

## MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2024, A.C.C.D. BOARD MEETING

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The monthly meeting of the Adams County Conservation District (District) Board of Directors (Board or BOD) was held on September 26, 2024, at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with a call-in option. Chair, Carl Keller, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. A quorum was met. The following were present in person or by phone (\* if present via phone):

Carl Keller Jr., Chair/ Farm Director  
Adam McClain, District Manager  
Michelle Kirk, Treasurer/Farm Director\*  
Charlie Bennett, Public Director  
Rick Crouse, Public Director  
Christopher Santore, DEP

Ed Wilkinson, Vice-chair/ Farm Director  
Dave Benner, Farm Director  
Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director  
Dean Shank, NRCS  
Susan Landauer, Admin Spec/Board Secretary  
Brock Clouser, Ag Conservation Technician

Adam McClain went over the additional measures the District is taking to maintain transparency: advertised in the Gettysburg Times that Board meetings may be held as virtual meetings, Board meeting agenda was posted in the District Office and on the County website, Board meeting call-in information was posted on the County website and the Ag Center entrance. To join this meeting by phone or for other means to provide public comment, the request must have been received by noon today. Request to join by phone: Michelle Kirk

**Welcome and Roll Call:** Chair, Carl Keller, Jr. welcomed all and a roll call was done by Adam McClain.

**Public Comments:** There were no comments from the public.

**Additional Agenda Items and Flexibility of the Agenda Order:** *Charlie Bennett moved to approve having flexibility of the agenda order and the addition of agenda item 10.1 RC&D Cover Crop Survey. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Approval of Minutes:** *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2024, BOD meeting. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's Report:** *Carl Keller, Jr. reviewed the Treasurer's report for August 2024, found everything to be in order, and recommended that it be filed for audit.*

### **Cooperating Agency Reports:**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** – Dean Shank, Conservation Technician, highlighted the NRCS monthly report.

**Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)** – Christopher Santore, Conservation District Field Representative, highlighted the September 2024 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Ag Center** – Ed Wilkinson shared that new video cable was run to the Pole Building, Frantz Plumbing made some repairs to a toilet and the sump pump, and a solution is needed to prevent squirrels from accessing the roof.

**Dirt, Gravel, Low Volume (DGLV) Roads Program:** Adam McClain shared that Hamiltonban Township requested a contract extension. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the contract amendment to extend the completion deadline for the Low Volume project along Mount Hope Road in Hamiltonban Township to October 31, 2024. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Capital Area Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D):** Adam McClain shared that Sarah Kipp's member-at-large position on the RC&D Board will expire in November 2024. Karen Kaslow, Penn State Extension, is interested in being nominated to fill this position for a 3-year term. *Commissioner Jim Martin moved to approve Ricky Whitmore as an alternate and to nominate Karen Kaslow as a member-at-large on the Capital Area Resource Conservation and Development council. Rick Crouse seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**RC&D Cover Crop Survey Agreement:** Adam McClain reviewed the agreement. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the RC&D Cover Crop Survey Agreement. Commissioner Jim Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP):** Brock Clouser explained the projects and recommended approval of the ACAP applications.

**Dale Byers** – *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the ACAP application with Dale Byers for \$144,000. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Nathan Herr** – *Commissioner Jim Martin moved to approve the ACAP application with Nathan Herr for \$350,000. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**ACAP Funding Update** – Adam McClain shared that the District will be receiving an additional \$853,591 for the fiscal year 2024-2025 from the State budget. This funding will allow us to cover our current projects and accept a few more applications. The expected funding for the fiscal year 2025-2026 is approximately \$600,000.

**Program/Staff Reports:**

Brock Clouser introduced himself to the Board. He is the new Agricultural Conservation Technician. He grew up on a small farm in Red Lion, was recently married, and graduated from York College with an Environmental Science degree in May 2024.

**District Manager** – Adam McClain shared that DEP has expressed interest in funding a Mosquito Borne Disease Control position for Adams County on a seasonal basis in 2025, director nominations for Michelle Kirk and Commissioner Jim Martin should soon be sent out, and the Adams Rescue mission is again offering recycling services but we are currently contracted for 5 years with Waste Connections and would incur a penalty for terminating the contract early. He also shared that PCoRP insurance is to discuss coverage for the District as a county-related entity at their September meeting, he and Ed will be attending a meeting to discuss maintenance of the North Walking Trail that runs through the property, the tree distribution with Adams County Planting Partnership will be held October 18-19, he continues to gather data regarding the Erosion and Sedimentation fees being collected from other Districts for the PAG-02 permit renewals, and gave an update on the PLGIT investments.

**Director Comments:** The members of the Board welcomed Brock Clouser to the District and introduced themselves with a brief history of how they came to be involved with the District.

**Adjournment:** Carl Keller, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Landauer, Administrative Specialist/Board Secretary  
Adams County Conservation District