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NOVEMBER 2019 MINUTES

The Armstrong Conservation District Board of Directors held their monthly meeting at 120 S Grant Ave, Ste 5, Kittanning, PA 16201-1450 on Wednesday, November 20th, 2019.

Chairman Andrew Kimmel called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Directors, Dennis Hawley, Michelle Hickman, Jerry Longwell and DeJay Claypoole; Associate Director, John Linkes and Mike Daquilante; Dave Rupert, District Manager; Cindy Vranka, Office Manager; Dennis DiOrio, NRCS.

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by Dennis Hawley to approve the minutes of October 16, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$195,176.20. Dennis Hawley moved, seconded by Michelle Hickman to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented subject to audit and to pay Outstanding Bills. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Ag Service Center Building Update** – District Manager Dave Rupert reported on the progress. Other potential property options were discussed.
- **2019 Fall Tour** – The fall tour was very well attended. A variety of conservation projects were visited.
- **2020 Draft Annual Action Plan** – Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by DeJay Claypoole to adopt the 2020 Action Plan as presented. Motion carried.
- **Rain Barrel Workshop** – The workshop was well received and due to an overwhelming response, there is a waiting list for 2020. Board discussed that Lenape carpentry students may be interested in making the rain barrel stands for a fund raiser in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

- **ACD / Farmland Preservation MOU** – Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by Michelle Hickman to enter into the ACD / Farmland Preservation MOU. Motion carried. Board member Bill Kronen (farmer member) having 2 years left on his term has indicated that he would like to step down from the farmland preservation board. The board meets every other month at 4:30 pm. If anybody is interested in serving on the Board, they should contact Jessica Schaub for further information.

- **ACD Resolution – Move to NW PACD Region** – Michelle Hickman moved, Dennis Hawley seconded to move from the PACD SW region to the PACD NW region. Motion carried.
- **2020 Associate Directors** – Associate Directors and any conservation minded persons are invited to serve for FY 2020. Those in attendance, Mike Daquilante and John Linkes are willing to serve in 2020.
- **2020 Annual Tree and Seedling Sale** – Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by DeJay Claypoole to conduct the 2020 annual tree sale. Motion carried.
- **2020 Combined Annual Banquet** – Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by Michelle Hickman to participate in the 2020 combined (FSA, NRCS, Penn State, Farm Bureau, and the District) annual banquet. Motion carried. Tickets can be purchased from Penn State Extension and the Farm Service Agency.
- **RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program)** – Open application period is September 3 to December 3, 2019. This standalone program promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value added contributions to expand collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns. Agencies NRCS, Audubon Society, Butler CD, and Armstrong CD will make application. The Audubon Society would take the lead.
- **Potential GG Grants** – GG grant round is open for applications. **Sorce** – 1) Parks Township Sportsmen's Club Streambank Stabilization 2) Cowanshannock Creek Streambank Stabilization 3) ACD Green Parking Lot and Workshop 4) Huling Run Phase II. **Schaub** – Todd Culp Ag BMP Project (Tack Road). Dennis Hawley moved, seconded by DeJay Claypoole to submit the grants for consideration. Motion carried.
- **2020 ACD Cafeteria Plan under IRS Code §125** – This Plan is designed to allow an Eligible Employee to pay for his or her share of Contributions under one or more Insurance Plans on a Pre-tax Salary Reduction basis. This Plan is intended to qualify as a "cafeteria plan" under IRS Code § 125. This Plan Year shall be for a period beginning to 1/1/2020 and ending 12/31/2020. Jerry Longwell moved, seconded by Michelle Hickman to adopt this 2020 Cafeteria Plan. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS – PACD / SCC winter meeting is Wednesday, January 22 to Thursday January 23. PACD is reaching out to persons interested in serving on the PACD Board.

CORRESPONDENCE – Michelle Hickman moved, seconded by Dennis Hawley to make a \$250 donation to support the PA Envirothon. Motion carried.

AGENCY REPORTS – The following agencies / staff provided agency reports: John Greene DEP Field Rep, G Smith DGLVR, H Laird E&S, M Sorce Watershed, J Schaub NM ACT, and Kodie Rearick AmeriCorps Member.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS – Rodney Lowers 21.8 acres, Beef Farm, Kiski Twp. Michelle Hickman moved, Dennis Hawley seconded. Motion carried.

The following **EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLANS** were presented to the District Board for approval / disapproval.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Twp.</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Review</u> <u>By</u>	<u>Status</u>
10/28/2019	Wray Plan Road	Manor/Kittanning	NOT	HL	Pending need more info

The above E&S plan was presented for review and approval by the Board. Jerry Longwell moved and Michelle Hickman seconded the approval of the E&S plan as its status indicates. Motion carried.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS - None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – E&S tech Holly Laird will be in Indiana CD training the new E&S tech for up to three days over the next 2 months.

With no other business to come before the Board, Chairman Andrew Kimmel declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm. Motion carried.

The next scheduled monthly Board meeting of the Armstrong Conservation District is Wednesday, December 18th, 2019 at 5:30 pm at The Meredith Inn, 138 N Water Street, Kittanning, PA.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy L Vranka

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Office Manager for the
Armstrong Conservation District