



**MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, May 16, 2019**

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

**DISTRICT STAFF:** Adam Schellhammer, Barbara Bistras, Roger Spotts, Matt Giambra  
and Lori Kerrigan

**ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS:** Edie Stevens

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** Shane Kleiner, DEP NERO

**PUBLIC:** Craig Todd, Resident; Rodney Stark, Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited; Drake Stinson, Borton-Lawson; Paula Heesch, BWA; Bob Heil, BWA; Mackenzie Strunk, Rosemary Brown's office; Amalia O'Brien, Tobyhanna Army Depot and Jack Fossett, Resident.

**Pat Ross called the meeting to order at 7:59 am.**

**Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Dave Moyer  
Charlie Garris  
Roger McFadden  
Bob Armstrong  
Chuck Gould  
Randy Rice  
Patrick Ross

**Public Comment:** None

**Executive Session:** From 8:00am to 8:15am discussion was held on personnel and legal issues

**March Meeting Minutes Approval:** Pat asked for approval of the April 18, 2019 Board Meeting minutes. Roger McFadden made the motion, Bob Armstrong seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Technical Report:** Lori reviewed the technical site status report for April, we received nine new applications, there are twenty two plans under review right now, two individual permits issued for NPDES, under Chapter 105 there was one GP4 issued and two Records of Decision sent to DEP for permit issuance. She mentioned that last month was an outstanding month in wetland fill complaints, nine of which were confirmed, three of those were potentially contaminated fill, one has been confirmed, the other two are awaiting test results. We have conducted site visits with the Army Corps of Engineers and are looking for voluntary compliance, otherwise it goes to DEP for enforcement and the Army Corps. Discussion was held on how the land owner and the earth mover are the responsible parties when it comes to fill. Pat wanted to know if anything is being done for everyone to work together on this issue, DEP, local authority, state, etc... since this is such a serious situation. Adam responded that we have tried to coordinate with DEP, the state police and the waste authority. There has been a meeting with the legislatives in the county in hopes to attempt to draft some legislative proposal. All the municipalities have been sent information on what residents should ask if they are bringing in fill, Middle Smithfield even went as far as to take that information and put it in their newsletter to their residents. Charlie asked on the responsiveness of the Army Corps and it was stated they are extremely responsive. Chuck asked about contacting various media outlets if tests come back show contamination since most homeowners might not know they have a wetland or have concerns about fill. Townships can only do so much since only so many people come to a meeting, but a media blast might be able to get the homeowners aware and might cut it off here. Discussion continued on the FP001 form along with the manifest and analyticals from last month. Bob Heil added that he feels it is a very concerning county wide topic occurring at multiple levels, the regulatory aspect and the homeowner education aspect, he really would like to see this get elevated to have a small meeting between board members, staff members, various representatives and talk about this because it is getting worse instead of better. Craig Todd added that he thought the letter that we sent out is great but the folks issuing the municipal permits are not complying with the requirements for a permit application and one of those is to identify wetlands. That was the focus and maybe that has gotten derailed or there are new zoning officers or maybe even farming out reviews to third parties, but wetlands need to be identified and a lot of them can desktop this with the county GIS hydric soils information, it is disturbing that wetlands are being filled. Discussion was held as to which sites on the report are potentially contaminated fill and which ones are wetland fill complaints.

Matt discussed two ACT 38 Nutrient Management Plans in Barrett Township for approval:

1. Pleasant Ridge Farm: A motion was made by Chuck Gould and seconded by Roger McFadden, motion carried.

2. Valcor Stable: A motion was made by Charlie Garris and seconded by Randy Rice, motion carried.

**EE Report:** Roger highlighted his report:

We are in the midst of our busiest time, spring school programs and the boardwalk repairs went well and are safe.

We still have availability for Conservation Camp in July and we will be having a Kettle Creek Picnic here Sunday June 23, 2019 from 12pm - 3pm, including kids activities, hot dogs, refreshments along with ice cream with maple syrup which is always popular.

Roger asked the board for approval for the Denniston Family to be acknowledged as Volunteer of the year for the Nature Discovery Area. A motion was made by Bob Armstrong and seconded by Chuck Gould, motion carried.

