



## Greene County Conservation District

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### GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES March 17, 2026

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

Mr. James Cowell called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. at the Greene County Fairgrounds Building 10, 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA. Since there were a couple of new associate directors attending their first meeting Mr. Cowell asked everyone to go around the room and interduce themselves.

The Oath of Office was postponed until Commissioner Edgreen arrives.

Those in attendance were as follows:

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

James A. Cowell, Jr.-Chairman; Greg Hopkins-Vice Chairman; Dan Bazzoli-Treasurer; Rebecca Trigger-Secretary; David Shipman- Director. Associate Directors: Kevin White, George Scull, Dominick Barbetta, Jerry Day, Ryan Wise, Tom Rohanna, Brad Johnson and Doug Willis.

#### **STAFF**

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

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

Bryan Whitmer-Jefferson Township Supervisor; Jeff Sholtis-Morgan Township Supervisor; Ryan Furrer-Regional District Representative PADEP.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the February 17, 2026 meeting minutes. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Yorke stated that she had written a few checks and made several deposits since mailing out the meeting packets. First Federal General Fund a check to the County of Greene for invoices in the amount of \$50,071.45 and to MPB Print and Sign Superstore

for the Spring Newsletter and postage in the amount of \$3,524.85. There were 5 E&S permit payments deposited through Municipipay in the amount of \$1500.00. First National Bank General Fund a check written to Daniel Phillips for mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$213.15. Chapter 102 a deposit in the amount of \$1650.00 Chapter 105 deposit in the amount of \$925.00 Community Bank General Fund deposit for E&S review fees in the amount of \$2,950.00.

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

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

Ms. Snider stated that she would like to add 3 items to the agenda, Kevin White ACAP Assignment for HRG, Envirothon donations and Bryan Whitmer new associate director.

***A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to add to the agenda. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **CORRESPONDENCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Farmers Dinner**-April 8<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm at Greene County Career & Technical Center, 60 Zimmerman Drive, Waynesburg, PA 15370.

**Envirothon**-April 29<sup>th</sup> at Hunting Hills-anyone is welcome to attend.

**Tree Grafting Workshop**-May 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am-2:00pm at Conservation District Equipment Garage. Registration limited to 30 participants, Deadline for registration is March 30<sup>th</sup> Cost is \$70 per person. Lunch will be provided.

**Tire Clean-Up**-June 10<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm-6:00pm at Greene County Fairgrounds  
Thank you letter from the Ralph Bell Bird Club for our scholarship donation, Ryan Wise state that Jefferson Township would be happy to bring their equipment to the tire clean up if needed.

Mr. Hopkins stated that the Spring 2026 Newsletter was very well done, it contains posters and applications for our programs and upcoming events.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

**Lindsay Kozlowski** – Ms. Kozlowski stated that she is waiting to hear if we received the EQT Envirothon grant and donations that we have received donations that will be discussed later in the meeting. Ms. Kozlowski stated that West Greene is participating in this year's Envirothon.

**Zack Basinger** – Mr. Basinger stated that we have received a lot of timber harvest plans in lately, people are trying to get their trees cut down before the Indiana bat restriction from April 1 to September 30. Tire event June 10<sup>th</sup> and tick drags start next month.

**Dan Phillips** – Mr. Phillips stated that Bellicini's ACAP project is going well, the walls

are up and they are planning to do floors next week and trusses within a few days of the floor pour.

Mr. Phillips is working to organize a field day this summer.

**Heather Yorko** –Ms. Yorko stated that she didn't have anything to add to her Treasurer's Report.

**Lisa Snider**- Ms. Snider stated that she did send over the new job description Watershed/Nutrient Management position, but it hasn't been approved to advertise yet.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ACAP Funding Adjustment to the Saurborn and Bellicini Projects**

Mr. Cowell stated that Greg Hopkins, George Scull and himself had gone out to look at the Saurborn and Bellicini projects a few weeks ago with Dan Phillips. Mr. Hopkins gave an overview to the board for anyone who was not familiar with the projects and the issues that caused the increase in engineering oversight for the projects. Mr. Hopkins stated that he believes that the language in our ACAP contract with the landowner needs to be reviewed to avoid a similar issue in the future. Mr. Scull feels that the contractor and supplier should have some responsibility for the additional engineering costs. It was decided that an ACAP Committee was needed, Greg Hopkins, Jim Cowell, Dave Shipman and George Scull were placed on the ACAP committee. During discussion the board decided that Ms. Snider would reach out to the contractors, supplier, landowners, solicitor, engineering firm and the state conservation commission to organize a meeting to discuss these issues with the ACAP committee. The committee will come back to the board with recommendations for how to handle these funding adjustments for Saurborn and Bellicini.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Request for Assistance**

There were no requests for assistance.

