

**PACD Education and Outreach Committee Meeting**  
**Held Virtually**  
**June 24, 2025 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

*Committee Chair Laura Anderson*

*Committee Members in Attendance: Laura Anderson, Kristen Currier, Dominic Degidio, Laura Hopek, Jen Novak, Barbara Peace, Kelly Stagen*

*Guests in Attendance: Amy Brown, Kelly Davidson, Walt Dietz, Lisa Dolci, Dean Druckenmiller, Amidea Daniel, Shannon Wehinger (notetaker)*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. There was a quorum.*

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chairperson Laura Anderson called the meeting to order.

**Approval of January 14, 2025 Minutes**

*The minutes of the previous meeting on January 14, 2025 were provided to members to review.*

*It was moved by Kelly Stagen and seconded by Jen Novak to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on January 14, 2025. Motion carried.*

**PACD Updates**

The PACD Director of Communications & Education, Shannon Wehinger, gave an update on the PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Conference. The conference was held in Hershey in May. The conservation district booth was located in the hallway outside the main ballroom in a high-traffic area. The booth space is provided by PSATS for free, although we do pay \$40/person for name badges. The conservation district booth would not be possible without conservation district volunteers.



Ag Progress Days is coming up in August. The conservation district booth has 2 openings for volunteers on Tuesday, August 12, from 3-5 p.m. and Wednesday, August 13, from 5-7 p.m.

The PACD Water Resource Trainer, Kelly Davidson, gave an update on the Clean Water Academy. Kelly provided an update on new courses and the number of courses completed. She also told the committee about the three new onboarding checklists available at Clean Water Academy. There will be a lunch and learn this week with the Alliance from the Chesapeake Bay. The next one will be in September.

### **Trout in the Classroom**

Amidea Daniel, TIC Coordinator/Northcentral Region Outreach Education Coordinator, PA Fish & Boat Commission, presented a brief overview of Trout in the Classroom in PA and its outreach impacts then and now.

The program is in 62 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Twenty-one conservation districts are currently partnering with 46 classrooms across the state. Local chapters of Trout Unlimited, conservation districts, and watershed organizations are partners in the program.

Teachers are the ones responsible for connecting with the program, participating in a workshop, and providing reporting. The program now requires that teachers have a local program partner (such as a conservation district). Program partners can help find sponsors, coordinate the release event in the spring, and provide educational programming. It's up to the program partner what level of support they want to provide.

Wyoming County Conservation District is a partner with three schools. They coordinate a release day. It's a great way for districts to build partnerships with school teachers.

The program is free, but the start-up cost for the 55-gallon aquarium (minimum), chiller, filter, water monitoring kit, etc. is \$1,500-2,300. Looking for sponsors is encouraged.

More information is available at [www.patROUTIntheClassroom.org](http://www.patROUTIntheClassroom.org).

### **New Business**

Shannon Wehinger mentioned that the new PACD strategic plan should be completed in time for the fall region meetings. It was suggested that the committee consider reviewing the plan and finding ways to assist in implementation with any education and outreach activities.

### **Adjourn**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.*

