



## Greene County Conservation District

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### GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 21, 2025

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Mr. James A. Cowell, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:03a.m. at the Greene County Fairgrounds Building 10, 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA.

Those in attendance were as follows:

#### **GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

James A. Cowell, Jr.-Chairman; Greg Hopkins-Vice Chairman; Dan Bazzoli-Treasurer; Glodenna Halstead-Secretary; Jared Edgreen-Commissioner Representative; David Shipman- Director; Rebecca Trigger-Director. Associate Directors: Kevin White, William Hilverding, Jerry Day, Jim Willis, Doug Willis, Becky Salosky and Lewis Crouse.

#### **STAFF**

Lisa Snider-District Director; Zachary Basinger-Environmental Permitting Manager; Daniel Phillips-Agricultural Conservation Specialist; Heather Yorke-Fiscal Officer.

#### **GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES**

Kelley Morris owner Waynesburg Milling Company; Rick Morris owner of Morris Machinery; Ryan Furrer-PADEP via phone.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kelly Morris wanted to left the board know that they carry lime and fertilizer for the county, however, there was no one to contract to spread the lime and fertilizer so starting next year Waynesburg Milling will start offering these services through Apex Pipe and Earth for spreading in the spring of 2026. Ms. Morris would like to receive some of the GRACE Programs literature for county residents that may be interested in the program.

Mr. Morris asked what was offered through the GRACE Program. Ms. Snider explained that through this program there is cost share available for fencing (interior fencing to create paddocks for rotational grazing), watering systems (to add water to new paddocks for rotational grazing), fertilizer, lime and Forestry to Greene County residents. Ms. Snider stated that the conservation practices that were selected for the GRACE program were to retain and improve existing soil on your farm. This program does not have a lot of requirements for first year applicants there is one sheet of paper to complete. If a farmer returns for a second year the farmer will be required to have a manure management plan which is required by the state, this is very simple and Mr. Phillips is able to help farmers that need assistance with writing their manure management plan. No one is forced to complete their projects with the GRACE Program, if someone does not complete their project the monies designated will then be available for them or another farmer to utilize in the next year's GRACE program.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the September 16, 2025 meeting minutes. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Yorko stated that she had written several checks since the meeting packets were mailed out. From the ACAP account a transfer in the amount of \$504.00 for program mileage reimbursement. From the Chapter 102 account a check to the County of Greene in the amount of \$847.29 for Aiden Snider's August salary and benefits and a funds transfer in the amount of \$178.50 for program mileage reimbursement. From Chapter 105 account a transfer in the amount of \$77.00 for program mileage reimbursement. From the Dirt and Gravel Road account a check in the amount of \$26.60 to Lindsay Kozlowski for mileage to the Full Depth Reclamation Presentation and a transfer in the amount of \$540.75 for program mileage reimbursement. From the Low Volume Road account, a transfer in the amount of \$185.15 for program mileage reimbursement. From the First Federal account, a check in the amount of \$36,205.57 to the County of Greene for invoices and three deposits totaling \$220.00 for two No Till Drill Rentals and one Tire Recycling Event prepayment for November 13, 2025.

*A motion was made by Dan Bazzoli to approve the Treasurer's Report. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Snider requested that Greene County Agrobusiness Center discussions be added to the agenda.

*A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to add Greene County Agrobusiness Center to the agenda. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **CORRESPONDENCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tire Clean-Up-November 13<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm-5:00pm at Greene County Fairgrounds-Registration deadline November 7<sup>th</sup> unless limit has been met prior

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

**Lindsay Kozlowski** – Ms. Kozlowski had to attend a Stream crossings Training for Dirt & Gravel Roads today. Ms. Snider stated that a couple of townships have been in to pick checks for completed projects and the QAB for the next round is upcoming. Ms. Kozlowski has also been working on banquet items, aerial flights should be taken this week and awards have been ordered.

**Zack Basinger** – Mr. Basinger gave the board a rundown of final West Nile numbers, 25 positive sample which is the second most we have ever had (in 2018 there were 32 positive samples), 9,844 total mosquitos making 8% positive of all samples tested positive, which was consistent with the rest of the state. Mr. Basinger has been unable to submit the West Nile Grant due to the State budget issues. Now working to get caught up on Plan Reviews and inspections.

**Tiffany Stewart** – Ms. Stewart was attending the Envirothon meeting with the state where materials are distributed.

She worked with Penn State Extension to do a Private Well Water presentation, but only one person showed up.

The Jefferson Bridge Removal bid has been awarded. A contract has to be written between the district and the contractor so that work can begin; it should be a two-day project once it starts; Ms. Snider is hoping it will be completed before the end of the year.

**Dan Phillips** – Mr. Phillips stated that the beginning of September was busy getting the rest of his GRACE visits and soil samples done. After one day of signing GRACE contracts at the fairgrounds there are only half a dozen or so that still need signed; the second contact signing day was canceled, because three quarters of the GRACE participants came on the first day.

Mr. Phillips stated that the Saurborn and Bellicini projects are under construction. There have been some contract issues with quality of work which has slowed down progress and some concrete issues yesterday. Mr. Phillips believes that the concrete issues will have to be ripped out and redone.

**Heather Yorko** –Ms. Yorko stated that the only thing that she had to add to her treasurer’s report was that the menu was set for the Annual Banquet on December 10, 2025.