#### **Wisecarver Community Conservation Center Grant Support Letter**

Ms. Snider stated that this support letter was already sent after she poled the directors for their approval in order to meet the deadline for the commissioners to request earmark funds. This letter is being sent to our Congressmen and Senators so they can possibly earmark these funds, they asked for \$4 million which would be \$7.3 million with match funds. The commissioners' vision is for a community center that would house the Conservation District, Penn State Extension and possible satellite offices for Farm Service Agencies, Natural Resource Conservation Service, etc.

***A retroactive motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve this letter of support resulting from the pole from directors. Dave Shipman seconded.  
(Motion Passed)***

#### **ACAP Funding Level Adjustment**

Ms. Snider stated that there are going to need to be changes to our funding levels due

to the upcoming changes to our funding. Decisions need to be made about how the board wants to handle the funds that we expect to receive going forward and review our current ACAP funding levels, a cap for funding, requirement to work with NRCS, REAP, ranking, etc. in a committee meeting. Ms. Snider suggested reaching out to Washington county for their assistance.

### **Envirothon Donations**

Ms. Kozlowski stated that the district had received \$250.00 from First Federal, \$100.00 from Bankson Engineers and \$100.00 from Harshman CE Group. Unfortunately, the CTC was already booked for the Envirothon date this year so Sheetz is going to work with us for sandwiches and donate drinks and snacks; they have worked stations as needed and provided food, drinks or snacks every year.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to accept donations from First Federal, Bankson, Harshman and Sheetz. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **Kevin White ACAP Assignment for HRG**

Ms. Snider explained that she has an assignment for HRG for Kevin White for technical assistance to help develop application information for ACAP. Final Inventory & Evaluation report, a sketch plan submitted to the farm for review and one I&E revision if necessary; giving the landowner all the information necessary to complete ACAP application. The landowner is wanting an animal heavy use area and waste storage facility. Ms. Snider explained that this is part of the procedure to start the application process for ACAP projects.

***A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve Kevin White ACAP Project Assignment. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **Associate Director**

Ms. Snider stated that she had sent an invitation to Bryan Whitmer to join the Conservation District Board as an associate director; Mr. Whitmer accepted.

***A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve Bryan Whitmer as Associate Board member. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)***

### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH**

Conservation District Week-April 26<sup>th</sup>-May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Poster & Coloring Contest

Proclamation at the Commissioners' Board Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Farmers' Dinner

Spring 2026 Newsletter

Tree Grafting Workshop

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

**Ryan Furrer-PADEP** stated that April 18<sup>th</sup> is the back-to-basics leadership development for Associate Directors and Board members at Westmoreland Conservation District put on by PACD-any board members are welcome, starts at 10am ends at 1:00pm with lunch included. May 15<sup>th</sup> is the Regional Roundtable at

Fayette County Fairgrounds from 9am to noon.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session

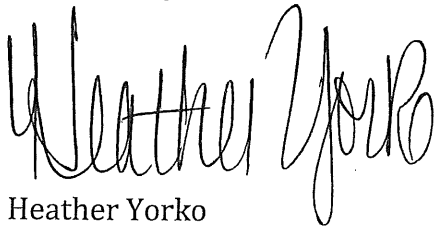
**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be April 21, 2026.

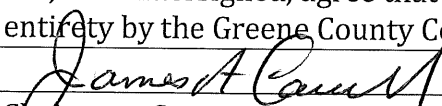
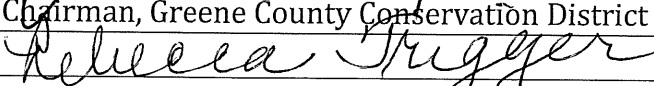
**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 11:26am. 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 April 21, 2026.
 Chairman, Greene County Conservation District
 Secretary, Greene County Conservation District