



MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Armstrong, Sharon Laverdure, Roger McFadden, Chuck Gould, Craig Todd and Brian Winot.

DISTRICT STAFF: Kristina Heaney, Roger Spotts, Lori Kerrigan, John Motz, Michael Wilk, Drew Wagner, David Hooker, Barbara Bistras, and Diana Flint.

Cooperating Agencies: Ryan Gildea-Game Commission, Amy Seidel-Planning Commission, Ed Vinton-NRCS, Alec DeLong-PA Fish and Boat Commission, Matthew Deitrich-PA Fish and Boat Commission.

PUBLIC: Paula Heeschen-BWA, Leslie Berger-KCEF, John Woodling-KCEF, Gareth Denniston-KCEF and Ed Cramer-KCEF.

Bob Armstrong called the meeting to order at 10:32 am.

Public Comment-none

Board Meeting Minutes: Bob Armstrong asked for approval of the November 18, 2021 board meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Chuck Gould, seconded by Sharon Laverdure, to approve the November 18, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Technical Report:

Lori Kerrigan provided the report in the board packet, which she reviewed with the board. Lori mentioned that there were seven ACT 167 meetings in regards to renewal of the ACT 167 plan. She stated that the watershed specialist has been getting updates ready for ACT 167 and has been assisting BWA with projects. She also stated that the Army Corp came to do staff training at the beginning of the month.

Lori informed the board that we had the pre-bid meeting and bid opening for the Sand Spring Run project. Lori stated that there were nine bids for the Sand Spring Run project. She stated that the lowest bidder meets all the qualifications and has streambank restoration experience. She requested that the board vote to approve the Bid award and enter into contract with Rutledge Excavating for the Sand Spring Run project.

Sand Spring Run Bidder Award:

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Chuck Gould, to approve Rutledge Excavating for the Sand Spring Run project.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve the bid award and enter into a contract with Rutledge Excavating for the Sand Spring Run project, in the amount of \$529,132.60.

Dirt and Gravel Low Volume Road Chestnuthill Township Grant extension until 12/31/21. John Motz requested that the board approve a motion to extend the Chestnuthill Township Grant until 12/31/21.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Sharon Laverdure, to extend the Chestnuthill Township Grant until 12/31/21. Chuck Gould abstained from the vote.

EE Report: Roger Spotts provided his report in the board packet. He stated that the staff has put together a schedule of upcoming bus trips and programs on a level that is similar to what was being offered pre-pandemic. The winter newsletter has just been sent out, this includes programming for early next year into the spring. The offerings include bog walks and Envirothons, with adjustments to scheduling as needed. The staff has been working on maintenance projects, including the Meesing driveway and plant pruning at the Bog. Roger stated that Stony Acres has been booked for Conservation Camp in July 2022. He also stated that DCNR denied the O'Connor property as a future site for Conservation Camp. He said that we're exploring other options while waiting for ESU to make a decision about the future of Stony Acres. Roger also mentioned that we already have 110 tree sponsors for Maple Sugaring and that there will be two public days which people need to register for in advance. This alleviated the parking issues since people were showing up at different times throughout the day. Craig asked for an update on the Meesing parking lot extension. Roger stated that the trees have been cleared and the stumps still need to be removed. Kristina stated she'll look into getting assistance from PennDot. Next, Sharon asked if the board would consider looking for funds to purchase Stony Acres, stating that it can be used for other educational purposes as well as Conservation Camp. Craig stated that there is community support for keeping Stony Acres, but it's a matter of waiting for ESU to decide the future of the property. Kristina said that ESU is aware that the Conservation District is interested in partnering to keep Stony Acres.

District Managers Report: Kristina provided the report in the board packet. She stated that there have been several Strategic Planning meetings with staff and it's been a successful process so far. Kristina stated that Prosser Labs has been surveying our water every month but they have recently lost their license with DEP. Kristina stated that a new contract has been negotiated with ABE.