**Lisa Snider**- Ms. Snider stated that the state budget issues aren’t really impacting our office except for submitting Quarterly Reports and being paid for them. Its impacting DEP travel so they are trying to virtually attend meetings such as Ryan Furrer who is on the phone today. They are working to set up virtual attendance for the upcoming Washington & Greene County Engineering Workshop on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ryan Furrer’s Talking Points mentioned State Water Advisory Meeting today which Tom Goughenour should be attending. Additionally, there are some language changes in the district fee schedule which will need updated so it can be presented to the board at the November meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Request for Assistance**

#### **2024 Audit Review and Approval**

Ms. Snider stated that the 2024 Audit was mailed to directors and emailed to the entire board for review, she is able to call Zelenkofske Axelrod Public Accountants if any of the board members have questions about the audit. There were no findings in the audit so Ms. Snider didn’t feel that it was necessary to have them attend the meeting.

Mr. Hopkins had a couple of questions about pending changes in accounting principles that we were to adopt. The audits suggested that we should have staff responsibilities regarding mail should be changed, but we do not have enough staff in our office to make those changes.

Additionally, Mr. Hopkins asked about a statement that the district had at risk funds due to them being uninsured, Ms. Snider explained that those funds are housed at Community Bank who collateralizes our funds so they are insured. The question was posed that the audit was a large expense and Ms. Snider explained that there is money designed in our CDFAP Administrative Funds for payment of the audit.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve the 2024 Audit. Glodenna Halstead seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **2026 Budget Review and Approval**

Ms. Snider asked the Budget Committee to give overview of this year’s budget to the board, Mr. Hopkins explained that Mr. Bazzoli and himself had meet with Lisa, reviewed and made needed

changes to this budget. Mr. Bazzoli stated that he felt that the monies were spent and accounted for by the district. After discussion, the board decided to approve the 2026 Budget.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve the 2026 Budget. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **2026 Annual Plan of Operations and Objectives (APO) Approval**

Ms. Snider stated that there were a couple of small changes made to the APO including the addition of social media and removal of the Envirothon box rotates due to the school districts receiving an Envirothon box that they keep at the school.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve the 2026 APO (Annual Plan of Operations and Objectives). Glodenna Halstead seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Ms. Trigger asked about Chipotle and Starbucks coming to Waynesburg and Commissioner Edgreen explained that there has to be an intersection redesign to allow access to the new businesses, but this will take so time to complete. Camera Bartolotta and Bud Cook have secured grants to assist with the intersection redesign and Penntex Ventures will cover the additional funds needed to complete the intersection to allow access to their businesses.

#### **DGLVR Site Rankings for QAB and Committee-November 4<sup>th</sup> time TBD**

#### **District Funding Resolution Review and Approval—Commissioner Edgreen abstained**

Ms. Snider stated that this is reviewed every year around budget time, she didn't see anything that needed to be changed the district is still financially fit to continue. Mr. Cowell asked if the county still needed the district to continue paying staff salaries and Commissioner Edgreen confirmed that the county would like the agreement to continue with the county providing HR, solicitors services, etc. Mr. Hopkins explained how the district over the years has taken on paying the salaries of the employees unlike other county agencies. Commissioner Edgreen explained that starting this year IDA and RDA are also paying their own employee expenses. After discussion, the board decided to approve the 2026 District Funding Resolution.

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the District Funding Resolution. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **2026 Meeting Dates**

Ms. Snider explained that she just wanted to get the boards approval so that Ms. Yorke can advertise the meeting dates the beginning of next year.

***A motion was made by Glodenna Halstead to approve the 2026 Meeting Dates. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **Agrobusiness Center Letter of Support—Commissioner Edgreen abstained**

Ms. Snider distributed information about creating an Agrobusiness Hub & Expo Center and Commissioner Edgreen explained that the county is pursuing grant initiative for the Greene County Fairgrounds through the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Power Grant. The county is asking for a letter of support from 30 entities including the Conservation District. This grant is federal funds that help displaced regions and areas throughout Appalachia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York. This grant would be used for much needed capital improvements on

the fairgrounds to create an Agrobusiness Hub & Expo Center to showcase the agriculture in our area; these improvements include heat, air conditioning, insulation, doors and windows. This is the beginning and would require more grant monies and industry partners to complete. Other improvements to the buildings were recommended and discussed.

***A motion was made by Dan Bazzoli to approve the Letter of Support for the Greene County Agrobusiness Center. Glodenna Halstead seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH**

Newsletter

#### **REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES**

**Justin Brackenrich Penn State Extension**-stated he has a pesticide meeting January 20<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm. Mr. Brackenrich is wrapping up his current research on liming, grass and hay, nitrogen trials and corn nitrogen management and is looking for any recommendations for new research trials.

**Aaron Pittman Pennsylvania Land & Liberty Coalition**-field representative here to introduce himself and offer to answer any questions.

**Ryan Furrer PADEP via phone** due to travel ban for state employees, stated that Ms. Snider covered everything on his updates.

Mr. Cowell stated that Greene County is still a D3 drought so farmers should be entitled to two payments so when the Farm Service Agency reopens farmers need to reach out and complete the necessary paperwork.

The aerator had a factory defect that needs to be repaired on the large aerator and Ranch Worx has already sent parts to fix the small aerator.

Ms. Snider stated that an Executive Session was needed today to discuss

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to go into Executive Session. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to go back in regular meeting. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Mr. Cowell stated that he would entertain a motion that the Commissioners offer the Nutrient Management position to Kristen Kessler.

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman that the Commissioners offer the Nutrient Management position to Kristen Kessler. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting is November 18, 2025.

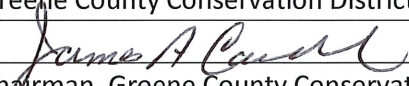
#### **ADJOURNMENT**

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to adjourn the meeting at 12:04pm. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Yorke  
Fiscal Officer

<b><u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u></b>
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on November 18, 2025.
 Chairman, Greene County Conservation District
Secretary, Greene County Conservation District 