

**PACD Executive Council Meeting
Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA
July 28, 2016**

Call to Order

President Glenn Seidel called the meeting to order at 1:16 PM.

Roll Call

Secretary Kenneth Meck called the roll. There were 51 delegates present, which constituted a quorum.

Minutes of the Preceding Meeting

Secretary Kenneth Meck presented the minutes of the preceding meeting on February 10, 2016.

It was moved by Bill McFadden (Lehigh) and seconded by Donna Zofcin (Forest) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Motion carried.

President's Report

Glenn Seidel reported that PACD continues to be 66 strong. He suggested that our next goal should be to have a director from every district in attendance at our next statewide meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Brenda Shambaugh, Executive Director, provided the following report:

- She thanked the PACD Executive Board, our partners, and the PACD staff for their support.
- Communication has been a priority, including the expanded monthly rewind report and the PACD advisory committee, as well as developing a new district brochure and a PowerPoint video to help educate new legislators, commissioners, and others.
- Brenda has been visiting districts and district events. Please let her know if there is an event that you would like her to attend.
- Dep. Sec. Dana Aunkst met with each PACD region, and is interested in continuing to meet with the members on a regional basis.
- She thanked the partners who make possible the grant opportunities benefitting both PACD and the membership, including Agricultural Boot Camp, the Engineering Assistance Program, and the 319 Mini-grant Program.
- She reported that we also have support from the Pennsylvania legislature. The district line-items remained stable throughout both the 2015/2016 and the 2016/2017 budget process, thanks to this support.
- There is a great deal of information available on our website (www.pacd.org) to help the membership work with the legislature and local officials. Brenda also reported that she is available as a resource to help plan and attend any district legislative events.
- PACD plans to initiate a program through which an attorney will provide limited legal



services to the conservation districts at a discounted rate. Brenda asked that any members who can recommend an attorney to please let her know.

- She reported that PACD plans to add a conservation technician to the South West office of the PACD Engineering Assistance Program. This technician will be housed at the Somerset County Conservation District, along with Eric Robertson and Phil Gardner.
- PACD has ideas prepared for Growing Greener applications that will benefit the districts.
- Brenda will be working with the legislature throughout their next legislative session beginning in January.

NACD Report

Pat Sueck, NACD Director, reported that we were fortunate to have Jeremy Peters, CEO for NACD speak at the meeting. She recommended a book titled *The Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egen, which talks about the lives of people who lived through the dust bowl, and brings those years of hardship to life. She provided a report on activities at the national level and noted that the NACD Northeast Regional Meeting is coming up in New Jersey August 14-16.

Treasurer's Report

David Crowl, Treasurer, reported that the association has made a great deal of progress. PACD did meet our budget, thanks to the PACD staff, who managed our resources carefully, and the conservation districts. The membership clearly feels that PACD is worth the investment, which is important, as this is your organization.

Report from the Conservation District Managers Meeting

Larry Martick, District Manager for Adams County Conservation District, provided the following report.

- The managers met this morning with over 40 managers in attendance.
- Brenda reported on the PACD advisory committee and stressed the importance of continuing to keep the lines of communication open between the PACD office and the membership.
- The managers discussed district needs for engineering assistance. In order to get more BMPs on the ground, all of the pieces of the puzzle need to work at the same capacity.
- It was suggested that PA develop a white paper explaining what funding is needed to accomplish what is being asked of the districts, and what needs to be done.

Report from the PACD Conservation Committee

Committee Chairman Adam Cotchen reported that the PACD Conservation Committee met on July 27, 2016 with a quorum.

- The committee voted to support the use of properly permitted and treated AMD water for fracking. This policy will come before council later in the meeting.
- The committee discussed possible issues to be considered by the membership at the 2016 fall PACD Region Meetings.
- The committee discussed HB 2114, which proposes to enact a water resource fee on daily water withdrawals in PA and voted to support the concept of a water resource extraction fee that funds water quality improvements, with exemptions for public and agricultural uses.
- The committee discussed HR 908, which calls for a study of new water use fees to fund water quality improvement programs. The committee agreed that well-drafted legislation can be created without need for a study.

