MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2026, 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 September 24, 2026, 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
Adam McClain, District Manager
Dave Benner, Farm Director
Lindsay Bream, NRCS
Christopher Santore, DEP
Ed Wilkinson, Vice-chair/Farm Director
Rick Crouse, Public Director
*Commissioner Jim Martin, Commissioner Director
Susan Landauer, Admin Spec/Board Secretary
Charlie Bennett, Public Director

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: *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2026, BOD meeting. Charlie Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: *Ed Wilkinson reviewed the Treasurer's report for August 2026, found everything to be in order, and recommended that it be filed for audit.*

Cooperating Agency Reports:
Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – Christopher Santore, Conservation District Field Representative, highlighted the September 2026 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points.

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

Committee Reports:
Ag Center – Adam McClain shared that, based on our records, there are several offices within the Ag Center who did not collect keys and/or badges from employees after they left employment from their respective offices. Adam mentioned that the situation leaves their respective offices and common areas vulnerable. Adam and Mary Smith are working with each office manager to make sure they are aware who didn't return keys based on our records and to ensure that all badges are deactivated if employees no longer work at the Ag Center. Individual offices will need to determine if they want to have their office locks changed and new keys issued at their expense.

PACD Dues: *Dave Benner moved to approve the PACD Dues in the amount of $3,165.00. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Dirt Gravel Low Volume Roads Program (DGLV): Adam McClain shared the DGLV Quality Assurance Board's recommendations. *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the Dirt and Gravel Roads project on Newman Road in Hamiltonban Township for $146,721.71. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the contract amendment to extend the completion deadline for the Dirt and Gravel Roads project on Dague Road in Mount Joy Township to May 31, 2027. Charlie Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP): Adam McClain explained the JoBo Holstein Farm project and two policy changes that were recommended by staff. *Ed Wilkinson moved to approve the ACAP application and contract with JoBo Holstein Farm for $540,646.20. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Charlie Bennett moved to approve the ACAP policy changes as proposed. Dave Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Program/Staff Reports:
Susan Landauer shared that the tree distribution will take place October 15 and 17 with over 30 plant species grown by local volunteers.

District Manager – Adam McClain shared that the district stewardship award will be given to WAAC at the tree distribution event, Ben Smith has resigned, PCoRP grants was awarded and we will begin contracting our projects when funds are received, and he will be attending the PACD and the Potomac Regional Committee meetings.

Director Comments:
Commissioner Jim Martin shared that CCAP insurance pools are ready to interview 3 finalists for the director position, so there should be a permanent director in place soon.

Executive Session: At 8:25PM, Carl Keller, Jr. announced that the Board will be going into executive session for the purpose of considering entering an agreement for the purchase or lease of real property.

At 8:40PM, the Board reported out of executive session that the Board was considering entering into an agreement for the purchase or lease of real property.

County Lease Agreement: *Charlie Bennett moved to approve the presented lease agreement with the County of Adams. Ed Wilkinson seconded the motion. Commissioner Martin abstained. Motion carried.*

Adjournment: Carl Keller, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 8:43PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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