



**MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Armstrong, Sharon Laverdure, Roger McFadden, Craig Todd, Brian Winot and Donna Foulk.
Jason Smith was absent.

DISTRICT STAFF: Kristina Heaney, Lori Kerrigan, Drew Wagner, Mike Wilk, David Lucykanish, OC Hearthstone, John Motz, Barbara Bistras, and Iwona O'Connor.

COOPERATING AGENCIES: Janet Creegan-DEP (via Zoom,) Julia Sherer- MCPC (via Zoom,) and Deborah Basalyga- NRCS (via Zoom,) Paula Heeschen- BWA (via Zoom.)

PUBLIC: Rodney Stark

Bob Armstrong called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Public Comment:

None

Board Meeting Minutes:

Bob Armstrong asked for the approval of the September 21, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Sharon Laverdure to approve September 21, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

EE Report:

The report was provided to the board in their packet. Kristina Heaney informed the board that year to date program attendance was excellent. Seventy six (76) people registered for the Bog Day scheduled for October 22. It is a free guided walk on the boardwalk as well as information on the bog. The Bird Seed Sale is planned for October 28. This year, the orders can be paid for using credit cards in addition to cash and checks. The District would like to add online ordering option in the future. Barbara informed the board that out of town



visitors of Kettle Creek often buy souvenirs in the gift shop since the center is able to accept credit card payments.

Tech Report:

The technical report was provided to the board in their packet. Lori Kerrigan disclosed that in the month of September the District received one hundred twenty one (121) telephone calls and general correspondence reached three hundred and three (303.) The District issued six (6) individual NPDES permits, authorized one (1) general permit, processed one (1) record of decision, and acknowledged one (1) notice of termination. Chapter 105 activities consisted of nine (9) new applications received, three (3) applications reviewed and one (1) GP8 permits acknowledged. The District conducted thirty one (31) inspections on twenty eight (28) sites with reasonable number of them being complaints. Ten (10) sites were issued compliance notice or notice of violation, and one (1) site was referred to the DEP.

Brian Winot requested clarification on the site number thirteen (13) on the inspection report. Transco Regional Energy Access- Effort Loop had an incident of a pollution event that they self-reported. Lori clarified that the site is scheduled for enforcement and civil penalty; however, they would receive credit for providing Notification and immediately reporting the incidents.

Brian continued to question if the site number seventeen (17) was Classic Quality Homes. Lori explained that the site was referred to the DEP legal. The Municipality's Zoning Officer issued stop work order for that site as well.

Brian resumed to comment on site number nineteen (19,) a basin holding water. Mike Wilk informed him that it was due to combination of factors, but it was not a critical stage report. The District has an onsite meeting scheduled to identify and address the issues before the site is completed. Mike added that this particular site is surrounded by wetlands without any buffers. Infiltration testing was received in early spring when the ground water levels were higher.

The last site discussed was M Manor. The twenty seven (27) parcels site is a perpetual earth disturbance site requiring the NPDES permit. The dirt bike truck requires constant maintenance, designed BMPs and potentially site restoration as PCSM.

District Managers Report:

Kristina Heaney provided her report in the board packet. She informed the board that together with Craig Todd they attended the PACD Managers Meeting. They voted against a



proposed bill to allow municipalities a voluntary requirement for livestock fencing. Donna Foulk added that current regulations require thirty (30) feet setback from any stream for concentrated livestock. It is equivalent to two (2) animals per acre or a thousand (1,000) pounds.

Donna ask for an update on a local solar farm project. Kristina clarified that the District has a pre-construction meeting scheduled for that location. The proposed solar farm will be developed on a five hundred (500) acres forested land parcel in an exceptional value watershed.

Kristina advocated for renewing the Stream Gage contract. The renewal would prevent the loss of a resource and its twenty five (25) years' worth of data. The cost of preserving the gage was also within the approved 2024 budget.

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of 23-24 Stream Gage Contract.

A motion was made by Sharon Laverdure, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve 23-24 Stream Gage Contract.

A roll call vote was requested.

Bob Armstrong voted yes,
Roger McFadden voted yes,
Brian Winot voted yes,
Jason Smith was absent.
Motion carried.

Sharon Laverdure voted yes,
Craig Todd voted yes,
Donna Foulk voted yes.

Work Session Reports:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of the August Work Session Minutes.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve the September Work Session Minutes.

Financial Report:

Invoice Lists for October 19, 2023:

Bob Armstrong requested approval of the October 19, 2023 Invoice List.

A motion was made by Sharon Laverdure, seconded by Roger McFadden to approve the Invoice List for October 19, 2023. Motion carried.

Balance Sheet as of 9/30/2023:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of the Balance Sheet as of 9/30/2023.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve the Balance Sheet as of 9/30/2023. Motion carried.

Cooperating Agency Reports:

DEP-Janet Creegan provided the DEP report in the board packet. She reminded the board that the director nominations are due in December. She also announced that Environmental Education grants are closing soon. Janet thanked Kristina for providing a 102 program's desktoping training to new technicians in surrounding districts. The training's ultimate goal was retention of 102 staff.

NRCS- Deborah Basalyga provided the NRCS report in the board packet. She narrated that 2024 application process has begun and its ranking will follow in February.

Public Comment:

Brodhead Watershed Association- Paula Heeschen solicited the stream gage's details. Paula verified that the gage was on Pocono Creek above Wigwam Run and near Stroudsburg, PA. The gage's renewed total cost will add up to \$19,000.00. The District will fund \$16,730.00, and the USGS will provide a secured match of \$2,270.00.

Bob Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 11:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

O'Connor

Iwona O'Connor
Office Assistant Sr.

The next MCCD Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM at the Monroe County Conservation District.