



## Greene County Conservation District

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### GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES January 20, 2026

#### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUES

Ms. Lisa Snider called the meeting to order at 10:04a.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; Rebecca Trigger-Director; David Shipman- Director. Associate Directors: Kevin White and George Scull.

#### STAFF

Lisa Snider-District Director; Lindsay Kozlowski-Office Manager; Daniel Phillips-Agricultural Conservation Specialist; Heather Yorke-Fiscal Officer.

#### GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES

Calvin Livengood-NRCS; Scott Williams, the new NRCS District Conservationist at Lemont Furnace stated that was originally from Armstrong County and just moved back to Pa to accept this position and be close to family; Joe Walko

Ms. Snider stated that Commissioner Edgreen was delayed, but would arrive later in the meeting and the Oath of Office would be given to Dan Bazzoli at that time; until Dan is sworn in, he can talk and give his opinion but cannot vote.

#### REORGANIZATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICER-CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, TREASURER AND SECRETARY-LISA SNIDER

Ms. Snider asked for nominations for Chairman of the Greene County Conservation District Board.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to nominate Jim Cowell for Chairman. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Ms. Snider turned the meeting over to Jim Cowell as chairman. Ms. Snider explained that Dr. Halstead had reached out to her last week and stated that she needed to step down as a director but continue on the board as an associate director.

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman to nominate Greg Hopkins for Vice Chairman. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to nominate Dan Bazzoli for Treasurer. Rebecca***

***Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Mr. Hopkins asked if Rebecca Trigger would be interested in the secretary position for the board, Ms. Trigger was concerned about the time required due to her service on several other boards. It was explained that she would need to be bonded to sign checks for the district and Ms. Trigger said she was willing to accept the nomination.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to nominate Rebecca Trigger for Secretary. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)***

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the November 18, 2025 meeting minutes. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Yorko stated that she had written a small check to the county for invoices received, program reimbursement mileage checks, directors' mileage checks, the directors' Envirothon Mileage check and one GRACE check since the meeting packets have been mailed out.

Ms. Snider stated that she had 2025 interest totaling \$130,262.00. Account interest totals are follows:

ACAP	\$30,598.00
Chapter 102	\$ 4,477.00
Chapter 105	\$13,775.00
Dirt & Gravel Road	\$24,702.00
General Funds combine	\$44,800.00
Farmland Preservation	\$6.10
GRACE	\$7,964.00
Low Volume Road	\$3,935.00
Scholarship	\$1.33

Ms. Snider explained that most accounts other than the general fund accounts require that interest be spent towards whatever program that earns the interest and Chapter 102 & 105 funds are used for needs related to Chapter 102 & 105. Ms. Snider stated that CD rates are increasing and accounts interest rate are 3.9% so it may be time soon to consider opening a CD.

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

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Snider stated that she would like to add two assignments for HRG to prepare information for possible ACAP applications for the Archer and the Judy Farms each costing \$5,000.00. HRG would be compiling final inventory & evaluation, sketch plan for farm review, a minor inventory & evaluation report if necessary.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to add HRG's ACAP project workup for the Archer & Judy Farms to the agenda. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)***

**CORRESPONDENCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Annual Award Banquet at Valley View Farm, December 10, 2025 at 5:30pm. Please RSVP by December 3, 2025.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

**Lindsay Kozlowski** – Ms. Kozlowski stated that she has been working on the Envirothon grant with EQT and Community Foundation of Greene County. The poster and coloring contests items out to schools.

**Zack Basinger** – Mr. Basinger is off today.

**Tiffany Stewart** – Ms. Stewart is on maternity leave until mid-February and will be returning working half days for a while to use up time and adjust to being back at work.

