

**PACD Southeast Region
Minutes of Meeting
March 23, 2007
Family Heritage Restaurant, Franconia, PA**

Motion requested to approve minutes from October 13, 2006 meeting.

- On motion by Malcolm Crooks, Bucks CCD
- Seconded by Piper Sherbourne, Berks CCD.

Reports from Districts

Berks - Glen reported on:

- 85 engineers attended a stormwater workshop

Bucks - Malcolm Crooks reported on:

- Announced John Thomas' resignation
- Gretchen S. is acting manager. They are starting a search.
- Six active watershed projects
- Having study sessions for schools

Chester - Bill Callahan reported on:

- Clerical Supervisor position open
- Nutrient Pilot program - have four farmers
- Chesapeake Bay program
 - o Seven special projects this Spring
 - o Booking horse drawn no till planter
 - o Finishing up Red & White Clay Creek contracts

Delaware - Ed reported on:

- NPDES processing situation
- DEP introduced its four initiatives
 - o Not sure that S.E. region now has four engineering vacancies
- Rain barrel projects for urbanites

Lehigh - Paul reported on:

- The District's Municipal Ordinance Reviews
- Upcoming Saucon Creek Watershed Assessment with Northampton CD and the Wildlands Conservancy

Montgomery - Rich reported on:

- Maggie Allio - BMP tour for municipal officials & has done three presentations
- Home builders want them to do tours for developers

Northampton - Bruce reported on:

- Trying to figure NPDES
- Looking forward to Envirothon
- Have Act 48 training in June for teachers on soils

PACD - Susan - see handout

- Governor's budget situation
- Passed out the CD Staff Training Matrix
 - o Up for review & comment
- Strategic goal approved June 19, 2007
- Putting action plans together for adoption @ July annual meeting
- April 30 deadline for PACD award nominations
- Annual Conference - July 15-18 at Scranton

SCC - Karl Brown - green sheet

- Announced that Karen Ely would be taking Joanne Nardone's old position
- Idaho One Plan website - for farmers
 - o They can do part of the conservation planning process
 - o Looking at bringing it to PA
- Proposed CAFO permit guidance document for new or expanded has to be published for comment March 10
- New Chief of Conservation District Support Section - Marge Hugler - starts March 31
- Employment Law Seminar upcoming
- Draft changes on Conservation District Fund Allocation Policy

NRCS - Dave Schaffer

- Conducting Rapid Watershed Assessments
 - o Description of watershed's resources
 - o Three in Pennsylvania so far
- NRI released - available online - data as of 2003
- 2007 Budget
 - o Continuing resolution eliminated
 - o No AMA funding this year
 - o CREP - continuing to service new applicants in Chesapeake & Ohio
 - o Not opening up CSP to new watersheds - case of funding. Farmers should have good records for when funding comes back.

- o PA received its largest EQIP allocation
 - 259 contracts have been signed
 - Working on new ones
 - o Busy trying to bring old contracts back on schedule
 - o Conservation Innovation Grants - max. \$75,000
 - o Farm & Ranchland Protection - \$1.4 million
 - o WHIP - do not have to Ag producer
 - o WRP - \$722,000 allocation
 - o Emergency Watershed Protection - \$6 million - June 2006 flooding
- 2007 Farm Bill proposed online; supposed to simplify programs

Kathy DiGuiseppe, Penn State Cooperative Extension gave a training on "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, The Leader Within You".

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul R. Sell, Jr.
Recording Secretary