

**PACD District Employees Committee
Zoom Meeting
July 8, 2022
1:00 PM**

Minutes

Welcome and Roll Call

Sandy Thompson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Committee members in attendance: Sandy Thompson, McKean County; Jenna St. Clair, Schuylkill County; Lance Bowes, Venango County; Kate Wehler, Elk County; Jeff Pflug, Beaver County; Janis Long, Indiana County.

Guests in attendance: Brenda Shambaugh, PACD; Holly Miller, PACD; Matt Miller, PACD; Karl Brown, SCC; Shane Kleiner, DEP, Janet Creegan, DEP, Caitlin Skibiell, DEP.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed for review.

There was no quorum; therefore, a motion was not made to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2022, meeting.

Conservation District Training Opportunities – PACD

Holly Miller, PACD Program Manager, shared information on training opportunities coordinated by PACD and provided a list showing 2022/2023 training opportunities offered by PACD.

Leadership Development Program – Matt Miller

Matt Miller, PACD Leadership Development shared information on 2022/2023 training opportunities coordinated by PACD and Leadership Development.

Salary and Benefits Survey

There has been interest in developing another conservation district staff salary and benefits survey like the one that was distributed in 2019.

A sub-committee of volunteers was formed to work on the survey. Salary and benefit information will be collected and compiled for conservation districts to reference. Members of the sub-committee are:

Sandy Thompson
Kate Wehler
Jenna St. Clair
Holly Miller

NACDE Award Nomination

Allegheny County Conservation District would like to nominate Jon Burgess for NACDE's Conservation Award. In the past, the committee has signed the nomination form. Brenda will reach out to Allegheny to get a completed form that the committee chair will sign.

Identify and Assess District Staff Needs

Kate asked for the status on timber harvesting training. Holly gave a report that PACD is in the beginning stages of developing a short training with DCNR and DEP. This training will cover timber harvesting safety and general site visit information. It will not cover updates or changes to the program.

Sandy gave an update on the NE NACD Region Meeting. The 2022 meeting will be held in Cambridge, Maryland from August 28-Aug 31, 2022. Sunday, the first day, will be a tour which will be a fundraiser event for them. We would like many folks to attend, if possible, to really make PA stand out. Sandy also serves on many of NACD's committees including the invasives species committee and gave a brief report of some of their work.

Brenda gave an update on the State Budget. Both the DEP and PDA Conservation District Fund line items were increased by 300%. The Senate and Governor will pass the bill next. There is also a lot of money going toward a Growing Greener 3 Grant and BMPs. Logistics will be forthcoming. Sandy asked about PRISMs and Brenda said she will look into it more to determine if it is in the fiscal code. Kate asked about the procedure for disbursing the funds. Brenda described that DEP and PDA send the funding to the SCC and then a formula is used to determine how the funding is distributed to the conservation districts. Karl mentioned that the SCC doesn't have enough information at this time to indicate how the funding will be distributed.

Shane asked if the Growing Greener funding needs to be spent within 3 years. Karl mentioned that he received an email stated FY2026 as the deadline.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 PM.