirk reviewed the Treasurer’s report for March 2026, 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 April 2026 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points.

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

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) – Rachael Thurner-Diaz shared that PFBC has been stocking trout in Adams County, reminded boaters that they are to be wearing life jackets until the end of April, and introduced Reese Walter who is training with her to become a Waterways Conservation Officer.

Committee Reports:

Ag Center – no updates

Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP): Adam McClain explained two policy changes that were recommended by staff. The first was to give the District Manager authority to approve applications and agreements that are less than \$10K. The second change was to clarify that the District may pay up to 90% of the total construction cost that is contracted out by the applicant in full or in combination with other funding sources. Additionally, District may pay engineering costs up to 10% of the estimated ACAP funded construction costs

identified in the application. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the ACAP policy changes as proposed. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Countywide Action Plan (CAP): Adam McClain highlighted the CAP Landowner agreements and recommended approval. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the CAP Landowner Agreements with Wendy Golden, Mark Boyer, Jim Rogers, Jim Demes, John Hess, and Boyer's Nursery. Michelle Kirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

McClure: Adam McClain reviewed the quote provided by McClure. *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the quote by McClure to replace 1 VAV in the amount of \$3,067.98 and to explore the option to buy up to 6 VAV's now to have for future repairs due to continually rising costs for the parts. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Cleaning Service: Adam McClain reviewed Erin Voss's cleaning service contract. *Rick Crouse moved to approve the contract with Erin Voss for 1 year. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

2025 Statement of Financial Interest Form: Adam McClain shared that all ACCD staff and Board members have completed the form for 2025.

Program/Staff Reports:

District Manager – Adam McClain shared Earth Day Extravaganza and Envirothon updates, his work with Harry Eastman on Jeff's contract, the dates/times for the upcoming Budget & Finance and Safety Committee meetings, and that next week is Conservation District Week. He shared that the two PCoRP funded safety projects were completed, BFPE inspected the Ag Center fire extinguishers, Safety Committee is working on a space heater policy, and Madison Lang will be returning as the seasonal Vector Control Technician. He will be developing a draft policy regarding honorary recognitions at the Ag Center.

Director Comments: Rick Crouse noted the seriousness of the recent heavy frost to the county's fruit crops. Michelle Kirk shared information regarding the cause for changes to beef prices, explained a new cattle disease that is spread by the longhorn ticks/ lice/ and flies, stressed the importance of Biosecurity plans, and shared some details of the upcoming International Farm Transition conference to be held in Gettysburg. Dave Benner shared that the recent frost has reduced the peach and apple crops in Adams County. Commissioner Jim Martin announced that a new coordinator for the Ag Discovery Center is needed after the previous coordinator left but that the project is moving forward. Carl Keller, Jr. said that Maryland FSA is looking for anyone who had damage from the recent frost.

Adjournment: Carl Keller, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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