Resource Conservation Specialist Hire: Kristina stated that interviews were conducted for the Resource Conservation Specialist position and that she'd like to recommend David Lucykanish for the position. She stated that he has aquatic biology knowledge, an aquatic pesticide applicators license and construction background. Brian asked what his start date would be and Kristina responded the second or third week of January, stating that she'll get a more specific date after making him the offer.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve the hiring of David Lucykanish as a Resource Conservation Specialist. Motion carried. Sharon Laverdure abstained from the vote.

Financial Report:

Invoice List as of 12/16/21:

Kristina stated that there was an addendum made to the invoice list, with the bill for a snowblower being added. This item just came in yesterday. Craig asked Kristina to explain the drain field damage. Kristina stated that after checking the security footage, three bears were seen ripping pipes out of the ground.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Brian Winot, to approve the December 16, 2021 invoice list. Motion carried.

Balance Sheet as of 11/30/21:

A motion was made Roger McFadden, seconded by Chuck Gould, to approve the balance sheet for 11/30/21. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Out of County Travel:

Kristina asked for a motion to approve out of county travel for upcoming eagle watch bus trips.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Sharon Laverdure, to approve out of county travel. Motion carried.

Camp Insurance Policy Renewal 1/1/22 to 1/1/23:

Kristina stated that the price for camp insurance has remained the same, with the insurance covering day camps and Conservation Camp as well as Kettle Creek for Kids programs. The cost is \$500 and covers off-site and on-site camps.

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Chuck Gould, to approve the camp insurance policy renewal in the amount of \$500, with the policy dates being 1/1/22 to 1/1/23.

Stream Gage Agreement Renewal 10/1/21 to 9/30/22:

Kristina stated that Roger and Barbara were able to secure \$2,270 of funding for our stream gage. Roger McFadden stated that the annual charge is \$18,270 and that any amount of funds are helpful. Craig asked what amount in donations have come in and Kristina responded that there have only been three or four so far but she's hoping for more donations. She also mentioned that municipalities donate and additional money comes in from the county and the planning commission. Sharon asked about requesting a donation from the Visitors Bureau, which Kristina agreed would be a good idea. Kristina explained that most of the annual fee is an insurance policy which covers the gage if it would fail, providing a replacement gage.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Roger McFadden, to approve the stream gage renewal agreement in the amount of \$18,270 with the policy dates being 10/1/21 to 9/30/22. Motion carried.

2022 IRS Mileage reimbursement rate: Kristina stated that the IRS hasn't released the mileage reimbursement rate for 2022 so this motion will have to wait until the January board meeting.

Board Meeting Dates for 2022:

A motion was made by Roger McFadden, seconded by Sharon Laverdure, to approve the board meeting dates for 2022.

Cooperating Agency Reports:

PA Fish and Boat Commission-Alec DeLong stated that he worked on a sediment pollution investigation with Kristina and Steven which resulted in a small fine.

Bob mentioned that there is a possible change to the House Bill 1842, relating to liquid spills. Currently, the DEP must be contacted immediately for spills and Bob feels that the bill should remain this way, instead of the proposed change which allows individuals to decide if DEP should be contacted. Kristina stated that she has written letters to the house and senate noting our position and mentioned that the vote has been delayed.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Chuck Gould, to support the Conservation District in opposing the change to House Bill 1842. Motion carried.

Planning Commission-Amy Seidel stated that they're gearing up for the water quality study. She said the BWA will have a round table focusing on MS4 permitting, storm water management for municipal leaders in Monroe County.

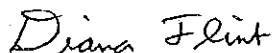
Public comment: None

Bob mentioned that Randy Rice has resigned from the board and that today would have been his last board meeting.

Bob would like to set up committee meetings in January and will discuss it further at the next meeting.

Bob Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 11:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diana Flint
Office Assistant Sr.

**THE NEXT MCCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY,
January 20, 2022 AT 8:00 AM at the Monroe County Conservation District**