**Dan Phillips** – Mr. Phillips stated that Saurborn’s ACAP project has substantial completion so he is able to start moving some animals into his building. The contractor has moved to the Bellicini farm to get project completed by the June deadline. On the Bellicini farm the contractor put the stormwater drains in the wrong area so it had to be moved before proceeding. Mr. Hopkins asked Dan about PAONESTOP which Ms. Snider explained is being used for the GRACE Program and explained that individuals are able to create a login and use PAONESTOP as well.

**Heather Yorko** –Ms. Yorko stated that she didn’t have anything to add to her Treasurer’s Report unless anyone had questions.

**Lisa Snider**- Ms. Snider stated the office is working on the Farmers’ Dinner and Dan has someone from Penn State set to speak on Soil Health and grazing. The Vo-Tech is tentatively scheduled but tables and chairs will need to be rented. Mr. Scull asked about using the county’s table and chairs so that it is not necessary to rent them. He said that he will ask the county and organize the table and chair delivery if they are able to be used.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Request for Assistance**

**Associate Board Members Reappointment and Call for New  
The 2025 Associate Directors were as follows:**

- |                   |               |                    |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Becky Salosky     | Carol Adamson | Matt Robison       |
| Dominick Barbetta | George Scull  | William Hilverding |
| Jerry Day         | Jim Willis    | Lewis Crouse       |
| Keith Golden      | Doug Willis   | Kevin White        |
| Ryan Wise         |               |                    |

Ms. Snider stated that there were no new names on the letters stent to the chief clerk, he only received the directors that were already on the board. Ms. Snider had received a suggestion to ask Tom Rohanna to become an associate board member and asked if the board had anyone else that they would like to send a letter of interest; Mr. Bazzoli stated that he may know of someone else to send an invitation.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve reappointing the Slate of Associate Directors with Glodenna Halstead added and send out a letter to invite Tom Rohanna to become an associate director. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Mr. Cowell explained that since Glodenna Halstead is stepping down as a director and there were no additional names sent to the commissioners when they sent letters to the Nominating Organizations at the end of last year. The process will begin again so if you know of anyone that would be interested and qualify as a farmer director, please get their names to the nominating organizations to be sent to the commissioners when requested.

#### **2026 GCCD Districts and Associate Directors Contact Information and Envirothon Contribution**

Ms. Snider explained that these sheets are important so that we have director's UpToDate contact numbers, address, mileage details and know if you are donating to Envirothon or being written a check for your meeting mileage reimbursement. Please complete and return as soon as possible.

#### **2026 Coloring and Poster Contest**

Notifying the board that the district is doing the Coloring & Poster contest again this year and will need directors and associate directors to vote at the April meeting.

#### **2026 Greene County Conservation District Committees**

Ms. Snider stated that there was a list of last year's committees in the meeting packets, but if someone wants to switch or be added to another committee, please let the office know. Ms. Snider notifies everyone when there is a committee meeting and all associate directors and directors are welcome to come; however, if there will be more than three directors at any committee meeting there has to be an ad placed in the paper.

#### **2026 Greene County Conservation District Delegates**

Ms. Snider stated that there was a list of last year's delegates list in the meeting packets. Mr. Williams from NRCS was added to the list due to his new position and Ms. Snider asked Mr. Williams if he could send a letter that he will join as a voting member with Calvin Livengood as an alternate voting member if needed. Ms. Kozlowski will send Mr. Williams a sample letter.

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the 2026 GCCD Delegates. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

#### **GRACE Cost Share Rate Changes and Ranking Form Updates**

Mr. Phillips explained that the committee recommended increasing the fencing cost share rate from \$1.60 per linear foot to \$2.00 per linear foot, resulting in a maximum fencing cost of \$5,000. The committee also recommended an increase in the amount given for stream crossings from \$1,500 to \$3,000. For spring development systems, the committee recommended increasing the rate from \$650 to \$750, the trough rate from \$600 to \$800, the pipeline rate from \$1,000 to \$1,100 and the outlet rate from \$250 to \$350; these increases would make the total cost share for a complete spring development to \$3,000. It is also recommended that a limit of 2 complete spring

developments per year or a cap of \$6,000 when adding individual pieces be put in place. The committee recommended no change in the lime cost share rates and discussed the possibility of eliminating fertilizer reimbursement from the GRACE Program, however, the committee agreed to revisit this topic during the next program year.

