



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES November 15, 2022

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Commissioner Mike Belding called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at Greene County Fair Grounds Building 10, 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA.

Those in attendance were as follows:

GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Commissioner Belding-Vice Chairman; William Wentzel-Secretary; Greg Hopkins-Treasurer; Dave Shipman and Glodenna Halstead. Associate Directors: Dan Bazzoli; Carol Adamson; Lewis Crouse; Keith Golden; Jim Willis; Doug Willis; Kevin White and Jerry Day.

STAFF

Lisa Snider-District Director; Lindsay Kozlowski-District Office Manager; Jared Zinn – Watershed Specialist

GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES

Gabby Howard – GIS Coordinator; Kyle Lamb - Planning Associate, GC Economic and Community Development; Phil Evans – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); Ryan Furrer - Regional District Rep Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and Rebecca Trigger

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the October 18, 2022 minutes.
William Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)*

TREASURER'S REPORT

The October reconciliation statements were provided to the board for review along with the Community Bank CD Maturity Renewal Notice. The board was provided with an updated treasurer's report that included several bank transfers.

A motion was made by William Wentzel to approve the treasurer's report. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

REQUEST OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Request was made to add a request for FFA Jacket Sponsorship and the support of a joint meeting with PADEP and the Commissioners office to hold a Developers Permit Meeting.

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to add the additional agenda items to the agenda. William Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A reminder was given that the 2022 Annual Banquet will be held on December 14 at Valley View Farm. Invitations were mailed out with the meeting packets. Everyone was encouraged to respond with reservations by December 2.

An announcement was made that the 2022 REAP Applications due are due November 18.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Stream Assessment Notification - UNT 32594 to North Fork Dunkard Fork. UNT 32594 to North Fork Dunkard Fork was received by the office. As part of PADEP's ongoing review of water quality standards, PADEP is undertaking an evaluation that may result in a regulatory change to the designated uses of the stream segments or stream basin.

PACD Winter meeting will take place as a series in January. Committees will meet from January 6 to 20th, followed by the Executive Council meeting on January 26. Information has been emailed to the directors should they be interested in attending.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

Lindsay Kozlowski- Ms. Kozlowski is working on the shirt sale. Envirothon sponsorship letters went out and if anyone has any suggestions, please let her know.

Jared Zinn- Mr. Zinn is working on the low water crossing in Jefferson with PADEP for funding. American Rivers funding has exceeded their funding to complete the work. Mr. Zinn is working to restore funding to remove the low water crossing by obtaining funds from PADEP.

Hilverding farm is waiting on TAG engineers designs.

Willis farm waiting on construction to start.

Cree farm waiting on funding for the project from Growing Greener.

Kovalcheck farm an inspection was conducted with PADEP and a report is ready to send out to the landowner and is available for discussion after the meeting.

Lisa Snider- Ms. Snider stated that looking into the stream notification reassessment it seems that PADEP is initiating the stream reevaluation not a company.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding ACAP delegation agreement, nothing new has been discussed or sent to the districts.

Ryan Furrer had mentioned that there is a meeting to discuss and finalize the delegation agreement today. Funding is to be out by the first of the year. State Conservation Commission (SCC) was to have the delegation agreements out and signed. Mr. Furrer asked if the district was going to participate in the program, the board has not made a final decision yet, waiting to hear more information.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistance

No request for assistance

DGLVR Contracting

DGR Quality Assurance Board (QAB) met prior to the meeting to rank and send the following projects to the board for approval for funding.

Moore Road, Jackson Township is fill project and drainage along with streambank stabilization and is a traditional DGR project. Funding request is \$48,632.14 with a \$14,767.60 in-kind match. The township will be completing the project and PA Game Commission permission will be needed to complete the project. It ranked #1 by the QAB with 239 points out of 300 points.

Quiet Dell Road, Aleppo Township is a stream-crossing project along with the installation of road fill and a French mattress and drainage improvements and is a DGR project. Funding request is \$131,300.00 with a match of \$33,000.00. The project will be a prevailing wage project to be completed through the township bidding process. Landowner agreements will be needed to complete the project and the project ranked #3 by the QAB with 167 points out of 300 points.

Presock Road, Cumberland Township fill project and drainage. This is a traditional DGR project and the townships has requested \$133,900.00 with a match of \$33,500.00, the project will be a prevailing wage project to be completed through the township bidding process. PA Game Commission permission will be needed to complete the project. The project ranked #2 by the QAB with 170 out of 300 points.

Robena Road, Monongahela Township is the second phase of a project completed in the past, this is a low volume road project, excessive water in the road is washing out the riprap-lined channel and is embedded between the road bank and an adjacent AMD reclamation pond. All work is to be completed within the road ROW and no landowner permission will be needed. The project will be a prevailing wage project to be completed through the township bidding process. The project ranked #1 out of 1 project with 136 points out of 300 points.

A summary sheet was provided to the board for a decision on funding approval. A total of \$87,921.21 in Low Volume Road funding is available for contracting and \$423,520.87 is available for Dirt and Gravel Road funding. QAB recommends funding all projects as

presented.

