



May 15, 2024 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Kimmel at 7:03 pm.

PRESENT: Those present were: Directors Andrew Kimmel, Dennis Hawley, Michelle Hickman, DeJay Claypoole, Commissioner John Strate and Spurgeon Shilling; ACD District Manager Holly Laird; NRCS DC Denny DiOrio, and DEP Field Rep Susannah Harris (via Zoom)

PUBLIC COMMENT on AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: Spurgeon Shilling moved with Denny Hawley seconding the approval of the minutes of the April 17, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Commissioner John Strate moved with Spurgeon Shilling seconding the approval of the Treasurer's report as presented, to pay the outstanding bills, approve the needed supplies, and that the treasurer's report be filed for audit. Motion carried. Holly Laird informed the Board that she received SCC approval to use ACD's Special Projects fund to make a payment towards the Armsdale Building's Temporary Demand Note instead of the Penn Vest loan; she also informed the Board that she worked with the Loan Officer, Kelli Wingard, from Elderton State Bank to extend the no-interest period of the mortgage until October 31, 2024; and she also informed the Board that the reimbursement request was submitted for the RACP grant for the Armsdale Building.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Armsdale Update** – Holly Laird provided quotes for an interior and exterior sign for the Armsdale Center. Holly was directed to obtain two more quotes for the sign. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Michelle Hickman to permit Holly to spend up to \$2,000.00 for signage. Motion carried.
 - a. **Riparian Buffer Trail** – Holly Laird informed the Board that a local scout would like to do a trail through the Riparian Forest Buffer with a look out over the wetland as an Eagle Scout Capstone Project. Spurgeon Shilling moved, with Michelle Hickman seconding to permit the construction of a trail and look-out over the wetland area. Holly was directed to check on any liability issues with the insurance carrier. Motion carried.
- b. **Armsdale Open House** – The open house will be held on July 11th from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at 2:00 pm. Holly informed the Board of additional details of the event and was directed to put a food budget together for the event to present to the Board at the June meeting.
- c. **Agricultural Technician Update** – Holly Laird provided an update to the Board stating that Emily Rahalla would start on a part-time basis beginning May 28th.
- d. **2024 County Envirothon** – Holly Laird provided an update to the Board about the Envirothon. West Shamokin took first and second places and Leechburg took third place.

- e. **PMRS Update** – The Board entered into executive session at 7:34 pm to discuss the PMRS tax concerns. At 7:49 pm the Board re-entered the public meeting. The Board directed Holly to seek additional information from the solicitor and auditor. No action was taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Move July Board Meeting from 7/17 to 7/24** – Holly requested that the Board move their July public Board Meeting from July 17th to July 24th so she could attend the SCC/PACD Joint Annual Conference. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Denny Hawley to move the July public board meeting to July 24th. Motion carried. Holly will post the appropriate sunshine notice.
- b. **AmeriCorps Application 2024/2025** – Holly asked the Board's permission to apply for 2 AmeriCorps positions, a 1,700 hour position (\$13,197.33) and a 675 hour position (\$5,207.52). Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Denny Hawley to permit Holly to apply for those two AmeriCorps positions. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Holly provided an update to the Board regarding fundraising efforts to close the funding gap for a new Education Center. Holly also informed the Board of the dates for the DGLVR QAQC and invited Board members and QAB members to attend the QAQC visits. Holly was also directed to hang the Armsdale plaques prior to the open house.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

AGENCY REPORTS: Agency/staff activity reports were mailed/emailed to the Board. Denny DiOrio expanded on his written report during the meeting. Susannah Harris expanded on her written report and informed the Board that DEP Field Reps can provide support during the DGLVR QAQC.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS – None

E&S CONTROL PLAN REVIEWS: The E&S control plans were presented to the Board. Spurgeon Shilling moved with Denny Hawley seconding the approval of the plans as their status indicates. Motion carried.

Erosion and Sediment Plans May 2024 Meeting					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Twp.</u>	<u>Comments:</u>	<u>Rev. By</u>	<u>Status</u>
8/12/2022	Kiskiminetas Township Firehall	Kiskiminetas	NOT	KR	In Progress
5/31/2023	Northpointe Village PRD	South Buffalo	PAD030006	KR	In Progress
4/5/2024	C & G Holsters - Site Development	Cowanshannock	PAC030056	KR	In Progress

NM PLAN REVIEWS: The following Nutrient Management Plans were presented to the Board for approval. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Commissioner Strate to approve Kodie Rearick's recommendation to approve the NM Plan of the Jay Hogg (owner)/Brent Bowser (operator) farm consisting of 371 acres (89 owned) of beef and crops in North Buffalo Township, Armstrong County and

the Tri-County Farm consisting of 128 acres (117 owned) of beef and grain in Wayne Township, Armstrong County with small portions in Indiana and Jefferson Counties. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None

NEXT MEETING: The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 7:00 pm on June 19, 2024 at 124 Armsdale Road, Suite 1 Kittanning, PA 16201.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no further business to come before the board, Chairman Andrew Kimmel declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Holly A. Laird
District Manager
Armstrong Conservation District