

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 24, 2022, A.C.C.D. BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Adams County Conservation District (District) Board of Directors (Board) was held on February 24, 2022, at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with a call-in option. Chairman, Carl Keller, Jr. called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM. A quorum was met. The following were present in person or by phone (* if present via phone):

Carl Keller, Jr., Farm Director/ Chair	Ed Wilkinson, Farm Director/ Vice-chair
Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director	Charlie Bennett, Public Director
*Rick Crouse, Public Director	Michelle Kirk, Farm Director /Treasurer
*Elwood Blake, DEP	Lindsey Bream, NRCS
Adam McClain, District Manager	Sarah Spencer, Board Secretary/ Admin. Asst.
Debra Eck, Staff Accountant	Rusty Ryan, Resource Conservationist
Deb Musselman, Resource Conservation Tech.	Christina Anders, MBDC/ Resource Cons. Tech.
Joe Hallinan, Watershed Specialist	Ricky Whitmore, Comm Clean Water Coord.
Tyler Echard, CB Tech.	Vy Trinh, Nutrient Management Tech.
Tyler Trostle, ACT Tech.	Sherri Clayton-Williams, Director
Brian Sneeringer, Ag Conservation Tech. Supervisor	

Adam went over the additional measures the District is taking to maintain transparency during the COVID-19 pandemic: 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.

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.

Swearing in of Directors: *Commissioner Jim Martin swore in Ed Wilkinson as a Farm Director.*

Additional Agenda Items and Flexibility of the Agenda Order: *Commissioner Jim Martin moved to approve the Board having flexibility of the agenda order, the addition of agenda item 11.b. Dale and Donna Byers Nutrient Management Plan, and amending agenda item 12. to include all tenant related organizations. Charlie Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2022, Board meeting. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Kirk reviewed the Treasurer's report for January 2022, found everything to be in order, and recommended that it be filed for audit.*

Cooperating Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Lindsey Bream, District Conservationist, highlighted the USDA-NRCS monthly report. She also mentioned the NRCS office is limited to 50% of her staff in office, and NRCS is not visiting poultry operations at this time due to the Avian Influenza.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – Elwood Blake highlighted February DEP Talking Points, Chapter 105 going paperless in April, and Statement of Financial Interests.

Committee Reports:

Ag Center- Ed Wilkinson had no updates to reports.

Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads (DGLV) Program:

- a. **Tyrone Township, Bull Valley Road** - Deb Musselman explained the project and shared that the Quality Assurance Board recommended the contract for approval. *Commissioner Jim Martin moved to approve contracting with Tyrone Township for the Low Volume project along Bull Valley Road in the amount of \$4,598. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Nutrient and Odor Management Program:

- a. **Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) updates** - Vy Trinh highlighted 3 NMP updates: Doug Wetzel, Hillandale, and Mason Dixon Farms.
- b. **Dale and Donna Byers NMP** - Tyler Echard highlighted the NMP and shared Charles Heberlig III's recommendation for approval. *Michelle Kirk moved to approve the Dale and Donna Byers NPS. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Tenant Related Organizations: Adam McClain recommended that the Board allow the Tenant Related Organizations to return to meeting at the Ag Center since the Board dropped the masking and social distancing requirements. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve allowing all the 2022 Tenant Related Organizations to resume their meetings at the Ag Center. Michelle Kirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Mohantongo: Christina Anders explained the Mohantongo agreement and their involvement in our tire recycling event. *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the agreement with Mohantongo. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance): Ricky Whitmore explained the Frost Riparian Buffer project and recommended that the Board contract with the Alliance to install the project. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the agreement with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in the amount of \$24,700. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

75 Year Anniversary: Adam McClain shared that the County Commissioners have scheduled a proclamation to celebrate the 75 year anniversary of the Commissioners establishing the Conservation District in Adams County at their Commissioner meeting on April 6, 2022. *The board decided to create an 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee to guide other ways to celebrate the 75 year anniversary.* Members of the committee include Michelle Kirk, Rick Crouse, Commissioner Jim Martin, Deb Eck, Sarah Spencer, and Adam McClain.

Statement of Financial Interest Form: Adam McClain reminded the Board that their forms must be filed at the District by May 1, 2022.

Rock/Marsh Critical Area Resource Plan /Act 220: Charlie Bennett shared that James Horton was taking over as the DEP coordinator of the Act 220 program and that a Potomac Regional public hearing will take place on March 11, 2022.

Program/Staff Reports

a. **Planning Office Director** – Sherri Clayton-Williams shared upcoming projects with transportation and 3 new housing developments.

b. **Resource Conservationist** - Rusty Ryan discussed the National Park Service's Little Roundtop Rehabilitation project.

c. **Nutrient Management** - Vy Trinh discussed the annual Adams County Soil Quality Meeting the District is hosting on March 3, 2022.

d. Countywide Action Plan - Ricky Whitmore reported on restoration projects with SGI and Cumberland Township and that he presented at the Adams County Fruit Growers meeting.

e. Staff Accountant – Deb Eck discussed the upcoming financial audit by SEK on March 7-10 and decreasing checking account interest rates.

f. Chesapeake Bay -Tyler Echard discussed inspections, field work, and Phase 2 implementation projects.

g. Watershed Specialist - Joe Hallinan reported on Trout in the Classroom, upcoming volunteer riparian buffer projects, 9,000 free trees were pre-ordered through the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, WAAC/District's 3-day tree pickup event, an in-person Envirothon – tentatively May 4th and 5th at the Ag Center, May 7th Riparian Ranger Program, and new relationship with Advanced Science for training teachers.

h. Agriculture Conservation – Brian Sneeringer reported that the ag staff are still assisting with tile installation and will start building waterways on March 15th.

i. DGLV - Deb Musselman discussed the State Conservation Commission's proposed stream crossing policy changes and how it will impact the program in Adams County.

j. Agricultural Conservation Technician - Tyler Trostle discussed the ag projects that he is working on and his upcoming training in May.

k. Mosquito-borne Disease Control – Christina Anders discussed the tire recycling event on May 21st, ordering new pesticides, and upcoming Ag Chemical sweep.

l. Admin Assistant - Sarah Spencer discussed finalizing the Annual Report and Chapter 102 training.

m. District Manager – Adam McClain reported on being appointed to PACD's Legislative Committee, meeting/discussing current state bills with our local PA Representatives and Senator, fixing Ag Center meeting room speakers. Adam asked if the Board wanted to hold the next Board meeting in the ACCD conference room. *It was decided that the next Board meeting will still be in the downstairs meeting rooms A1-2.*

Director Concerns/Comments/Information Sharing: Commissioner Jim Martin discussed the status of the riparian buffer at Sachs Mill bridge. Joe Hallinan has the project scheduled for the Alliance in the fall.

Adjournment Chair Carl Keller Jr adjourned the meeting at 3:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Spencer/Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant
Adams County Conservation District