- The committee discussed updates to the PACD Policy Procedure, which will go to the upcoming fall region meetings for discussion and review.
- The committee had no motions to bring before the council.

Report from the PACD District Employees Committee

Chairwoman Sandy Thompson reported that the committee met yesterday with a quorum.

- The committee received a report from PACD's Terry Fisher on training opportunities for district staff coordinated by PACD.
- The committee received a report from Terry Fisher that thirty-nine districts have responded to the District Employees Salary and Benefits Survey. Districts will be given to the end of August to submit a completed survey. Results will distributed to managers by the end of September 2016.
- The committee reviewed the Years of Service Awards Program and voted to recommend that PACD purchase additional pins for the program and include a new category for five years of service.
- The committee reviewed a proposal to develop a mentorship program for new district E&S employees and determined that such a program is not needed at this time. Districts are encouraged to ask DEP regional staff for additional training when needed.
- The committee reviewed additional training needs for district staff and identified two areas where additional training is needed, including more comprehensive compliance enforcement trainings and more hands-on training for watershed specialists.
- The committee had no motions to bring before the council.

Report from the PACD Education and Outreach Committee

Chairwoman Laura Anderson reported that the committee met yesterday with a quorum. The committee:

- Reviewed the results of the Act 48 teacher credit survey that 29 districts completed.
- Discussed the conservation district brochure that PACD produced earlier this month.
- Discussed how to best participate in the PA Association of Environmental Educators 2017 conference.
- Heard a wonderful presentation from guest speaker Michele Kittell, Executive Director for the PA Institute for Conservation Education. Michele spoke to us about holding successful conservation camp programs. Her organization holds the Wildlife Leadership Academy which is a week-long statewide program.
- The committee had no motions to bring before the council.

Report from the PACD Legislative Committee

Chairwoman JoAnn McCready reported that the PACD Legislative Committee met on July 27, 2016 with a quorum.

- The committee voted to support the use of properly permitted and treated AMD water for fracking. This policy will come before council later in the meeting.
- The committee discussed possible issues to be considered by the membership at the 2016 fall PACD Region Meetings.
- The committee discussed HB 2114, which proposes to enact a water resource fee on daily water withdrawals in PA and voted to support the concept of a water resource extraction fee

that funds water quality improvements, with exemptions for public and agricultural uses.

- The committee discussed HR 908, which calls for a study of new water use fees to fund water quality improvement programs. The committee agreed that well-drafted legislation can be created without need for a study.
- Brenda Shambaugh provided a report on the state budget, which has been passed, along with the fiscal code, and includes the conservation district line items at the same level as the previous fiscal year.
- The committee discussed updates to the PACD Policy Procedure, which will go to the upcoming fall region meetings for discussion and review.
- The committee had no motions to bring before the council.

Report from the PACD Operations Committee

Chairman Don Koontz reported that the PACD Operations Committee met on July 27, 2016 with a quorum.

- The committee reviewed and forwarded the following items to PACD Executive Council for review: a policy supporting the use of properly permitted and treated AMD water for fracking; all three proposals for the PACD dues structure and amount; and the proposed PACD budget for FY 2016/2017. These items will come before council later in the meeting.
- The committee also voted to support the recommendation of the PACD Ways and Means Committee, which is that PACD Executive Council support Option C, the alternate dues structure with increases over three years. The motion carried (four to three with three abstentions).
- The committee had no motions to bring before the council.

Report from the PACD Ways and Means Committee

Chairman Kenneth Meck reported that the PACD Operations Committee met on July 27, 2016 with a quorum.

- The committee reviewed the year-end financials
- The committee reviewed the draft budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and three year projection, and recommended that it be passed on to PACD Executive Council for approval.
- The committee reviewed three proposals for the PACD dues structure and recommend that Option C be adopted by the Executive Council.
- The PACD Ways and Means Committee had no motions to bring before the Executive Council.

