

PACD North East Region Meeting DEP Northeast Regional Office, Wilkes-Barre, PA September 27, 2019

Welcome and Introductions

PACD North East Region Director Kelly Stagen welcomed everyone to the meeting and called roll.

In attendance: Audrey Wargo (Carbon); Shane Kleiner (DEP); Karen Books (DEP); Tim Ference (Luzerne); Jack Hanish (Luzerne); Josh Longmore (Luzerne); Adam Schellhammer (Monroe); Chuck Gould (Monroe); Lori Kerrigan (Monroe); Nancy DiFiore (NRCS); Dan Dostie (NRCS); Jen Matthews (NRCS) Brenda Shambaugh (PACD); Nathan Brophy (PACD); Andy Wodehouse (PACD); Michele Long (Pike); Kelly Stagen (Pike); Chris Ingulli (Pike); Karl Brown (SCC); Jamie Knecht (Wayne); Jack Barnett (Wayne); Doug Deutsch (Wyoming); Dorne White (Wyoming); Bob Robinson (Wyoming); Jennifer Ramey (Susquehanna); Jerry Stiles (Lackawanna).

Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for April 3, 2020, at the DEP Northeast Regional Office at 10 am.

Approval of Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Motion made by Bob Robinson to approve meeting minutes from the April 5, 2019. Seconded by Michele Long. Motion carried.

PACD Update

Brenda Shambaugh provided an overview of her report which was provided to those present. The following actions were taken:

Motion made by Adam Schellhammer to support the PACD Conservation Committee motion, "PACD supports legislation to raise Pennsylvania's clean fill standards to be in line with New Jersey, New York, and other neighboring states", as stated. Seconded by Michele Long. Motion carried.

Motion made by Adam Schellhammer to support the PACD Conservation Committee motion, "PACD opposes legislation allowing for unreported discharges, spills or releases into waters of the Commonwealth that are not authorized by a DEP permit", as stated. Seconded by Michele Long. Jerry Stiles abstained stating insufficient information has been provided regarding proposed legislation to make an informed decision. Dorne White stated he did not support this motion due to insufficient information regarding the proposed legislation. Motion carried.

Engineering Assistance Program Update: Nathan Brophy and Andy Wodehouse provided an update on the projects they have been working on throughout their regions.



Regional Information Sharing

Carbon – Audrey Wargo reported that the spotted lanternfly population appears to be increasing in the county and they're planning education and outreach. The district is working with a developer on a wind turbine project. The district's environmental center was busy with educational programs this summer.

Monroe – Adam Schellhammer reported that technical staff has been busy with calls about contaminated fill. The district has two new educators, one new administrator, and one new ag. technician on staff. Spotted lanternfly has been working its way north through Monroe county towards Pike county.

Lackawanna – Jerry Stiles reported that several Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road projects currently being completed. The district purchased an ag. grade lime spreader that hasn't been used and can loan the equipment to surrounding counties if needed.

Susquehanna – Jennifer Ramey reported that their new watershed specialist and resource conservationist start next week.

Wayne – Jamie Knecht reported that the district had a successful farm tour with approximately 70 participants. Two cases of dead adult spotted lanternfly in the county.

Wyoming – Doug Deutsch reported that agriculture day was completed last week. Working on several NPDES projects and Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road projects.

Luzerne – Josh Longmore reported that the district is working on spotted lanternfly education and outreach. Staff have been busy completing Growing Greener grant projects. District is in the process of reducing the directors on the board from nine to seven.

Pike - Michele Long reported that the district is going to be updating their strategic plan. Staff are working to develop an annual education and outreach plan for the coming year. New communications coordinator began in September. Staff has been reviewing the Beaver County Chapter 102 evaluation by DEP to make sure that required output measures are being met and procedures are being followed.

Partner Reports

SCC – Karl Brown provided an overview of his report and handouts provided to those present.

NRCS – Nancy DiFiore and Dan Dostie provided a brief review of the NRCS submitted report and handouts provided to those present.

DEP -Karen Books provided an overview of her report provided to those present.

Adjournment

Motion made by Audrey Wargo to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jamie Knecht. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:11 pm