After discussion of the projects, a motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve all presented Dirt and Gravel Road projects; seconded by Glodenna Halstead. (Motion Passed)

A motion by Dave Shipman to approve the Low Volume Road projects as presented; seconded by Glodenna Halstead. (Motion Passed)

DGLVR Final Payments

The following projects have been reviewed and approved by the QAB for final payment once all paperwork has been obtained. QAB would like to recommend to the board that final payments be made for the following:

Hewitt/Jacobs Road-Aleppo Township
Coon Run—Springhill Township
Barton Hollow-Center Township
Goodwin Hill Road—Wayne Township

A motion was made by William Wentzel to make the final payments for the listed projects; seconded by Dave Shipman. (Motion Passed)

PA Envirothon Scholarship Donation

PA Envirothon is looking for scholarship donations for the winning teams of the state competition. In the past, the district has donated \$500 towards the state Envirothon scholarship.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to donate \$500 towards the PA Envirothon Scholarship; seconded by Dave Shipman. (Motion Passed)

2023 GCCD Meeting Dates

The 2023 District meeting dates were presented to the board for approval and publishing in the Observer-Reporters legal section for 2023.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to advertise the dates as listed; seconded Dave Shipman. (Motion Passed)

2023 Associate Directors

The directors discussed the potential for Associate Directors. A copy of the 2022 Conservation District Director Appointment Submission Form from the County Commissioners was given to the board for review. The only new name on the list for 2023 was that of Rebecca Trigger from the nominating committees. Ms. Trigger attended the meeting and introduced herself. Ms. Trigger owns a 140-acre farm in Jefferson that she has mainly managed for forestry. Her farm won the 2020 PA Tree Farmer of the Year and 2019 District Forester of the Year Award.

Associate directors can be added at any time during the year. Each associate director is re-appointed annually and serve a 1-year term. Letters are sent out to potential associate directors. The board requested that an email be sent to supervisors inquiring on their interest to serving as associate directors. The board tabled the action until a better list of potential associates can be generated. Members were requested to send potential associate names to Lisa Snider and a letter will be sent out in January requesting new members.

2023 Annual Plan of Operations

The APO for 2023 was sent out in the meeting packet for directors to review. No questions were raised.

A motion by William Wentzel to approve the 2023 APO was made; seconded, Dave Shipman. (Motion Passed)

Conservation Technician Position

Interviews are scheduled for December 1 from 9 am to 2pm at the district conference room. The Personnel Committee-Mike Belding, Jim Cowell, Raymond Stockdale were given copies of the interested applicants. Greg Hopkins, who was also invited to attend the interviews but will be in D.C. and unable to attend.

PACD Southwest Regional Director Nomination

The position was discussed and directors were encouraged to cast their name as a director for the SW Region. If interested please let Lisa Snider know.

FFA Jacket Sponsorship

Karlie Wright forwarded the request from the state organization to sponsor jackets. Jackets are generally \$60 each; most of the West Greene Students receive their jackets from this fund. This would be separate from the FFA Improvement fund that the board donates annually.

Carol Adamson spoke on behalf of the Farm Bureau; they donated to the FFA Improvement fund for \$500. The district already donates \$1,500 for the Improvement fund annually in the name of Byron Hughes.

Keith Golden offered to utilize his annual clothing allowance to offset the costs.

It was decided to add this item to the January meeting agenda to add \$200 to the FFA Improvement fund for jackets.

Developers Permit Meeting

The county commissioners, PA DEP and the district permitting staff are holding a meeting for developers to discuss the permitting process, what to expect when applying and how to hold their consultants accountable. Washington, Fayette and bordering WV counties will be invited. The total that could be invited would be a maximum of 75 attendees. The hope is that this meeting can educate developers on the process of permitting and alleviate unnecessary delays.

Staff will be utilizing funds for refreshments for the meeting out of the chapter 102 funds for

education and outreach/workshops. The meeting will be December 6 at the EQT REC Center in the morning.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

Workshop on December 6 for Developers education.

A call for photos or even articles that could be placed in the annual report. The staff is currently working on the banquet details. The annual report will be started in early January and will be published by the end of March.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES

Ryan Furrer-PADEP-nothing to add his talking points were covered during the meeting.

Kyle Lamb-Planning commission meeting approved two minor subdivisions and they continue to work with SPC on a long-range plan.

Dorian Siebel-PA Fish and Boat Commission-Dunkard Creek the F&B commission stocked mussels in Mt. Morris to re supply the stream with native mussels and bolster the native population.

Phil Evans-NRCS-Working on CSP sign ups and hire an employee in Washington. December 6th is the local workgroup meeting at the Washington District office. Funding is to double each year over the next 4 years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session not needed.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

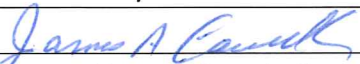
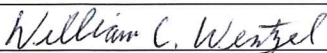
The next regular meeting will be prior to the annual awards banquet on December 14, 2022 if needed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 a.m. Dave Shipman, William Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Snider
District Director

<u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u>
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on <u>January 17, 2023</u>

Chairman, Greene County Conservation District

Secretary, Greene County Conservation District