



April 17, 2024 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Kimmel at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Those present were: Directors Andrew Kimmel, Dennis Hawley, Michelle Hickman, DeJay Claypoole, and Spurgeon Shilling; Associate Directors Rocco Ali, Ben Kimmel, and Jay Hogg; ACD District Manager Holly Laird; PFBC WCO Kyle Wirick, Terry Boswer, NRCS DC Denny DiOrio, and Andrea Verobish of Congressman Thompson's Office (via Zoom)

PUBLIC COMMENT on AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: Spurgeon Shilling moved with Denny Hawley seconding the approval of the minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Spurgeon Shilling moved with Michelle Hickman seconding the approval of the Treasurer's report as presented and that the treasurer's report be filed for audit. Motion carried. Holly Laird informed the Board that she is seeking SCC approval to use ACD's Special Projects fund to make a payment towards the Armsdale Building instead of the Penn Vest loan.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Armsdale Update** – Holly Laird provided an update to the Board about Armsdale including that the blinds approved at the last meeting had been installed, the seeding and mulching had been completed, and that the Building Committee had approved the expenditure of \$900.00 for the purchase of landscape mulch.
- b. **Armsdale Open House** – Holly Laird informed the Board that NRCS and FSA would like to come to the Open House and provide educational materials. Holly was directed to contact the other agencies and bring a date to the Board for the May meeting.
- c. **State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interests - Due by May 1** – As per State Conservation Commission and State Ethics Commission guidance, Statement of Financial Interests (SEC-1) Forms were distributed. Forms are due by May 1 of each year for persons that hold a public position as well as the year following termination of service. Forms for the calendar year 2023 are due to be filed by May 1, 2024. This item will remain as an agenda item until May 1, 2024.
- d. **2024 Tree Sale Update** – Holly Laird provided an update to the Board about the tree sale. Pick-up day was 4/13 and everything went well.
- e. **Agricultural Technician Position** – Holly Laird provided an update to the Board stating that Emily Rahalla had accepted the offer and will start on a part-time basis effective 5/28/24 and will become a full-time employee upon the completion of her current AmeriCorps term.
- f. **2024 County Envirothon** – Holly Laird reminded the Board that the Envirothon will be held on 4/24 and that the Board is welcome to volunteer at the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **PMRS Update** – This item was deferred to an executive session after the public meeting.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Holly Laird provided an update to the Board regarding the award of \$594,000 through Senator Casey’s office as Congressionally Directed Spending. Holly was directed to continue pursuing additional grants for an Education Center. Holly Laird also provided an update to the Board about the Legislative Breakfast held on 3/22.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

AGENCY REPORTS: Agency/staff activity reports were mailed/emailed to the Board. Andrea Verobish expressed her thanks of being included in the Legislative Breakfast event. Denny DiOrio expanded on his written report informing the board of the Emergency Watershed Protection program.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS – None

E&S CONTROL PLAN REVIEWS: The E&S control plans were presented to the Board. Spurgeon Shilling moved with Denny Hawley seconding the approval of the plans as their status indicates. Motion carried.

Erosion and Sediment Plans April 2024 Meeting					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Twp.</u>	<u>Comments:</u>	<u>Rev. By</u>	<u>Status</u>
8/12/2022	Kiskiminetas Township Firehall	Kiskiminetas	NOT	KR	In Progress
5/31/2023	Northpointe Village PRD	South Buffalo	PAD030006	KR	In Progress
8/1/2023	Family Dollar - NuMine	Cowanshannock	PAC030053	KR	Withdrawn
3/5/2024	Armstrong Co. SR 2017 ECMS: 91794 Armstrong	Plumcreek	24-ES-02	KR	Approved
3/5/2024	Armstrong Co. SR 2005 ECMS: 24136 Amelie Waste	South Bend	24-ES-03	KR	Approved
4/5/2024	C & G Holsters - Site Development	Cowanshannock	PAC030056	KR	In Progress

NM PLAN REVIEWS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None

NEXT MEETING: The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 7:00 pm on May 15, 2024 at 124 Armsdale Road, Suite 1 Kittanning, PA 16201.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:43 pm the Board entered executive session to discuss personnel matters relating to the PMRS retirement plan. Holly Laird provided information from Ty Heller (ACD solicitor) and Jaysa Stitt (ACD Auditor) to the Board regarding the PMRS tax liability issue. Holly Laird is to work with

Ty Heller to have a letter of opinion for the May Board Meeting. No action will be taken on this item at this time. The Board re-entered the public meeting at 7:55 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no further business to come before the board, Chairman Andrew Kimmel declared the meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Holly A. Laird
District Manager
Armstrong Conservation District