

**PACD Northwest Region Meeting Minutes
Lawrence County Department of Public Safety
April 17, 2025**

Welcome and Introductions

North West Region Director Cliff Lane welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

In Attendance: Cliff Lane, PACD; Amy Brown, PACD; Matt Miller, PACD; Cassie Daniels, PACD; Danielle Kalp, PACD; Josh Ferraro, PACD; Laurel Rush, SCC; Karen Books, DEP; Don Koontz, Mercer; Jay Russell, Mercer; Rebecca Siko, SCC; Jeff Werner, NRCS; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Heather Smeltz, NRCS; Donna Zofcin, Forest; Mary Burris, Lawrence; Taylor Null, DEP; Tracey Crawford, Crawford; Ron Lybrook, DEP; Holly Laird, Armstrong; Danielle Rihel, DCNR; Mark Critz, PDA; Kate Wehler, Elk; Katie Stover, Warren; Shaun Wessell; Ian Harrell, Butler; Lisette Lane, Venango; Carl Deluca, DEP; Doug Wolfgang, SCC; Dennis Beck, PACD; Ron Rohall, PACD.

Following introductions of all present, Cliff Lane presented a statement from the PACD Executive Board regarding the PACD budget and dues.

Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on September 29, 2025 at a location to be determined, hosted by Elk County Conservation District.

Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.

It was moved by Donna Zofcin and seconded by Mary Burris to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on September 12, 2024 as presented. Motion carried.

PACD Business and Report

A written report was provided. Acting Director Amy Brown provided a verbal report on behalf of PACD.

The group discussed PACD dues and reviewed the proposed three-year dues schedule proposed by the PACD Executive Board. No action was taken.

Leadership Development Manager Matt Miller provided an update on the PACD strategic planning process and encouraged everyone to complete the PACD 2025 Membership Survey.



NACD Board Member Cliff Lane noted the upcoming NACD Northeast Region Meeting and encouraged the districts to send someone to represent their county.

Regional Information Sharing

Each district provided an update on programs and activities.

Partner Reports

PA Department of Agriculture (PDA)

Mark Critz, Western Regional Director and Executive Director of the Rural Development Council, provided a report on behalf of PDA.

PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

A written report was provided. Water Program Specialist Karen Books, Conservation District Field Representative Taylor Null, and Environmental Program Manager Ron Lybrook provided a report on behalf of DEP.

PA State Conservation Commission (SCC)

Executive Secretary Doug Wolfgang and Regional Nutrient Management Program Coordinator Laurel Rush provided a report on behalf of the SCC.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

State Conservationist Denise Coleman, Assistant State Conservationist for Operations Western Pennsylvania Jeff Werner, and Assistant State Conservationist for Water Resources Heather Smeltz provided a report on behalf of NRCS.

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)

Regional Watershed Forestry Specialist Danielle Rihel introduced herself and provided a brief overview of the programs and funding available through the PA DCNR.

Adjournment and Lunch

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.