

Conserving Natural Resources for the Future

MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Ross, Bob Armstrong, Dave Moyer, Charlie Garris, Chuck Gould, Roger McFadden and Randy Rice

DISTRICT STAFF: Adam Schellhammer, Barbara Bistrais, Denise Smale, Matthew Giambra, and Lori Kerrigan

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS: Janet Weidensaul, Edie Stevens and John Lyman

COOPERATING AGENCIES: Shane Kleiner, DEP; Garrett Beers, DCNR and Jen Matthews, NRCS

PUBLIC: Craig Todd, Resident; Rodney Stark, Resident; Jack Foster, Resident; Drake Stinson, Borton-Lawson; Jim Hendricks, HG Engineers; Dina Orginos, HG Engineers; and Paula Heeschen, BWA

Pat Ross called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

<u>Reorganization 2019 Director Appointments/Reappointments</u>: Shane Kleiner administered the oath of office to Pat Ross, Charlie Garris, and Robert Armstrong.

<u>Election of Officers</u>: Pat noted the next order of business is the election of officers and asked for nominations for chairperson. Charlie Garris made the motion that all officer appointments remain the same for 2019. Pat Ross, Chairperson; Robert Armstrong, Vice Chairperson; Roger McFadden, Treasurer; Chuck Gould, Secretary and Charlie Garris, Commissioner Member. Dave seconded the motion. A roll call vote was unanimous by all board members. Motion passed.

Associate Director Reappointments: Pat spoke in regard to the three associate directors that applied and commented on John Lyman's wish add another associate board member. Craig Todd added that he has expressed an interest and his application has been submitted. Craig stated that it was a year and then it was changed to three years. This calendar year will be three years in August. He asked the board to entertain the appointment of himself as an associate director that is consistent to the guidelines effective August of 2019.

Pat made the motion to reappoint John Lyman, Janet Weidensaul and Edith Stevens as Associate Board Members. A roll call vote was unanimous by all board members. Motion passed.

<u>Public Comment</u>: Craig Todd asked the board if he needs to speak again in regard to his interest in being an Associate Board member during public comment. Pat asked if a letter of interest was submitted in time according to the guidelines. Craig stated that he had, and also mentioned that the guidelines relates to the associate directors that would like to continue to serve. Robert made the motion that consideration of Craig's application be tabled until June or July when it is closer to the end of the three year grace period. Dave seconded the motion. Motion passed. A roll call vote was unanimous by all board members. Motion passed.

Executive Session 8:05am to in 8:17am in regard to a legal matter.

<u>December Meeting Minutes Approval</u>: Pat asked for approval of the December Board Meeting minutes. Bob made the motion. Roger M. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>Technical Report</u>: Lori reviewed the Technical site status report. There were 7 new applications, 2 individual permits for NPDES, and 2 records of decision. Under the Chapter 105 program there was 1 new GP-5 and 1 new GP-7 application. The Year-End report was reviewed; Lori explained the 2018 trends and comparisons in projects and complaints received. Bob asked about the earth disturbance and acres in 2017 being high in comparison to 2018. Lori explained that some of the projects submitted last year were very large in acreage. The NPDES Workshop for 2019 is on February 5th & February 6th. Eddie asked in regard to the PennDOT storm water management for the expansion of Route 80 through Stroudsburg. Bob asked if it will be taking a lot of their time going forward with this project. At this time Lori stated that there have been a few meetings but no formal application has been submitted to date.

<u>EE Report</u>: Adam spoke on behalf of Roger S. board report. Adam spoke briefly on programs and Maple Sugaring on March 2nd.

<u>DM Report</u>: Adam spoke in regard to the 2030 Initiative and the change in direction towards utilizing Strategic doing teams. Adam stated that he will be co-chairing the sustainability and collaboration for the strategic doing teams. Adam is partnering with Christine Meinhart from the Planning Commission, Chuck Leonard from the Economic Development Cooperation and Pat Kelly from Close the Loop.

The Conservation District interviewed two GIS interns (Geographic Information Systems) for a spring and summer position to help map storm water BMP's around the county and add old plans to the map to help with operation and maintenance.

Adam spoke in regard to the PennEast Pipeline projects and its new path through Monroe County.

Adam reviewed recent meetings with ESU in regard to projects that they would like to take on in 2019 with green infrastructure and storm water initiatives.

The PACD Outreach Tool kit is now available for District use. It's a program purchased by PACD, to help with social media presence, marketing and outreach.

Shane spoke about Growing Greener grant time frames will be highlighted individually and they will be announced soon. Bob asked how many grants we have active. Adam stated that we have 4 at this time.

Adam also spoke on Weir Creek in Chestnuthill Township in regard to Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Road projects. The program continues to change and evolve therefore keeping up with education and maintenance training with municipalities and boroughs is important. Shane also mentioned that without the trainings some municipalities won't be eligible for money from Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Road funding, but stated that even if they are not awarded money the practices and training they get can be utilized and save money for their municipality. Shane explained what exactly a low volume road was considered. A road that has less than 500 vehicle's per day. A traffic count has to be completed for that road and presented to the district prior to awarding that grant.

Edie asked about the 2030 task force and sustainability subcommittee in regard to programs for progressive storm water management and progressive waste water management. Adam stated that these were areas that were discussed and will be looked into on a larger scale with the infrastructure planner at the county.

<u>Financial report</u>: Adam discussed that the financial report and the budget will have to be postponed until February due to not having the final numbers from the county.

<u>Invoice List</u>: Adam discussed some of the larger items on the Invoice list. The first item is the partial dues for PACD (Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts). The second item was a contract payment to PARC for their upcoming programs in 2019. They will be taking over some of the Birding Programs now that Brian in retiring. Pat asked for a motion to approve the invoice list. Charlie made the motion. Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>Out of County Travel</u>: Pat asked for a motion to approve the OCT as presented. Randy made the motion. Roger seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>Ramp Bids</u>: Bids for the ramp were opened and reviewed. Pat made the motion to table the bids for the ramp until we can have them further reviewed. Charlie made the motion, Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>Mileage</u>: Pat asked for a motion to approve the mileage reimbursement of .58¢ per mile. Chuck made the motion. Randy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>2018 Donations Approval</u>: Pat asked for a motion to approve the donations for 2018. The quarter from September to December was \$971.00. Total for last year was \$8040.94. Charlie made the motion. Randy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<u>NERO</u>: Shane spoke about the Growing Greener grants and announcement of recipients. He suggested that if there are upcoming projects, that any information that is available to be prepared for announced dates in the Spring. Shane spoke on upcoming meetings and events. Shane spoke on the Growing Greener is available for agriculture and recommends that we keep that in mind for upcoming projects.

NRCS: Jen reported on the rankings of applications for funds that her office is reviewing. Currently the following applications selected for EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) funding is a Certified Organic Contract in Wayne County and two Wildlife Habitat Management Plans in Wayne and Lackawanna Counties.

Matt spoke on the Farmers breakfast on January 18, 2019 and the upcoming 2019 Farmers Appreciation Banquet on February 23, 2019 at the Polk Township Fire House.

Public Comment: None

Meeting adjourned at 9:01am.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Smale

Recording Secretary

THE NEXT MCCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 AT 8:00 AM AT THE MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFICES IN BARTONSVILLE, PA.