

PACD North East Region Meeting
The Lands at Hillside Farms Education Center, Shavertown, PA
October 4, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

Region Director Tom Herbert welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He invited all attendees to introduce themselves.

In attendance in person and virtually: Chris Storm, Carbon; Tom Herbert, Luzerne and PACD; Jack Hanish, Luzerne; Jay Wilkes, Luzerne; Josh Longmore, Luzerne; Keith George, Luzerne; Kristina Heaney, Monroe; Craig Todd, Monroe; Kelly Stagen, Pike and PACD; Tara Mlodzienski, Pike; Jennifer Ramey, Susquehanna; Don Hibbard, Susquehanna; Lillian Theophanis, Susquehanna; Jamie Knecht, Wayne; Jack Barnett, Wayne; Doug Deutsch, Wyoming; Dorne White, Wyoming; Brenda Shambaugh, PACD; Amy Brown, PACD; Gloria James, PACD; Susan Parry, NRCS; Jennifer Mathews, NRCS; Doug Wolfgang, SCC; Jaci Kerstetter, DEP; Janet Creegan, DEP; Cait Skibiell, DEP

Election of Region Director

Brenda Stambaugh acted as Chair Pro Tem for this agenda item. She requested nominations for North East Region Director from the floor.

It was moved by Jennifer Ramey and seconded by Craig Todd to nominate Tom Herbert as North East Region Director. Having received no other nominations, the Chair Pro Tem called the vote on the election of the nominee, and Tom was elected unanimously.

Brenda congratulated Tom and handed the meeting back over to him as the newly re-elected Chair.

Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the Monroe County Conservation District, Stroudsburg, PA, at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were provided to those in attendance.

It was moved by Jennifer Ramey and seconded by Dorne White to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

PACD Business and Report:

Executive Director, Brenda Shambaugh reviewed her written report and addressed the following:

- She introduced new PACD staff members Gloria James and Ian Abernathy.



- Brenda asked the attendees about their districts' preferences for a virtual or in-person Winter Meeting. The consensus was a preference for a virtual meeting.
- Brenda reported that the Executive Board would like to encourage more district director attendance at the Joint Annual Conferences and is inviting input on the location of next year's conference.

PACD Legislative Committee Motion

The committee passed the following motion at their June 2023 meeting:

PACD recognizes the significant environmental benefit of streambank fencing, in a pasture used for grazing, to restrict livestock access to the stream. PACD supports education and incentives for voluntary installation of streambank fencing as opposed to legislation allowing administrative agencies of the Commonwealth and municipalities to require fencing along a stream.

Brenda explained that each PACD region must consider the motion before it can be presented at the January 2024 Executive Council meeting.

It was moved by Tom Herbert and seconded by Jamie Knecht to approve the PACD Legislative Committee's motion. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried with Monroe CCD voting no and all other districts voting yes.

Regional Information Sharing

A representative from each district present provided a verbal update and shared items of general interest to the regional members.

Partner Reports

- *Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Report*
Jaci Kerstetter, Janet Creegan, and Cait Skibiel gave a verbal review of highlights from the DEP written report.
- *PA State Conservation Commission Report*
Doug Wolfgang handed out a SCC written report and gave a verbal review of highlights.
- *USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report*
Jen Matthews and Susan Parry gave verbal reviews of highlights from NRCS's written report. Brenda thanked NRCS for its partnership with PACD on training opportunities and encouraged districts to express appreciation to NRCS leadership as well.

Adjournment

It was moved by Jennifer Ramey and seconded by Craig Todd to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.