ARMSTRONG
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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July 15th, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The public meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Michelle Hickman at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Those present were: Directors Michelle Hickman, Jay Hogg, Denny Hawley, Spurgeon Shilling, and Commissioner John Strate. Associate Director Rocco Ali; NRCS DC Dennis DiOrio; DEP Field Rep Kaine Diehl; PFBC WCO's Kyle Wirick and Abby Luteri; Jaysa Stitt and Rich Tice from McCall, Scanlon and Tice; and ACD District Manager Holly Laird.

PUBLIC COMMENT on AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: Dennis Hawley moved, with Spurgeon Shilling seconding the approval of the June 17, 2026 meeting minutes 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.

2025 PRELIMINARY AUDIT PRESENTATION: Rich Tice and Jaysa Stitt of McCall, Scanlon, and tice presented the 2025 Preliminary Audit to the Board for review. The Board did not have any questions regarding the audit. Denny Hawley moved, seconded by Spurgeon Shilling to accept the 2025 audit as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. **Armsdale Update** – Holly did not have anything to bring before the Board for this item.
b. **Agricultural Education Center Update –** Holly informed the Board of the projected schedule for construction. Holly asked for Board approval to seek out donations for the AEC and to begin researching the potential for a 501 c3 non-profit organization affiliated with the AEC.
    i. **Issue Notice to Proceed –** Commissioner John Strate moved, seconded by Dennis Hawley to issue notices to proceed to the four contractors for the Agricultural Education Center. Motion carried. Holly was directed to authorize the notices to proceed to the following contractors: Fred L. Burns, Inc; Junction Climate Control, Inc.; Anderson Plumbing, Inc.; and Mashan, Inc.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. **2025 Preliminary Audit Presentation –** This item was addressed above.
b. **August Meeting –** The Board discussed holding the August meeting at the Dayton Fairgrounds. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by John Strate to move the August Meeting to August 18th at 11:00 am at the Dayton Fairgrounds Main Exhibit Building. Motion carried. Holly will sunshine the meeting.

c. **Dayton Fair –** Holly informed the Board of the staffing hours for the MED at the Dayton Fair and invited Board members to participate.
d. **Awards Banquet, Friday, October 23rd –** Holly informed the Board that the Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Friday, October 23rd at the Worthington Firehall.
e. **SCC UGWF Reserve Account and Special Projects Allocations –** Holly presented her recommendations for the use of FY 26/27 SCC Funds. Spurgeon Shilling moved seconded by Jay Hogg to approve Holly's recommendation of allocating $65,000.00 to the SCC Reserve Account and $12,000.00 to the Special Projects category. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: WCO Kyle Wirick informed the Board of the annual Keystone Lake Clean up scheduled for October 18th, 2026 at 10:00 am. Discussion was had about holding another clean up on Mahoning Lake or Creek. Holly reminded the Board about a roundtable discussion held by Congressman GT Thompson that will take place on July 20th at the ACD office. Holly informed the Board about the following items: REAP would be opening on August 1st; applications are being accepted for the 1,700 – hour AmeriCorps position previously approved by the Board with a tentative start date of September 1st; Holly will work on setting up a meeting with Lenape Tech's co-op program to discuss possibly hosting a co-op student; the PA state budget has passed with no increase to CD funding; and the PACD/SCC joint annual conference is August 3rd – August 6th, Holly is not planning to attend this year unless there is Board interest.

AGENCY REPORTS: Agency/staff activity reports were mailed/emailed to the Board. Kaine Diehl expanded upon the DEP Talking Report. Dennis DiOrio expanded upon the written NRCS report. WCO Abby Luteri provided an update on musky stocking in the Allegheny River. WCO Kyle Wirick provided an update on the Sportsman's Ramp road project at Mahoning Lake, trout stocking in Keystone Lake, and Dayton Fair attendance, stopping at the Sportsman's Road project was discussed as an ACD Fall Tour stop. Commissioner John Strate brought a promissory note to the Board's attention between ACD and the County of Armstrong, a meeting will be scheduled to further discuss.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS – The cooperator agreements were presented to the Board. Spurgeon Shilling moved, seconded by Jay Hogg to approve the agreements. Motion carried.

- Dustin Brocious (Mahoning Township)
    - 120 acres, beef, swine, and equine operation, interested in surface water control, barnyard manure runoff control, grazing plan, and REAP.
- Mellish Farm (Sugarcreek Township)
    - 300 acres, Cash grain and beef operation, interested in grazing plan and ACAP.

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 July 2026 Meeting					
Date	**Name**	**Twp.**	**Comments:**	**Rev. By**	**Status**
8/1/2025	Piney-Seward and Erie South-Piney 115kV Transmission Line Project	Redbank	PAD830002	KR	In Progress
2/18/2026	Rural Valley to Valley Gate Project	Cowanshannock & Valley	ESG830326001-00	KR	In Progress
3/12/2026	PM21 (Brady + 268) Pipeline Replacement Project	Sugarcreek	PAD030010	KR	In Progress
3/20/2026	KP-1 Creek Crossing Replacement Project	South Bend	ESG830326002-00	KR	Issued
6/26/2026	LN-19 Replacment Project	Kiskiminetas & Burrell	ESG83002500-01 Major Amendment	KR	In Progress

NM PLAN REVIEWS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Rocco Ali informed the Board of the Apollo-Spring Church Sportsmen's Club Youth Pheasant Hunt and Youth Field Day.

NEXT MEETING: The Vice-Chair announced that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 11:00 am on August 18th at the Dayton Fairground's Main Exhibit Building. Holly was directed to publicly sunshine the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Vice-Chair Michelle Hickman called an executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss personnel matters. The Board re-entered the public meeting at 8:54 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no further business to come before the board, Vice-Chair Michelle Hickman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly A. Laird
District Manager
Armstrong Conservation District