



124 Armsdale Road, Suite 1
Kittanning, PA 16201

TEL 724-548-3425
EMAIL conservation@co.armstrong.pa.us
WEB www.armstrongcd.org

March 19, 2025 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Kimmel at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Those present were: Directors Andrew Kimmel, DeJay Claypoole, Denny Hawley, Spurgeon Shilling, and Commissioner John Strate; Associate Director Rocco Ali; NRCS DC Dennis DiOrio, and ACD District Manager Holly Laird.

PUBLIC COMMENT on AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: Spurgeon Shilling moved, with John Strate seconding the approval of the minutes of the February 19, 2025 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Spurgeon Shilling moved with Denny Hawley seconding the approval of the Treasurer's report as presented, that the outstanding bills be paid, and that the treasurer's report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **2025 Tree Sale Update – 4/12** – Holly provided an update to the Board about this year's tree sale stating that orders were due by 3/7 and that pick up day is 4/12 if the Board would like to stop by. The ABCI Beekeepers and PSE Master Gardeners will be setting up at the event.
- b. **State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interests – Due by May 1** - As per State Conservation Commission and State Ethics Commission guidance, Statement of Financial Interests (SEC-1) forms were distributed. Forms are due by May 1 of each year for persons that hold a public position as well as the year following termination of service. Forms for the calendar year 2024 are due to be filed by May 1, 2025. This item will remain as an agenda item until May 1, 2025.
- c. **Armsdale Update –**
 - a. **HVAC Maintenance Proposals** - At the February meeting the Board authorized Holly to pursue quotes for an HVAC maintenance contractor. Holly presented the quotes she received to the Board. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by DeJay Claypoole to hire Trademark HVAC, LLC. Motion carried.
 - b. **Lease** – ABCI Beekeepers approached ACD about renting one office as storage space at the Armsdale Center. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Denny Hawley to offer the space to ABCI Beekeepers for \$50.00/month. Motion carried. Holly will keep the board informed about this matter.
- d. **PMRS Update** – Holly provided an update to the board regarding PMRS. No action was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Agricultural Education Center Update** – Holly provided an update to the Board about the AEC stating the she is working with the engineer to continue to get to final design. A written update was provided to the Board as well.
- b. **Environmental Stewardship Fund Expenditure – Cowanshannock Creek Trail Stabilization Project** – Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Denny Hawley to expend up to \$5,000.00 from the Environmental Stewardship fund towards expenses related to a streambank stabilization project along the Cowanshannock Creek Trail in Rayburn Township. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Holly informed the Board of the Envirothon which will be on 4/30 at the ODC. There was discussion about the legislative breakfast which was held on 3/7. Holly informed the Board that the Orphans of the Storm will be starting their project soon. The Board also discussed their plans for potentially replacing the gray truck.

AGENCY REPORTS: Agency/staff activity reports were mailed/emailed to the Board. Dennis DiOrio expanded upon his written report and gave workload updates, discussed EQIP, and elaborated upon the provided fact sheet for a new FSA Program called ECAP. Rocco Ali informed the Board that North Apollo Borough is working towards compliance with their MS4 permit. Commissioner John Strate weighed in on MS4 requirements and discussed the potential for a County-wide Act 167 plan.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS – None

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

Erosion and Sediment Plans March 2025 Meeting					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Twp.</u>	<u>Comments:</u>	<u>Rev. By</u>	<u>Status</u>
12/9/2024	Good Solar	Wayne	PAC030057	KR	In Progress
12/9/2024	Armstrong JS/HS Athletic Facilities	Manor	PAG02000312005R NOT	KR	In Progress
12/9/2024	West Shamokin High School Field Renovations	Cowanshannock	PAC030010 NOT	KR	In Progress
12/9/2024	157 Ford City Road	South Buffalo	PAC030042 NOT	KR	In Progress
1/2/2025	Hoeter Solar	Cowanshannock	PAC030058	KR	In Progress
1/7/2025	Line P-18 Replacement Project	East Brady	PAD030007	KR	In Progress
1/28/2025	Harvest Community Church	East Franklin	PAC030032 NOT	KR	Approved
2/6/2025	Big Pine Compressor Station Solar	Gilpin	PAC030054, A-1 Major Amendment	KR	Approved
2/21/2025	Cast Iron Water Line Replacement Project	Ford City Borough & Manor Twp	PAC030055, A-1 Minor Amendment	KR	Approved

NM PLAN REVIEWS: None

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 April 16, 2025 at 124 Armsdale Road, Kittanning, PA 16201.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no further business to come before the board, Andrew Kimmel declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Holly A. Laird
District Manager
Armstrong Conservation District*