



Pike County Conservation District

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PIKE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES Monday, February 27, 2023

The Board of Directors meeting was also held via Zoom Video Conference call.
Information regarding the conference call was posted on the District website.

ATTENDANCE:

Directors: Scott Savini, Jay Morrow, John Milliken, Ken Coutts, Kelly Stagen

Associate Directors: Paul Ranello

Staff: Michele Long, Ellen Enslin, Lisa Dolci, Rachael Marques, Chris Meszler, Marianna Quartararo, Jeremy Oettinger

Cooperating Agency Representatives: Janet Creegan, DEP, Jen Matthews, NRCS, Patricia Dawson, Twin and Walker Creek Watershed Conservancy, Matt Deitrich, PA Fish and Boat Commission

Directors/Associate Directors Absent: Commissioner Ron Schmalzle, Mike Spencer, Carole Linkiewicz, Jo Ann Rose

Scott Savini called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

PUBLIC COMMENTS / QUESTIONS AGENDA ITEMS: None

Oath of Office District Directors: Postponed until March meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES of January 23, 2023: Kelly Stagen stated a correction for the January minutes. Under the Associate Directors motion to approve the Associate Directors for 2032, to be changed to 2023. Kelly Stagen made a motion to approve the January 23, 2023, Board Meeting minutes. John Milliken seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Two new Surface computers for staff have been purchased, these items were budgeted for 2023. Report filed, subject to audit.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT: Correspondence included: A thank you letter from Brenda Shambaugh, the Executive Director at PACD for our contribution to the salary survey that has been completed. A letter to Secretary Dunn at DCNR from Michele Long on behalf of the Board of Directors to request grant funding to construct an ecovillage near Lacawac Sanctuary's Environmental Education Center that will be used for environmental education, recreation, and tourism.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: The Chapter 102 Program Evaluation has been completed and the PCSM Agreement has been signed by Michele Long and Scott Savini and sent to the Central Office for processing. The delegation agreement we have for Dirt and Gravel Roads will end in June 2023 and a new delegation agreement will be sent to us that will span over the next five years. DCNR has sent maps of the areas they will be spraying for Spongy Moth this year, as well as the Egg Mass Survey Count that was completed last fall. These maps were sent to the County Commissioners and the Planning Office with the request to have a discussion on how to handle potential calls coming into the county offices. Michele has conducted interviews for the Communications Coordinator, a second interview was done last week, and another second interview will occur tomorrow. The Planning Office has requested a member of our office to sit on the Open Space Study Committee, Michele has recommended Watershed Specialist Rachael Marques. We will be meeting with the Partnership this week to discuss an opportunity with DCNR to take the lead on the coordination of the Pike/Wayne

Partnership meetings. The technical staff are working on comments for the DRAFT Post Construction Stormwater Manual that will be sent out by the end of the week.

OLD BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chapter 102 Program Evaluation, Michele Long – A copy of the evaluation report has been included in this board packet for review. Overall, we scored very well with only minor corrections needed. We will be sending comments to the Central Office regarding the expedited evaluation process after they have been reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Executive Director Search Committee, Kelly Stagen – The committee consists of 3 members, Kelly Stagen, Scott Savini and Jay Morrow. Kelly and Scott will be meeting with Michele today to discuss the timeline and forward the information to Jay. The search committee will be meeting with the staff for their input.

ACAP Delegation Agreement, Michele Long – The Delegation Agreement outlines the District’s duties and responsibilities, the award and use of funds and general conditions. The County will receive \$300k between 2023 and 2026 to install Agricultural Best Management Practices on properties in Pike County with set parameters for the installations. The funds will need to be awarded within the next 24 months and all the funds will need to be spent by December 31, 2026. The next step is to sign the delegation agreement, and open a new bank account for these funds, that will be transferred to the Operating Account as necessary for contracted services and District expenses. A committee will also need to be formed consisting of a Board Member and Staff Member and an NRCS Representative. Kelly Stagen made a motion to approve the ACAP Delegation Agreement. John Milliken seconded. Motion carried. Kelly Stagen made a motion to approve a new bank account for the ACAP Funds. John Milliken seconded. Motion carried. Ken Coutts made a motion to approve the Committee consisting of Kelly Stagen, Ed Vinton, and Ellen Enslin. Jay Morrow seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Cooperating Agency and Other Organization Reports:

PACD – Kelly returned from the NACD National Conference in New Orleans. Other than the salary survey there were no other program updates.

NRCS – Jen Matthews introduced Soil Conservation Technician Deb Basalyga. The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), and Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) assessments and rankings have been completed and they are awaiting selection.

DEP – Janet Creegan discussed the Growing Greener Grants will be open in April. The Statement of Financial Interests are due by May 1st to the Conservation District. They are working on the comments received for the Draft PCSM Manual. The ACAP program will be holding a roundtable meeting every month for District Managers. There is a Pickup PA webinar scheduled for March 3rd at 7 pm, and a Grant Writing Forum at 1 pm on March 3rd. Avian Flu is coming back, it is believed to be linked to manure.

Twin and Walker Lake Creek Watershed Conservancy – Pat Dawson stated that the Conservancy received their PLEON Report that summarizes their efforts for water quality and monitoring for the three lakes: the Twin Lakes and Walker Lake. The report was sent to Michele and Rachael at the Conservation District for their review.

PA Fish and Boat Commission – Matt Deitrich informed us that the stocking for Pike County will begin soon and will go through March, April, and some of May. Stocking was done statewide last Tuesday. Matt has invited the District to accompany him on any of the Pike County stockings, the list of dates and locations is on their website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

PUBLIC/PRESS QUESTIONS: None

ADJOURN: Kelly Stagen made a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors Meeting. John Milliken seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Dolci, Board Secretary