

**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
May 15, 2014**

A Special Board meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District was held on Thursday, May 15, 2014, at 12:30 PM, in the conference room of the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA. The meeting was advertised and conducted as a conference call meeting.

Chairman Frank Burkhart and Don McNutt, Administrator, participated in the conference call from the Farm & Home Center Conference Room. District staff members were also present in the Farm & Home Center Conference room.

**The following Directors participated in the conference call Board meeting:** Frank Burkhart, Chairman; Kenneth Meck, Vice-Chairman; Dan Heller, Dick Shellenberger, Sonia Wasco, and Commissioner Craig Lehman.

**The following Associate Director participated in the conference call Board meeting:** Don Robinson.

**The following Cooperating Agency representative participated in the Conference Call Board Meeting from the Farm & Home Center Conference Room:** Heather Grove, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The phone line was opened at 12:20 PM, and Chairman Frank Burkhart called the meeting to order at 12:32 PM. A roll call indicated that six of the nine voting directors were present.

An opportunity was given for public comment. None was offered.

**Design Minimum for Waste Storage Structure (Item #1)**

Don McNutt reported that the Minimum Sizing of Waste Storage Structures policy was attached to the Board mailing. The revised policy included changes as discussed at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. In the Requests for Exceptions paragraph, NRCS involvement was removed and minor changes in District protocol were revised. Ken Meck moved to approve the revised Design Minimum for Waste Storage Structure policy as presented. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion. Five yes votes were cast, by roll call (Commissioner Craig Lehman, Sonia Wasco, Dick Shellenberger, Ken Meck, Dan Heller), by all members participating in the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Search/Interview Committee Recommendation for Employment: (Item #2)**

Sonia Wasco, Chair of the Search/Interview Committee, announced that the committee had a name to submit to the Board for approval as District Manager. She asked the Board if there was a need to adjourn to Executive Session. Hearing none, the meeting proceeded. The Committee recommended Chris Thompson, currently Assistant District Manager at York County Conservation District for the past seven years where he is responsible for funding and staff. Wasco reported that the committee was pleased with their meeting with Thompson. Sonia Wasco moved that the District hire Chris Thompson as our next District Manager. Dick Shellenberger seconded the motion.

## Item #1

In discussion, members of the Search/Interview Committee stated that they were impressed with the caliber, exposure and experience of Thompson and that he will be a real asset for our District. It was stated that Thompson has integrity, experience managing people, finding funds and working with numbers and that he is passionate for this work.

Several committee members commented on the quality of the very qualified candidates and that there were several top candidates.

Commissioner Lehman questioned whether the recommendation was unanimous by the Search/Interview Committee, and the Committee responded that the recommendation was unanimous. Commissioner Lehman questioned how many candidates were interviewed by the Search/Interview Committee. Commissioner Lehman stated that he was uncomfortable with interviewing only one candidate, and that because he has not seen the qualifications of the top candidates he will abstain on the vote.

Yes votes were cast, by roll call, by Dan Heller, Ken Meck, Dick Shellenberger, Sonia Wasco and Chairman Frank Burkhart. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Lehman abstained from voting.

Sonia Wasco announced that details of Chris Thompson's employment will be finalized by the Personnel Committee, with a goal to have him in position by early July. Dan Heller thanked Sonia for coordinating the Search/Interview Committee and mentioned that there were 47 candidates and the work of North Group was appreciated by the Committee.

Dick Shellenberger moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 PM. Dan Heller seconded the motion. Yes votes were cast, by roll call, by all members participating in the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Paula Harnish  
Recording Secretary