Policy to Support Use of Properly Treated AMD Water for Fracking

It was moved by Bill McFadden (Lehigh) and seconded by Josh Longmore (Luzerne) to approve the following policy:

PACD supports the use of properly permitted and treated AMD water for fracking.

Motion carried.

PACD Dues Structure and Amount

The membership was provided with three options for the PACD dues structure and amount.

It was moved by Jack Tressler (Somerset) and Gus Meyer (Montgomery) to approve Option C.

It was moved by Ed Magargee (Delaware) and seconded by Gus Meyer (Montgomery) to amend the motion to add that future dues increases be made based on a flat rate across all districts. Motion carried.

It was moved by Kerry Fetter (McKean) and seconded by Ed Magargee (Delaware) to amend the amendment to replace “flat rate” with “flat dollar amount.” Motion carried.

The amended motion was put to a vote. A roll call vote was requested. Motion carried 26 for and 25 against.

Ayes: Adams, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Cambria, Carbon, Chester, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Delaware, Elk, Fayette, Forest, Lawrence, Lehigh, Mercer, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Union, Venango, Westmoreland, and Wyoming.

Nays: Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Centre, Columbia, Cumberland, Erie, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, McKean, Monroe, Montour, Potter, Schuylkill, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, York.

Proposed PACD Budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017

The proposed PACD budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 was provided for review.

It was moved by Jack Tressler (Somerset) and seconded by Bill McFadden (Lehigh) to approve the proposed PACD budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2016. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Chairwoman of the PACD Nominating Committee, MaryAnn Warren, presented the slate of candidates.

- President – Glen Seidel, Berks
- 1st Vice President – Don Koontz, Mercer
- 2nd Vice President – Chuck Duritsa, Westmoreland
- Secretary – Joe Dietrick,
- Treasurer – Ken Meck, Lancaster

It was moved by MaryAnn Warren and seconded by Jack Tressler to approve the slate of candidates as presented.

Glen Seidel called for nominations from the floor.

It was moved by Pat Sueck (York) and seconded by (Fayette) to close nominations. Motion carried.

The slate of nominees was put to the vote. Motion carried.

Partner Reports

Fred Fiscus with the PA Department of Environmental Protection reported on behalf of the PA State Conservation Commission (SCC), the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

- From the SCC, please work with your nominating organizations and use the associate director program to identify good candidates for your board.
- DEP reports that completion of updates to the GreenPort has been delayed, but will hopefully be completed by the beginning of the calendar year.
- Also from DEP, Dave Jostenski, drought coordinator for the Commonwealth, will lead a drought task force meeting next Tuesday (August 2). They will receive briefings from DEP and the national weather service and determine whether drought mitigation measures are needed.
- Doug Goodlander with DEP is seeking district board members to serve on the workgroup to help set priorities for the watershed specialist program. The workgroup will meet both face-to-face and via conference call. The current watershed specialist contracts were extended for six months.
- DCNR recently announced their Riparian Forest Buffer Program, which has \$500,000 to provide reimbursable grants to organizations to establish riparian forest buffers. The round opens on August 1 and closes September 15.
- DCNR is also offering an outdoor program, Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps, which offers work experience, job training, and educational opportunities to young people who complete recreation and conservation projects on Pennsylvania's public lands. There is a six-week, summer program for youth between the ages of 15-18 and a 10-month program for young adults ages 18-25

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Jeff Werner, Assistant State Conservationist out of the Clarion office, provided highlights from a written report. In particular, he noted that the USDA NRCS Chief was in Pennsylvania earlier in July and toured sites in western and central PA, including golden warbler sites in Huntingdon, Blair, Juniata, and Mifflin counties. Jeff thanked the districts in those counties for their assistance in putting these tours together.

Adjournment

It was moved by Bob Robinson (Wyoming) and seconded by Lance Bowes (Venango) to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM. Motion carried.