

**PACD Ways and Means Committee  
Video Conference Minutes  
January 22, 2025**

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Chairwoman Sonia Wasco called the meeting to order with a quorum at 10:01 a.m.

*Committee members in attendance:* Sonia Wasco, PACD Treasurer/Lancaster; Emil Bove, Westmoreland; Dean Druckenmiller, Berks; Steve Taglang, Cumberland; John Dryzal, Cambria; Lisette Lane, Venango, Nathan Brophy, NCCD, Cliff Lane, McKean, Tom McClure, Erie.

*Guests in attendance:* Amy Brown, PACD; Brenda Shambaugh, PACD, Roxanne Dohner, PACD; Dennis Beck, PACD, Abby Frey, Columbia, Daniel Hausman, PACD, Thomas Herbert, PACD, Christopher Thompson, Lancaster, Jeff Werner, USDA/NRCS, Dave Stoner, Franklin, Yuri Plowden, NRCS.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the July 11, 2024, meeting were provided for review.

*It was moved by Cliff Lane and seconded by Tom McClure to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024; meeting as presented. Motion carried.*

**Review of FY 2024-2025 mid-year Financial Reports**

- Several items were highlighted by Sonia and Amy who provided comments and/or explanations.
- The Operating Account has caught up with the receiving of long-awaited reimbursements.
- We moved money from FNB Capital Fund to PA Invest due to higher interest rates.
- Assets are decreasing as we use Working Capital received from the grants. – After June 2025, we will only have 1 Growing Greener Grant open.
- Regarding the Liabilities – Insurance differences are due to employee paid portions which we cannot predict/control.
- The TAG grant is now 50 NRCS/50 GG which changes the increase in Admin costs.
- Certified Planner and NACD Employee expenses are also trending higher.
- PACD Audit on the budget will be dispersed to appropriate grants when audit is completed.
- Bank Charges – Interest received offsets some of these costs. We will investigate lowering minimum balances on accounts.
- Grant Budget
  - Admin fees and PACD wages are higher.
  - E&S equipment – leftover monies carry forward every year. Any expenses for E&S equipment are fully reimbursable.
  - Lawn Conversion received \$40,000 in Working Capital and we received more than \$200,000 to move forward.
  - JAC expenses – This is a 2-year budget, and we have profited a small amount from JAC 2024.
  - APRP SCC Reimbursement is \$1,000,000.00. So far, we have 55 new plans which consist of 7,500 acres, 1/3 farmland preservation.



Sonia will file the Financial Report subject to Audit.

**Discuss the Responsibilities of the Ways and Means Committee**

- Sonia opened the floor for comments for new sources or new grant opportunities with no response.
- The board will discuss the Dues Proposal in the next meeting.

**Review and discuss PACD's current dues structure and make recommendations for the next 3 years.**

PACD is struggling to meet demands under the current dues structure. Recommendations were requested.

- Communication between Districts and PACD should be increased.
- 3-year plan to help Districts plan financially.
- Seek more District involvement with PACD to bring understanding of need for increased dues.
- Explanation of PACD time verses Grant Admin time is shown on staff timesheets.
- Discussion of an across-the-board percentage increase versus a numerical increase which would need to be presented and approved by the Executive Council.
- Discussion to show the districts how PACD benefits them.
- District Dues structure is discussed at Spring Region Meetings and final vote will take place in July.

**Current Grant Reimbursements**

- Several grants will be ending but looking into other grant opportunities. The exiting grants should not have a huge effect on the budget.
  - CREP has declined but Districts have received Funding through DEP for Education and Outreach if requested.

**Other Items**

- JAC – Discussion regarding the need for subcommittees for sponsorship. Molly has committees set up for this.
- Discussion for more interests needed for Districts attendance.

**Adjournment**

*It was moved by Emil Bove and seconded by Steve Taglang to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.