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**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2024, A.C.C.D. BOARD MEETING**

The monthly meeting of the Adams County Conservation District (District) Board of Directors (Board or BOD) was held on June 27, 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 7:30 PM. A quorum was met. The following were present in person or by phone (\* if present via phone):

Carl Keller Jr., Chair/ Farm Director	Ed Wilkinson, Vice-chair/ Farm Director
Adam McClain, District Manager	Dave Benner, Farm Director
Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director*	Lindsey Bream, NRCS
Michelle Kirk, Treasurer/Farm Director	Charlie Bennett, Public Director
Susan Landauer, Admin Spec/Board Secretary	Mary Smith, Staff Accountant
Rusty Ryan, Resource Conservationist	Zach Green, Resource Cons. Tech
Brian Sneeringer, Ag Conservation Tech	

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: Commissioner Jim Martin

**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:** *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve having flexibility of the agenda order. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Approval of Minutes:** *Dave Benner moved to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2024, BOD meeting. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's Report:** *Michelle Kirk reviewed the Treasurer's report for May 2024, found everything to be in order, and recommended that it be filed for audit.*

**Cooperating Agency Reports:**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** – Lindsey Bream, District Conservationist, highlighted the NRCS monthly report.

**Committee Reports:**

**Ag Center** – Ed Wilkinson shared that McClure was in for their regular maintenance and to replace a fuse box to repair the chiller.

**Dirt, Gravel, Low Volume (DGLV) Roads Program:** Adam McClain shared that Hamiltonban Township requested two contract amendments due to excess water and staffing issues. *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the contract amendment to extend the completion deadlines to September 30, 2024 for both Low Volume projects along Mount Hope Road in Hamiltonban Township. Michelle Kirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

**Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) Applications:** Adam McClain explained the projects and recommended approval of the ACAP applications.

**El Vista** – *Michelle Kirk moved to approve the ACAP application with El Vista for \$69,175.70. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dave Benner abstained from voting and discussion.*

**Multiple applications** - Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the ACAP applications with Wendy Staub for \$79,226, Dave Eiker for \$74,278.60, Suncrest Orchards for \$38,775, Doug Woerner for \$57,471.48, Mark Shannon for \$86,522.70, Three Springs Fruit Farm for \$107,463.40, Farm at Virginia Mills for \$48,959.90, Windside Fruit Farm for \$62,756.10, Meredith Herr for \$615,345, and Benuel King for \$283,227. Michelle Kirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Chesapeake Bay Tech Grant:** Adam McClain reviewed the application for the Chesapeake Bay Technician. Charlie Bennett moved to approve the Chesapeake Bay Technician Grant in the amount of \$127,574.07. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Watershed Specialist Grant:** Adam McClain reviewed the application for the Watershed Specialist. Michelle Kirk moved to approve the Watershed Specialist Grant in the amount of \$55,250.00. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Liability Insurance Carrier:** Adam McClain reviewed the liability insurance coverage policy. Charlie Bennett moved to approve the liability insurance proposal provided by Astra in the amount of \$11,888.70. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Program/Staff Reports:**

**Rusty Ryan** – Rusty thanked the Board and County Commissioners for providing a nice place to work for 31 years. He has enjoyed the job but won't miss the new Chapter 102 program changes. He is appreciative of the family atmosphere at the District, which made coming to work enjoyable. He is looking forward to completing some items on his bucket list.

**Zach Green** – Zach introduced himself to the Board. He is the new Resource Conservation Technician. He recently graduated from Lycoming College and moved to Adams County from York County. He has been completing online trainings, assisting with field reviews, and doing field work with Deb, Christina, and Rusty.

**Brian Sneeringer** – Brian thanked the board for the sympathy card and condolences sent after the recent death of his mother. He also congratulated Rusty on retirement.

**Staff Accountant** – Mary Smith thanked Rusty for always being willing to help anyone and take phone calls when people call in with questions, even if it's not an Erosion & Sediment question.

**District Manager** – Adam McClain thanked Rusty for 31 years of hard work and dedication to the District and Adams County, for believing in the mission of the Conservation District, and hopes that he will enjoy completing his bucket list. He also shared that NRG has offered a 2-day contract option for the Board to consider, the PACD/ State Conservation Commission conference will be held July 17-18 in State College, the July Board packet will be sent a day late in July due to the conference, and staff will be working on 6-month employee evaluations over the next few months. Adam mentioned there is very limited ACAP funds left with more potential projects interested, and the Board may want to consider options for funding these projects.

**Director Comments:** Michelle Kirk noted that it is good to be back and said she is doing well. Commissioner Jim Martin said it was good to hear Michelle's voice and offered congratulations to Rusty. Carl Keller, Jr thanked the Board for the sympathy card. Charlie, Michelle, Ed, Dave, and Carl thanked Rusty for his years of dedication to the District.

**Adjournment:** Carl Keller, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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