The results of the local Envirothons are as follows:

High School - Pleasant Valley

JR High 5/6 - Clear Run Intermediate

JR High 7/8 - Pocono Mountain West Junior High

Roger noted that in all his years of Envirothon, this year we had a team that scored a 99 on the soil station, that was un-heard of.

**District Managers Report:** Adam noted several things:

Adam thanked the staff for stepping up and keeping up on the fill sites and making sure all our programs are at full force during this last very busy month.

Adam updated the board on the progress of the ramp repair.

An update was provided on recent issues that occurred with the roof that a full replacement in the near future is likely. Early estimates are around \$54,000. We will seek a temporary solution until it can be replaced.

The Stormwater BMP Tour was a big success which went to Cherry Valley, Ray Price Auto, Mountain View Vineyard and Northampton Community College. Adam thinks it opened up a lot of people's eyes to what is possible and the long term cost benefits if they implement some of these designs.

He attended the Pleasant Valley High School award ceremony last night where the Envirothon team trophy was presented.

We are still working through transitioning Matt to full time educator.

We had about 1,000 attendees for Earth Day, a lot of folks liked it better and it gave a more community feel inside so we are looking into possibly the event being inside again for exhibitors and utilize the immediate courtyard space for some outdoor activities.

Adam and Matt did a Spotted Lanternfly Program for the county department heads as part of the permitting process.

Charlie asked about the status of the PennDot agility agreement. Adam responded we did have our work meeting and we are waiting for a list of services that we can assist them with including under cutting issues behind the Glenbrook Golf Course.

**Financial Report:** Pat asked if there were any questions, there were none. A motion was made by Chuck Gould, seconded by Roger McFadden to accept the financial statement balance sheet, motion carried.

Adam highlighted several items on the invoice list, Pat asked for a motion to approve the invoice list as presented. Roger McFadden made the motion and Chuck Gould seconded, motion carried.

**Other Business:**

Out of County Travel: None

**Cooperating Agency Reports:**

DEP: Shane Kleiner explained he did not have a report this month, he is still doing both jobs and there is no update yet on a replacement for his old position so if we need assistance with anything we can still contact him. Our Growing Greener Grant has been approved, it is currently in Harrisburg and hopefully in the next month or two we will receive it for signatures. He advised that another round of Growing Greener Grants funding will be available at the end of the summer or early fall. Shane will be attending the state Envirothon next week as a judge for the oral component. He went over upcoming trainings, events and new program manuals along with a recap on the DGLVR program status.

Charlie asked about the status of our spending of the DGLVR program, Adam provided an update on the Polk Township project and discussed options moving forward.

BWA: Bob Heil complimented the Stormwater Tour and how his members agreed on the inside location at Earth Day being better.

**Public Comment:** None

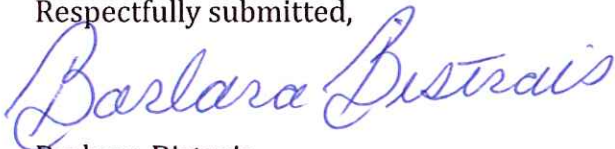
Dave commented on the need to work together and look at issues involving erosion along roadside ditches. Bob Heil commented on a water quality monitoring effort taken on by the

Municipal Sewer Authority. Dave commented on thermal impacts on streams. Adam discussed how the regulations address that and Shane provided information on techniques used by the Center for Dirt & Gravel Roads to address those issues.

Edie mentioned that BWA did a study and just this week she received a report from someone who was doing testing in the headwaters of the Pocono Creek where they were testing the actual run off from Route 380, not only were their high levels of chloride in the ground water when the salt is running off the road, just last week there was high levels of it also. Adam noted that Stroud Water Research has some very concerning studies and data showing that the long term effects from the road salt might not even present itself in immediate run off, it's coming up through groundwater.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:16 am by Pat.**

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Bistras

Administrative Coordinator

**THE NEXT MCCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY,  
June 20, 2019 AT 8:00 AM AT THE MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFICES  
STROUDSBURG, PA.**