

PACD District Employees Committee

Zoom Meeting

July 12, 2023

1:30 PM

Minutes

Welcome and Roll Call

Jamie Knecht welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM.

Committee members in attendance: Jamie Knecht, Wayne; Jenna St. Clair, Schuylkill; Kristina Heaney, Monroe; Ray Gormon, Cambria; Sandy Thompson, McKean; Robert Shannon, Centre; Jeff Pflug, Beaver

Guests in attendance: Brenda Shambaugh, PACD; Holly Miller, PACD; Matt Miller, PACD; Chris Thompson, Lancaster

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed for review.

It was moved by Robert Shannon and seconded by Kristina Heaney to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

Conservation District Training Opportunities – Holly Miller, PACD

Holly Miller, PACD Program Manager, shared information on training opportunities coordinated by PACD and provided a list showing 2023 & 2024 training opportunities offered by PACD.

Leadership Development Program – Matt Miller, PACD

Matt Miller, PACD Leadership Development shared information on 2023 & 2024 training opportunities coordinated by PACD and Leadership Development.

Northeast Conservation District Employees Association Delegate and Alternate

Sandy Thompson reported that she is interested in stepping back into the alternate role. Doug Beri from Indiana County is interested in serving as the delegate for the NE Conservation District Employees Association and he has attended the strategic planning meeting that took place in June.

Identify and Assess District Staff Needs

Timber Harvesting:

Sandy asked if there has been any update on a timber harvesting training workshop for conservation district staff.

Jamie Knecht notified the group that in the past, Wayne County Conservation District made timber harvesting videos for the PA Clean Water Academy. They have not been posted but Jamie mentioned that Wayne would be willing to help with that effort again if others were interested.

Jamie also included that Wayne County Conservation District will be hosting a week-long Timber 101 Workshop. More information to come.

Teleworking:

Chris Thompson asked about telework and if it could be discussed at an upcoming meeting. Matt suggested talking about it at the managers meeting in August and at the Management Summit in September.

Salary Increases:

Rob Shannon said that Centre County Conservation District was able to provide a 2-grade pay increase for all of their technicians using the salary survey conducted last year. He asked if we could determine how many districts were also successful in achieving pay increases.

Brenda acknowledged that there is more push back for county conservation districts as opposed to independent. PACD can send an email to the managers list serve to collect responses related to salary increases.

Jenna St. Clair discussed the status of Schuylkill County Conservation District's transition from county to independent.

Conservation District Insurance:

The group also discussed the importance of carrying additional insurance for the conservation district.

Sandy offered to provide the committee report at the JAC.

Adjourn

It was moved by Sandy Thompson and seconded by Jeff Pflug to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 PM.