

**PACD South Central Regional Directors Meeting**  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Noting a quorum was present, the meeting was brought to order by Regional Director, Don Bashore.

<p><b>Attendance: (Role Call by County)</b>  <b>Voting Delegates:</b></p> <p>Bedford – James Bence          Fulton – Seleen Shives          Dauphin – No delegate present          Juniata – Don Bashore          Lancaster – Frank Burkhart          Lebanon – Chuck Wertz          Mufflin – Don Baker          Perry – Todd Brajkovich          York – Pat Sueck          Cumberland – No Delegate present          Blair – Blaine Smith          Adams – No Delegate present          Huntingdon – No Delegate present          Franklin – No Delegate present</p>	<p><b>District personnel:</b></p> <p>Mark Kimmel – York          Dan Dunmire – Mifflin          Michael Hubler – Dauphin          Chris Snyder – Juniata          Jay Finkbiner – Juniata          Jennifer Lentz Kovacs – Bedford          Donald McNutt – Lancaster</p> <p><b>Agency Representatives:</b></p> <p>Susan Marquart – PACD          Karl Brown – SCC          MaryAnn Warren – PACD President          Scott Williamson – DEP          Bill Zett – DEP          Kelly Ireland – NRCS          Cheryl Johnson – NRCS</p>
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1. PACD Report - Susan Marquart

- Susan provided an activities Update
- Susan reviewed Budget & Financial Highlights; PACD’s legislative initiatives. Representative Keith McCall is supportive of Marcellus Severance Tax a portion of which would tag to Conservation Districts.
- PACD continues to meet with John Hines, DEP
- Capitol Day schedule was discussed.
- Susan gave an overview of the Strategic Planning – Please copy monthly report from PACD for Board members.
- Nutrient Credits Trading – two meetings held, approx 200 attended.
- Educational Activities –
  - PSATS Conservation – Display; MWEE grants to 9 Districts, Mini grants for NPS available.
  - PACD Awards – Due April 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - PACD Training information available on the PACD website, replacing DEP monthly training & event calendar.
  - Annual Conference in State College July 19-20, 2010.
- For thoughts, concerns, etc. about PACD contact Mary Ann Warren at [Mwarren@pacd.org](mailto:Mwarren@pacd.org).

2. Leadership Development Discussion – Karl Brown & Susan Marquart
  - Handout – Financial survey response; 50 of 66 Counties responded.
  - Discussion questions reviewed in break-out group. (Responses attached)
  
3. SCC Report – Karl Brown
  - Additional approx. \$1,800 to districts from PDA, Admin Asst. grant coming via CDFAP.
  - 102 Committee is coming soon – nominate folks to serve, within 2 weeks.
  - NMP Budgetary reserve - \$250,000 – current strategy doesn't impact Districts at this point.
  - CBP issues abound.
  
4. DEP – Scott Williamson
  - Ag Committee – PA Chapter 91 – (late 1970's) & 102. (1972)
  - Presidents Executive Order – Bay initiatives, MS4's.
  - Watson Run EPA Inspection overview – primary focus was/is manure handling 1 of 24 farms has critical issues, most others not serious, need paperwork to document practices in place.
  - PA's philosophy – have tools & partners to address the concerns; enhancements coming with 102 revisions, manure management manual (Field applications supplement).
  - Bay Tech Grant Application – New question – how handling Ag compliances (this will be due 2010/11 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (Sept) reimbursement application report).
  - DEP now following through when responding to Ag Complaints with letters requiring planning documents, written response for 102 & 91, using the Ag Action packet. If responsible party can not satisfy requirements may need to seek assistance, private or public agencies.
  - Seeing more Ag E&S plans coming in with permit updates etc...
  - Ag enforcement action – (2007, 20; 2008- 30; 2009 – 20) by DEP in South Central Region.
  - DEP Budget (SCRO) – 4 Compliance Specialists down to 2; Scott getting more involved with program.
  - EPA – leaning towards lowering CAFO thresholds, want most all farms to be a CAFO?
  - DEP is encouraging Districts to refer problem farms for their follow-up.
  - Bay Program may be a model for rest of the country from EPA's perspective.
  
5. NRCS Updates – Kathy Ireland
  - EQIP, CBWI, CSP, SWOT Team concept (Soil Con., Tech., Admins. Asst. low tech....) Added various positions across the Bay Basin.
  
6. Election of PACD Region Directors
  - Susan provided an overview of the duties for the Reg Director position.
  - Must be a Director in a County in Good Standing.

Nominations:

**Blain Smith, Blair County by Bedford**

**Juniata moved to close nominations, Mifflin County 2<sup>nd</sup>, Blain was elected by show of hands.**

7. District Forum

- York – provided a snapshot of Legislative Program talking points, Website hits as a marketing effort. % of the State Budget to District very small fraction.
- Mifflin – interest in Ag programs has definitely increased recently. Significant Amish community in the County. Lancaster shared Amish cooperation experience.
- Fulton – working on Ag Compliance policy.
- Lebanon – Developing an Annual Report Card, bullets of achievements for marketing tools. District is working hard to connect to community & staying positive with dealing with Commissioners. Board/staff communications is key. Working on drafting an MOU with the County, to be used in the future as appropriate.
- Dauphin – Met with Legislators locally. Endorsed the severance tax idea for Marcellus Shale. Conewago Creek initiative with Lebanon, Dauphin & Lancaster is developing a template for addressing Ag Impaired watersheds.
- Juniata – Ag interest in programs increasing. Ag Tech vacancy.
- Bedford – Special Project No-till & Cover crop program. Exploring the use of contributory agreements with NRCS. If TSP's can be paid 100% why can't Districts?
- Lancaster – EPA, Framework agreement, no comfort level with the conservation plan, so what will EPA ultimately agree to with regard to minimum criteria tools. Perhaps a Matrix ala NRCS plans.

8. Other:

- Dan Baker shared that Amos Funk recently passed away, pioneer with PACD.
- All thanked Don Bashore for his years of faithful service as Region Director.
- All thanked Juniata for coordinating the meeting logistics.

**Next Meeting Date to be determined, avoiding Monday if possible, work thru email via Blain Smith – [pamontana@atlanticbb.net](mailto:pamontana@atlanticbb.net)**

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Mark Kimmel