Mr. Phillips came up with some ideas for updating the general ranking form by increasing the points for first time applicants from 20 to 50 points which will give first time applicants preference. To address the question about the animal to acreage ration Mr. Phillips suggests using the Manure Management plan to equation for GRACE applicants. Phillips also suggested adding two questions to the 2026 GRACE application, do you work with NRCS and are you willing to work with NRCS to help the district assist farmers with other programs such as ACAP.

Mr. Phillips stated that the rankings for fertilizer were set up that if you didn't need fertilizer the applicant received the highest-ranking points, he suggests changing that.

Mr. Cowell asked when these changes would be implemented and Ms. Snider stated that these changes will be affective starting in September with the 2026-27 contracts.

Mr. Hopkins asked if the board was voting on the Forestry rate changes and Ms. Snider explained that the decision about forestry changes could be address next meeting when hopefully Mr. Gibbs is able to attend.

Ms. Snider explained that there is always more monies contracted than spent each year for GRACE, things happen and farmers are unable to complete and if that occurs, they have to complete the practice applied for the previous before applying for any other GRACE assistance.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve the changes to the 2026-27 GRACE Program Ag Practices and updates to ranking sheet. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **2026 GRACE Program Application Advertisement**

During discussion of GRACE Agricultural Cost Share Rate changes, it was decided to wait until Mr. Gibbs was available to answer any questions regarding Forestry Cost Share Rate changes at our February meeting. Then once that was covered the board will approve advertising for the 2026 GRACE Program.

### **HRG Technical Assistance for possible Archer & Judy Farms for ACAP**

Ms. Snider has assignments for Judy and Archer Farms to provide Technical Assistance for inventory and evaluation that will develop a plan to bring to the Conservation District for ACAP Funding. Both assignments are for \$5,000 and are for roofed heavy use areas, but we will not know the costs of the projects until we receive the I&Es.

We have to spend \$687,592.70 by the end of this year some of this is designated to finish up the Saurborn and Bellicini projects that are in construction currently. There is an estimated \$300,000 remaining that needs to be spent by the end of 2026.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve these two assignments for Technical Assistance for HRG. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH**

Farmers' Dinner

Annual Report -Ms. Snider asked for any photos that the board would like to share for background and filler pictures for the annual report.

Winter Newsletter

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Commissioner Edgreen administered the Oath of Office to Dan Bazzoli and himself as Commissioner Representative for the 2026 Greene County Conservation District Board of Directors.

**REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES**

**Calvin Livengood-Natural Resources Conservation Service** introduced the new District Conservationist for the Lemont Furnace office, Scott Williams.

**Scott Williams-NRCS District Conservationist** stated that there are currently 35 applicants for the EQUIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) & CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) from their signup that end January 15<sup>th</sup> and there is a second signup going year-round.

There is a new regenerative pilot program launched in December 2025 to promote agricultural practices, it aims to support farmers by aligning conservation funding with individual operational needs. This program is part of a boarder initiative to address making American agriculture more sustainable, productive and address health concerns related to quality and nutrition.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Not needed.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be February 17, 2026.

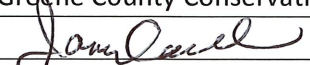
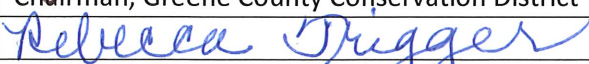
**ADJOURNMENT**

***A motion was made by Dan Bazzoli to adjourn the meeting at am. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)***

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Yorko  
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 February 17, 2026.

Chairman, Greene County Conservation District

Secretary, Greene County Conservation District