

**PACD North East Region Meeting  
DEP Northeast Regional Office, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
April 5, 2019**

**Welcome and Introductions**

PACD North East Region Director Kelly Stagen welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested a roll call.

*In attendance:* Audrey Wargo (Carbon); Shane Kleiner (DEP); Karen Books (DEP); Tim Ference (Luzerne); John Hanish (Luzerne); Josh Longmore (Luzerne); Adam Schellhammer (Monroe); Chuck Gould (Monroe) Nancy DiFiore (NRCS); Denise Coleman (NRCS); Brenda Shambaugh (PACD); Nathan Brophy (PACD); Andy Wodehouse (PACD); Michele Long (Pike); Kelly Stagen (Pike); Chris Ingulli (Pike); Karl Brown (SCC); Jenna St. Clair (Schuylkill); Jamie Knecht (Wayne); Doug Deutsch (Wyoming); Dorne White (Wyoming); Jim Luce (Wyoming); Bob Robinson (Wyoming); Jennifer Ramey (Susquehanna); MaryAnn Warren (Susquehanna)

**Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting was set for September 27, 2019, at the DEP Northeast Regional Office. Meeting will begin at 10 am.

**Approval of Minutes for the Previous Meeting**

*Motion made by Bob Robinson to approve meeting minutes from the October 12, 2018. Seconded by Jamie Knecht. Motion carried.*

**PACD Update**

Brenda Shambaugh provided an overview of her report which was provided the members of the meeting. The following actions were taken:

**State Budget Proposal:** Shambaugh asked for a motion to approve a policy regarding utilizing ESF to fund the Growing Greener program.

*It was moved by Jamie Knecht and seconded by Tim Ference to approve the following:*

*PACD continues to support utilizing the Environmental Stewardship Fund (ESF) to fund the Growing Greener program and its success in assisting local communities with natural resource projects. We philosophically oppose using funding from the ESF to pay for state agency administrative costs.*

*Motion carried.*



**House Bill 414 – Zimmerman Bill:** HB 414 states if an engineer designs an ESCGP and the application has not been acted upon in 20 days then it would be deemed approved.

*It was moved by Michele Long and seconded by Audrey Wargo to oppose HB 414. Motion carried.*

**House Bill 509 – Third Party Reviews:** HB 509 would allow for third-party permit reviews.

*It was moved by Adam Schellhammer and seconded by Jamie Knecht to oppose HB 509. Motion carried.*

**PACD Ways and Means Committee Motion:** Brenda shared a dues recommendation from the PACD Ways and Means Committee, which was forwarded to the region meetings by the PACD Executive Council.

*It was moved by Adam Schellhammer and seconded by Jamie Knecht to support the following:*

*To increase the dues by \$65 per district for fiscal year 2019-2020, by \$55 per district for fiscal year 2020-2021, and by \$45 per district for fiscal year 2021-2022, with the Ways and Means Committee to review the dues on an annual basis.*

*Motion carried.*

**TAG Engineers Update:** Nathan Brophy and Andy Wodehouse provided an update on the projects they have been working on throughout their regions. Nate and Andy stated that Growing Greener projects remain to be their priority. They are both working on manure management plans.

### **Regional Information Sharing**

Each conservation district shared current activities of concern with the region.

**Carbon** – Audrey Wargo provided the following update: Busy with permit reviews and complaints. Working on spending DGLVR funds. Envirothon will be held the second week of May.

**Monroe** – Adam Schellhammer provided the following update: Growing Greener funding approved for gameland restoration project. Staff working on a Mobile stormwater BMP tour. Working with planning commission and economic development committee to improve communication.

**Schuylkill** – Jenna St. Clair provided the following update: Staff working on Spotted Lanternfly, Mosquito, and tick education and outreach. Strategic planning sessions ongoing. Choosing summer interns.

**Susquehanna** – Jennifer Ramey provided the following update: New staff filling all but 1 District position. Recently completed a contractor’s workshop and are working on a legislative luncheon. Vacancy for a Chesapeake Bay Technician.

**Wayne** – Jamie Knecht provided the following update: Holding a Legislative Breakfast at the Wayne County Historical Society building. Hired a consultant to do a wage study across the County which resulted in District staff receiving significant salary increases. Ag. Feasibility study completed and now looking to build new slaughterhouse and frozen food facilities.

**Wyoming** – Doug Deutsch provided the following update: Contractors workshop held with over 200 attendees. Seedling sale upcoming. Working with NRCS on Flood Mitigation Project (PL 566)

**Luzerne** – Josh Longmore provided the following update: Discussed the importance of a strong staff and effective teamwork. Restarting mosquito borne-disease program.

**Pike** – Michele Long provided the following update: Starting an internship program. Staff working on community association outreach program. Looking to fill a public board of director position due to a recent resignation.

### **Partner Reports**

**SCC** – Karl Brown provided an overview of his report and handouts provided to the members of the meeting. DGLVR funding and old 5-year agreement spending requirements were discussed.

**NRCS** – Nancy DiFiore and Denise Coleman provided a brief review of the NRCS submitted report. Pennsylvania NRCS FY 2018 Accomplishments report was provided to the members of the meeting.

**DEP** – Karen Books provided an overview of her report. Armstrong and Lycoming counties recommendations for changes to CDFAP allocations were discussed.

### **Ajournment**

*Motion made by Bob Robinson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Michele Long. Motion Carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.