



MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2019

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

DISTRICT STAFF: Adam Schellhammer, Barbara Bistras, Emily Paul, John Motz, Roger
Spotts, Josie Bonham-Marino, and Lori Kerrigan

COOPERATING AGENCIES: Ryan Hill, Monroe County Planning Commission; Jennifer
Matthews , NRCS

PUBLIC: Drake Stinson, Borton-Lawson; Bob Heil, BWA; Jack Fossett, Resident; Craig Todd,
Resident; Paula Heeschen, BWA; Mackenzie Strunk, Representative Brown; Fran Ferrari,
BWA

Pat Ross called the meeting to order at 7:56 am.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Charlie Garris
Roger McFadden
Bob Armstrong
Pat Ross
Randy Rice
Dave Moyer

August Meeting Minutes Approval: Pat asked for approval of the August 15, 2019 Board
Meeting minutes. Roger McFadden made the motion, Bob Armstrong seconded the motion,
motion carried.

Technical Report: Lori Kerrigan reviewed the technical site status report for the month of
August. We received 8 new applications. 1 Record of Decision went up to DEP. Chapter
105: 1 application received and 2 applications reviewed. We had the pre-bid meeting for
the Sand Spring Run project. There were 22 potential bidders that attended and walked
the site. The deadline is Monday, September 23, 2019. Michael Wilk and Lori attended a
Water/Wastewater Program put on by the Monroe County Planning Commission, RCAP
Solutions, USDA, and EPA. It focused on the overall health of the water and wastewater
systems, and overall sustainability for the long-term. They highlighted ten key
management areas from operation, finance, infrastructure, and sustainability. It was pretty

well attended by many local organizations. Each organization discussed what was applicable. Good discussion was had on water resource adequacy, sustainability, community and economic development, and stakeholder understanding and support. Discussion was had on ongoing clean fill issues.

Dirt & Gravel, Low-volume Roads Report: John Motz reviewed the D&G/LVR 2019 report. The allocation for the 2019/2020 LVR has been increased to an even \$128,000. Dirt & Gravel project updates: The Game Commission has finished up the Brady's Lake project. Middle Smithfield Township has Firestone Road by Resica Scout Camp prepared for DSA placement. Will start on Monday, September 23, 2019, weather permitting. LVR program: Chestnuthill Township has been waiting for the Game Commission to complete their timber harvest at Hypsy Gap, so that project will happen this fall. County Park Road is undergoing permitting right now. John reviewed the D&G/LVR QA/QC final report. We have spent the allocation for Dirt & Gravel, and we currently have about \$60,000 left for LVR that has not been allocated. We are accepting applications on a rolling basis for these projects. Bob Armstrong asked if every municipality is part of this program. John explained about the training that is required by the program for a member of each municipality to be eligible. Currently, Monroe County has 15 or 16 eligible municipalities. We have worked on projects with the Game Commission, Polk, Middle Smithfield, and Chestnuthill townships to date.

EE Report: Roger reviewed the Environmental Education report for the month of August. We have been working with DCNR on expanding the parking lot at the Meesing site to help with maple sugaring days. A proposal will be written to expand the parking lot, and the small trees will be harvested for maple sugaring firewood. The District will be responsible for removing the trees, and PennDOT will hopefully be completing the project. It is estimated that it will be completed for 20/21's maple sugaring season. It will add approximately 20-25 parking spots.

The Kettle Creek Environmental Fund dinner is September 18th. The money from this event is used for educational programs.

The bird seed sale is October 26th. Those orders are being taken right now. Ordering information is on the website and also in the lobby. Bird seed is sold year-round, but during the sale, it is at a reduced price.

Roger introduced our new environmental educator, Josie Bonham-Marino. She is already involved in the programs.

Roger asked for permission to add Brian Hardiman to the list of contracted services. Pat asked for approval to accept the recommendation to hire Brian Hardiman for contract services. Charlie Garris made the motion, Roger McFadden seconded the motion, motion carried.

District Managers Report: Adam reviewed the District Manager's report for the month of August. The State Conservation Commission Strategic Planning Grant will become

available in October. The amount has increased from \$1000 to \$1500. The process will begin in early 2020.

The next round of Spotted Lantern Fly money will be coming available again in 2020. We have had meetings with the USDA. Ryan Hill and Amber Funk will be trained to help educate the municipalities about the Spotted Lantern Fly.

Adam provided an outline for the review and selection process for awarding contracts for the Sand Spring Run project.

Adam provided an update on Amber's Act 38 training.

Discussion was held on SLF sightings in Monroe County.

Financial Report:

Financial Statement/Balance Sheet: A motion was made by Roger McFadden and seconded by Bob Armstrong to approve the Financial Statement/Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2019 as presented, motion carried.

Invoice Lists: A motion was made by Roger McFadden and seconded by Randy Rice to approve the invoice lists as presented, motion carried.

Adam discussed the interest rates for our bank accounts. Barbara Bistras was able to negotiate a higher interest rate for all of our accounts. Bob Armstrong asked about accepting debit/credit cards for payments, and Adam stated that that will be discussed with the ESSA representative that they meet with.

Other Business:

Out of County Travel: A motion was made by Dave Moyer and seconded by Randy Rice to approve the out of county travel as presented, motion carried.

Ramp repair update: Adam stated that we did not receive any bids for the ramp repair project. He discussed that we will re-advertise January 12th per the suggestion of Peters Consulting. Discussion was held on why they believe we did not receive bids. It was discussed that the possible reason was due to the busy construction season. The new dates should hopefully alleviate the issue.

Senate Bill 619: Adam led discussion regarding Senate Bill 619. He stated that the main concern with this bill is that of the accidental discharge. It discusses numeric water quality criteria; however, some of the contaminants do not have numeric water quality criteria, so this would suggest that there is no limit associated with them. Adam has reached out to

legislators involved, but has not received clear answers and therefore does not know what the intent is. It is vague, and has the potential to cause a lot of impacts on water quality. Pat asked what the Board would like to do regarding the bill. Pat proposed that they would send an email to the legislatures to ask them to explain the bill more clearly before deciding to take a stance. Mackenzie Strunk stated that she will look into the bill. Craig Todd explained that what the bill essentially does is takes the determination of whether there is a violation or not out of the regulators hands and puts it into the permittee's hands.

Cooperating Agency Reports:

NRCS- Jennifer Matthews stated that they finished writing their last contract for 2019.

MCPC – Ryan Hill stated they finished the preserved farmland inspections for 2019. Out of 119 farms, there were four violations noted.

Mackenzie Strunk reiterated that she would look into the Senate Bill 619 further and discuss with Adam what she finds.

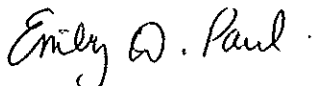
Public Comment:

Craig Todd asked the status of the Associate Director application. Pat stated that they will be reviewed in November because Chuck Gould was not present at this meeting.

Bob Heil expressed his surprise that there is not a big outcry from the drinking water suppliers about Senate Bill 619.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 am by Pat.

Respectfully submitted,



Emily Paul
Office Assistant, Senior

**THE NEXT MCCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY,
October 17, 2019 AT 8:00 AM AT THE MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFICES
STROUDSBURG, PA.**