

Union County Conservation District Meeting

April 14th, 2021

Join us via Zoom -

Meeting ID: 361 838 8457

Passcode: 17844

Zoom Meeting Information - *Warning this meeting will be recorded.*

Topic: District Board Meeting

Time: April 14th, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern
Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3618388457?pwd=a1BoQXJqL3lGZVgyWFM0RkpXOEVjQT09>

Meeting ID: 361 838 8457 **Passcode:**
17844

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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Meeting ID: 361 838 8457

Passcode: 17844

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3618388457>

Agenda - 14 April 2021

Meeting Called to Order - Lee Spangler,
Chairman - 7:00pm

Public Comment

Cooperating Agencies

Approval of December Minutes

Treasurer's Report - Glenn Troester,
Treasurer

Correspondence - DEP Field Rep Report,
PACD Monthly Report, Agenda for Directors
Forum

Old Business

Name	Topic	Action
Eric	ACT Interview Results	Motion
Eric	CAP Update	FYI
Eric	Summer Picnic	Motion
Eric	Grant Update	FYI
Pat	Staff Update	FYI

New Business

Name	Topic	Action
Eric	Summer Intern	Motion
Eric	Water Specialist Grant Renewal	Motion

Cooperating Agencies - DEP, Jaci Kerstetter

UPDATED Manure Management Manual Land Application of Manure FAQ Document – This updated version of the MMM FAQ, dated March 2021, reflects current interpretation of the regulatory guidance. Conservation Districts should update any materials referencing the content of the MMM FAQ to reflect the March 2021 version.

This FAQ is posted to the DEP Manure Management Manual Webpage here:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/CleanWater/AgriculturalOperations/ManureManagement/Pages/default.aspx> and cross-posted to the Nutrient and Manure Management Program Website here:
<https://extension.psu.edu/programs/nutrient-management/manure/overview-of-deps-manure-management-manual/land-application-of-manure-frequently-asked-questions>

Watershed Specialist Funding Form/Renewal Request - In 2018 the Districts and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection entered into new multi-year Conservation District Watershed Specialist grant agreements. This grant has a period of performance from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021. Only one year of funding is allocated to agreements, up to the maximum \$45,250.00 each year. District's with a Watershed Specialist Grant will need to complete the "Watershed Specialist Grant Renewal Request" form to have funds for Fiscal Year 2021

New Manager Orientation - The 2021 New Manager Training program (formerly known as New Manager Bootcamp training) begins on Wednesday May 19 and will run through September. This year's training will feature a hybrid format including online and in-person instruction focusing on the areas of Conservation Partner Programs, Manager Leadership, and District Administration.

Cooperating Agencies - DEP, Jaci Kersetter

2021 Section 319 Virtual Watershed Planning and Implementation Meeting – DEP is working with PACD to plan and host the 2021 Section 319 Watershed Planning and Implementation Meeting. This meeting will be held virtually on May 19 – 20, 2021. Conservation district staff and other entities involved with Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management projects will be invited to attend.

Agricultural Energy Use Workshops - As a first step in improving outreach to the ag community, DEP has partnered with Penn State Extension to provide Farm Energy Day workshops focusing on energy efficiency, solar energy, heating options, lighting, and biogas. These workshops have been scheduled as a virtual, 8-part webinar series that will be held Thursdays at noon beginning March 18, 2021. Please check Extension's website for additional details and the registration link here:

<https://extension.psu.edu/catalogsearch/result/?q=%22farm+energy+day>

EPA Nonpoint Source Technical Exchange Webinar Series – EPA is hosting a series of webinars focused on a broad variety of nonpoint source topics. Upcoming and past webinars can be found here:

<https://www.epa.gov/nps/nonpoint-source-pollution-technical-exchange-webinars>

EPA Region 3 Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management – Quality Assurance Program Plans (QAPP) training - EPA Region 3 staff will be holding a virtual session “Below the Surface of QAPPs for Nonpoint Source Programs” on April 13, 2021

Cooperating Agencies - DEP, Jaci Kerstetter

102 ePermitting — The tentative Chapter 102 ePermit release schedule has been updated, as follows:

April 21, 2021- Individual Applications (New & Amendments)

July 28, 2021- E&S Permit Applications (New & Amendments)

September 29, 2021 – ESCGP-3 Applications (New & Amendments)

New GreenPort System - which is powered by PA Keystone Login, was released on March 22. Conservation Districts use the GreenPort to access the Chapter 102 and 105 ePermit systems and CDFAP and Chesapeake Bay Reporting.

Statement of Financial Interests - All Conservation District Directors are considered Public Officials and most District Employees are considered Public Employees. Any Conservation district employee that meets one or more of the criteria in the definition below **MUST** fill out a Statement of Financial Interest. Completing a statement is not optional. It is required by law. Statements are to be completed and filed with the Conservation District no later than May 1st. The general rule with this form is “when in doubt, fill it out”.

