

**PACD Conservation Committee
Videoconference Minutes
January 7, 2026**

Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Josh Longmore welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM with a quorum present.

Committee members in attendance: Piper Sherburne, Berks; Dan Miloser, Chester; Daryl Miller, Bradford; Dave Stoner, Franklin; Holly Laird, Armstrong; Jim Coslo, Centre; Josh Longmore, Luzerne; Matt Long, Lycoming; Vincent McCollum, Cumberland

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were provided for review.

It was moved by Dan Miloser and seconded by Dave Stoner to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on June 18, 2025. Motion carried.

Presentation: The Data Center Puzzle: Understanding Current Land, Water, and Energy Claims

Jim Ladlee, State Program Leader, Emerging & Advanced Technology, Penn State Extension, provided a presentation on data centers.

Communities across Pennsylvania are weighing the opportunities and pressures that come with large data centers. At the same time, public conversation is often muddled by conflicting claims about water use, electricity demand, and land requirements. The Data Center Puzzle webinar is designed to help unpack these issues and clarify what the current evidence shows.

The session focused on the intersection of water, energy, agriculture, and large language models/generative AI data centers, looking at how data centers use water, what cooling strategies are common, and the factors that shape true water consumption. It also covered electricity demand, grid considerations, and how rapid AI growth may influence future power needs based on the best information available. The webinar also explored what data center infrastructure looks like on the ground and the potential implications for agriculture.

Finally, Mr. Ladlee discussed why confusion persists and how misleading comparisons, incomplete reporting, and inconsistent definitions can complicate local discussions, making it hard to sort fact from fiction. Overall, the presentation provided a clearer picture of energy, water, and land use claims, the realities, and the questions that remain.



Q&A and Discussion

Participants were given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss salient points from the presentation. Molly Burns reported that a link to the recording would be provided, along with informational links provided by the presenter. Chair Josh Longmore, PACD staff, and participants thanked Mr. Ladlee for the excellent presentation.

Adjournment

It was moved by Holly Laird and seconded by Dan Miloser to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 AM. Motion carried.