Retaining Virtual Participation Options for District Board Meetings – As district boards begin to hold in person meetings again, the State Conservation Commission recommends district continue to offer a way for board members, cooperating agencies and the public to participate in meetings either through conference call or video conference.

Cooperating Agencies - DEP, Jaci Kerstetter

Updated COVID-19 Inspection Guidelines – March 17th the updated Chesapeake Bay Agriculture Initial Inspection Program (CBAIP) Interim Procedures During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency memo was sent to county Conservation Districts and DEP Regional Offices by Jill Whitcomb

Summer Interns Conducting Bay Inspections - With the upcoming summer season, we wanted to respond to questions that we've received recently relating to using summer interns to conduct inspection activities. As a reminder, the inspector of record must have completed or actively be in the midst of completing adequate training according to the Training Plan described in the Chesapeake Bay Technician Agreement.

Cooperating Agencies - NRCS, Jill Weaver

FY 2021 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS SIGN-UP

We are currently accepting applications for technical and financial assistance to improve and enhance natural resources on farms and non-industrial private forest lands. The deadline to submit applications to be considered in the first, second, and third ranking periods for Fiscal Year 2021 have passed, however interested applicants may submit an application for future ranking periods at any time.

We are in the process of evaluating and assessing applications received during the first sign up period. During this sign up period, we received **20 applications** for the *Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)* and **2 applications** for *Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)*. All assessments will be completed by the end of this week, with contracts awarded later this spring/summer.

Applications are available at the Union County NRCS Field Office in Lewisburg, or on our web-site at <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/programforms/index.html>.

FY 2021 & 2022 CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP) SIGN-UP

We are accepting applications for the FY 2021 **CSP Classic** sign up. Un-funded applications received under prior sign-ups and any new applications received by **May 7, 2021** will be considered for funding.

The FY 2022 **CSP Renewal** sign up recently closed. This sign up was only eligible for 2017 CSP participants with expiring contracts. **6 of the 8** expiring contract participants applied for renewal.

Cooperating Agencies - NRCS, Jill Weaver

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

12 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) contracts in Union County are in their final year. The expiring contract holders have been given the opportunity to take their land out of the Program or to re-enroll for an additional 10-15 years. In order to re-enroll, the land must meet certain Program eligibility requirements, including a minimum presence of native or introduced grass species and/or woody vegetation, and absence of noxious weeds.

All expiring contract holders that were interested in re-enrollment have been visited and eligibility determinations have been made. We will be developing new Conservation Plans for all lands re-enrolled over the next month. New contracts will begin on October 1, 2021.

CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION

A riparian buffer planting is in process along Penns Creek in Hartley Township.

Shane and Matt are busy working on designs for spring construction. Matt is also in the process of updating some of the older engineering inventory and evaluation (I & E) reports that we have on file.

Correspondence

USDA Designates Six Pennsylvania Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) designated six Pennsylvania counties as primary natural disaster areas. Producers who suffered losses due to recent drought may be eligible for USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) [emergency loans](#).

Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation or the refinance of certain debts.

Drought – June 1 – Nov. 30, 2020.

Producers in the contiguous Pennsylvania counties of Armstrong, Blair, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Forest, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Potter, **Union** and Warren are also eligible to apply for emergency loans. **The deadline to apply for these emergency loans is Oct. 19, 2021.**

For questions or more information: Contact the Snyder/Union County FSA Office at 570-837-0007 in Middleburg.

Correspondence

PACD Regional Meeting March 18, 2021

Conservation District Week - April 18-24, 2021

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04/06/21

Cash Basis

Union County Conservation District
Balance Sheet Detail
 As of April 6, 2021

Treasurer's Report

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Paid Amount	Balance
ASSETS						729,683.80
Current Assets						729,683.80
Checking/Savings						729,716.52
3 Tier Buffer Grant #2						40,760.35
Total 3 Tier Buffer Grant #2						40,760.35
Certificate of Deposit						51,598.49
Total Certificate of Deposit						51,598.49
Chesapeake Bay Fund						1,894.72
Deposit	03/08/2021			Pat's salary/exp - qtr ending 12/...	18,479.18	20,373.90
Deposit	03/08/2021			Talia's salary - qtr ending 12/31/...	2,215.64	22,589.54
Deposit	03/12/2021			Interest	0.01	22,589.55
Check	03/15/2021	1153	Union County Cons...	Pat's expenses - qtr ending 12/3...	-113.90	22,475.65
Check	03/15/2021	1154	Union County Com...	Pat's salary - qtr ending 12/31/2...	-18,365.28	4,110.37
Check	03/15/2021	1155	Union County Com...	Talia's salary/benefits - qtr endin...	-2,215.64	1,894.73
Check	03/22/2021	1156	Staples Credit Plan	Closing Date	-44.97	1,849.76
Total Chesapeake Bay Fund					-44.96	1,849.76
GGG multi species cover crop						6.88
Total GGG multi species cover crop						6.88
GGG Sabo Project						6,718.41
Total GGG Sabo Project						6,718.41
GGG Turtle Creek Ag BMP Project						15,301.22
Total GGG Turtle Creek Ag BMP Project						15,301.22
Growing Greener Grants						4,593.71
Total Growing Greener Grants						4,593.71
MC Fed Credit Union-Savings 1						5.00
Total MC Fed Credit Union-Savings 1						5.00
MC Fed Credit Union-Savings 2						1,889.18
Total MC Fed Credit Union-Savings 2						1,889.18

Mifflinburg Bank - Operating Ac						
Check	03/02/2021	8870	County of Union	February telephone	-195.52	52,566.02
Check	03/02/2021	8871	County of Union	1/5-2/4/2021	-332.94	52,370.50
Check	03/02/2021	8872	The Daily Item	Acct # 7633	-103.35	52,037.56
Check	03/02/2021	8873	Jessica Newlin	2019/20 Mileage	-11.56	51,934.21
General J...	03/02/2021	Audi...	Jessica Newlin	Reverse of GJE Audit 2026 -- F...	11.56	51,922.65
Check	03/02/2021	8874	Western Pennsylv...	2021 Virtual Riparian Forest Buf...	-15.00	51,934.21
Check	03/02/2021	8875	Hoffman Advertising	Invoice # 013329	-421.31	51,919.21
Check	03/02/2021	8876	AAP	Second Virtual CPE Course 2021	-725.00	51,497.90
Check	03/02/2021	8877	Hoffman Advertising	Invoice # 013330	-394.93	50,772.90
Deposit	03/03/2021			Tree Sale	318.00	60,377.97
Deposit	03/03/2021			ER Bison Solar - E&S Fee	225.00	50,695.97
Deposit	03/03/2021			Tree Sale	15.00	60,920.97
Deposit	03/05/2021			Shanon's salary - qtr ending 12/...	16,272.78	50,935.97
Deposit	03/09/2021			Greg's salary - qtr ending 12/31/...	5,073.74	67,208.75
Deposit	03/13/2021			Tree Sale	1,155.90	72,282.49
Deposit	03/13/2021			Wynwood House, E., A. & J. Zi...	1,275.00	73,438.39
Deposit	03/15/2021			Eric N & Eric E - qtr ending 12/3...	12,151.45	74,713.39
Check	03/15/2021	8878	Union County Com...	Eric N & Eric E salaries - qtr end...	-12,151.45	86,864.84
Check	03/15/2021	8879	Wex Bank	Closing Date 3/6/2021	-74.37	74,713.39
Check	03/15/2021	8880	Union County Com...	Greg's salary - qtr ending 12/31/...	-5,073.74	74,639.02
Check	03/15/2021	8881	Union County Com...	Shanon's salary/benefits - qtr en...	-16,272.78	69,565.28
Check	03/15/2021	8882	County of Union	February postage	-39.66	53,292.50
Check	03/18/2021	8883	Standard Journal	Invoice # 055327	-32.74	53,252.84
Check	03/22/2021	8884	Cardmember Service	Closing Date 3/9/2021	-23.83	53,220.10
Check	03/22/2021	8885	Staples Credit Plan	Closing Date 3/10/2021	-143.57	53,196.27
Deposit	03/26/2021			Tree Sale	577.90	53,052.70
Deposit	03/26/2021			Tree Sale	238.50	53,630.60
Deposit	03/26/2021			Reimb Transect Survey & Mileage	853.53	53,869.10
Deposit	03/26/2021			Reimb Pat's expenses - qtr endl...	113.90	54,722.63
Deposit	03/26/2021			W M Water Booster Station - E&...	225.00	54,836.53
Check	03/29/2021	8886	Chris Shabanowitz	Refund tree seedling cost	-31.80	55,061.53
						55,029.73

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04/06/21

Cash Basis

Union County Conservation District

Balance Sheet Detail

As of April 6, 2021

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Paid Amount	Balance
Check	03/29/2021	8887	Curtis Brubaker	Refund tree seedling cost	-15.90	55,013.83
Check	03/29/2021	8888	Michelle Romig	Refund tree seedling cost	-15.90	54,997.93
Check	03/30/2021	8889	County of Union	Hot Spots 2/5-3/4/2021	-332.90	54,665.03
Check	03/30/2021	8890	Snyder County Con...	Invoice # SCCD2020-820	-177.25	54,487.78
Check	03/30/2021	8891	PA Farmland Prese...	2021 Membership Dues	-50.00	54,437.78
Deposit	04/01/2021			Tree Sale	302.10	54,739.88
Deposit	04/01/2021			Aldi - E&S Fee	450.00	55,189.88
Total Millinburg Bank - Operating Ac					2,623.86	55,189.88
PA Invest - Clean Water Account						17,052.78
Total PA Invest - Clean Water Account						17,052.78
PA Invest - D&G Roads						36,959.60
Total PA Invest - D&G Roads						36,959.60
PA Invest - Reserve Account						275,440.06
Total PA Invest - Reserve Account						275,440.06
West Milton Clean Water Fund						32,818.69
Deposit	03/03/2021			ER Bison Solar - NPDES Fee	500.00	33,318.69
Deposit	03/13/2021			Wynwood House, NPDES Fee ...	1,250.00	34,568.69
Deposit	03/26/2021			PPL Clinton/Milton Rebuild - GP8	350.00	34,918.69
Deposit	04/01/2021			Aldi - NPDES Fee	500.00	35,418.69
Total West Milton Clean Water Fund					2,600.00	35,418.69
West Milton Dirt and Gravel Rd.						147,261.47
Total West Milton Dirt and Gravel Rd.						147,261.47
West Milton Equipment Rentals						33,170.17
Payment	03/03/2021	816	Scott A. Zimmerman		221.00	33,391.17
Payment	03/03/2021	9608	Mark Rebuck		194.00	33,585.17
Payment	03/03/2021	3963	Bill Moore		200.00	33,785.17
Payment	03/13/2021	2291	Daniel Yoder		560.00	34,335.17
Payment	04/01/2021	2008	Curtiss B Falck		57.50	34,392.67
Total West Milton Equipment Rentals					1,222.50	34,392.67
West Milton Low Volume Road						11,679.77
Deposit	03/13/2021			LVRD Replenishment - qtr endin...	21,480.94	33,160.71
Total West Milton Low Volume Road					21,480.94	33,160.71

Old Business

Name	Topic	Action
Eric	ACT Interview Results	Motion
Eric	CAP Update	FYI
Eric	Summer Picnic	Motion
Eric	Grant Update	FYI
Pat	Staff Update	FYI

District Update: ACT/ED Technician

- ACT/ED Update
 - Interviews held on April 9th
 - Results

Motion: May be required if a candidate is selected from the in person interviews

County Action Plan (CAP) : Update

- Ag Meeting 15 March
 - First stakeholder meeting with small group of producers from Union and Snyder County
 - Stakeholders provided feedback on the ag goals presented by DEP, using those recommendations to see what results the model gives us.
 - More meetings April/May with other groups - Municipalities, Non-profits, etc.
- Rough Timeline for CAP
 - **Stakeholder outreach begins March - May**
 - Building CAP Feb - Jun 2021
 - Revisions and finalizing plan - Jul - Aug 2021 (**Board Approval**)
 - CAP finalized, turned into DEP - Sep 2021
 - Begin Implementation Oct - Dec 2021 and beyond
- Questions???

Summer Picnic

- Plan for last year
 - Date: June 5
 - Location: Dennis Spanglers
 - Caterer: S&M
- Do we want to have a picnic?
- If yes
 - Location: ?????
 - Dates: Friday June 4, 11, 18, or 25th.
 - Caterer: S&M or suggestions
- Motion: yes or no on holding a picnic, date, location

Grant/Staff Update

- **Grant Update** - as requested by the board a plan was developed to move the grant forward and its being implemented.

- **Staff Update** -
 - Pat Cullen
 - Chesapeake Bay Engineer
 - Serves: Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, North'd, Snyder, Union
 - Works under NRCS Regional Office for job approval

A rural landscape featuring a white barn with a red base on the left, a field of harvested corn in the foreground, and a dark, overcast sky. A table is overlaid on the right side of the image.

New Business

Name	Topic	Action
Eric	Summer Intern	Motion
Eric	Water Specialist Grant Renewal	Motion

Summer Intern

- Summer intern program is being run differently this year
- Susquehanna University (SU) came to us last year and asked if we would host 1-2 student interns from SU
- SU received a grant for interns, they pay the students and loan them out to partner organizations like Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy or UCCD - **No cost to UCCD**
- During the last month we have been interviewing candidates from SU and at the end of the month met with Julianne Wieler
- Background on Julianne Wieler
 - 2nd year student in Junior Status, Major in Environmental Science, Minor in Spanish
 - Interested in gaining field work experience and learning more about how policy impacts work in the field.

Watershed Specialist Grant Renewal

- 2018 UCCD and DEP entered into new multi-year Conservation District Watershed Specialist grant agreements.
- Grant runs July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021
- Only one year of funding is allocated to agreements, up to the maximum \$45,250.00 each year
- UCCD receives the maximum amount for Shanon Burkland Stamm, \$45,250.00 and is key source of funding for her position
- **Motion: Continue the agreement and submit the request for the final year's funding**

Questions????

