



# Pike County Conservation District

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## PIKE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 18, 2024

The Board of Directors meeting was also held via Zoom Video Conference call.  
Information regarding the conference call was posted on the District website.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

**Directors:** Scott Savini, Kelly Stagen, Jay Morrow, John Milliken, Ken Coutts, Mike Spencer, Commissioner Ron Schmalzle

**Associate Directors:** Paul Ranello, Jo Ann Rose

**Staff:** Tara Mlodzienski, Ellen Enslin, Lisa Dolci, Chris Meszler, Ally McGee, Marianna Quartararo, Rachael Marques, Emily Mansfield

**Cooperating Agency Representatives:** Janet Creegan – DEP, Craig Lukatch – Lacawac Sanctuary, Jennifer Matthews - NRCS

**Guests:** Jeffrey DiFrancesco

**Directors/Associate Directors Absent:** Carole Linkiewicz

Scott Savini called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

**PUBLIC COMMENTS / QUESTIONS AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**ACTION ON MINUTES of February 26, 2024:** Mike Spencer made a motion to approve the February 26, 2024, Board Meeting minutes. Kelly Stagen seconded. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Final payment was sent for the completion of Low Volume Road Project, Chauncey Thomas Road. Report filed, subject to audit.

**CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:** None

**DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT:** Rachael is preparing for spring sampling that will begin soon. Due to low registration, we have cancelled the Contractor's Workshop that was scheduled for Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. We have begun working with Monroe County to start planning the Engineers Workshop that will be in May. The February Science on Tap program had over 40 people in attendance. Emily and Tara attended the Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape Stakeholders meeting. There was a great focus on improving inclusivity in outdoor recreation. PCCD was tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual PACD Conservation District Awards for our "iMap Invasives Scavenger Hunt" video. The Route 402 Clean-up will take place next month after the board meeting; anyone interested in participating can let Lisa know by April 8<sup>th</sup>. The County provided emergency maps of the building and evacuation plans that are hung near the front entrance and Education Room entrance.

### **OLD BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PCCD Mascot Update** – We have received the 3 final images of the mascot and will be getting ready to promote the mascot to the public with the naming contest.

Inclusion Committee Update – In addition to Kelly Stagen, Mike Spencer, and Lisa Dolci, Emily Mansfield and Ellen Enslin will be participating in the Inclusion Committee. The first meeting will be held in April.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

DEP Surface Water Monitoring Audit – Rachael Marques, Watershed Specialist – DEP currently has 3 tiers of data they use to determine streams. Tier 1 is considered Citizen Science data. Tier 2 is a little higher but not regulated by DEP and cannot be used for stream determination; this is where our data is grouped. We are trying to obtain a Tier 3 status, but in order to do that, we had to participate in training and an audit with DEP to go over their protocol for collecting data they can use. The audit was completed last week, and we are awaiting the results.

Lacawac Sanctuary Request for Letter of Support – Craig Lukatch, President of Lacawac Sanctuary (vote) – Lacawac Sanctuary is applying for a DCNR Grant to fund the development of a master site plan for the Mark and Courtney Peterson Nature Preserve in Pike County. With the approved grant, it would allow for professional planning, environmental assessment, and creation of a publicly supported master plan for the Peterson Preserve that will one day include over 281 acres. Kelly Stagen made a motion to approve the letter of support. Ken Coutts seconded. Motion carried.

**Cooperating Agency and Other Organization Reports:**

PACD – Kelly and Tara will be attending the regional meeting next month where it will be discussed if Districts will be asked to pay a \$500 donation.

DEP – Janet wanted to remind everyone they can still sign up for the training tomorrow at Monroe County for the Strategic Board Development workshop.

NRCS – Jennifer stated they are waiting for their allocations to start writing contracts for EQIP and AMA. They are working on setting up a virtual work group meeting for the middle of April and have reached out to Districts for availability.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**PUBLIC/PRESS QUESTIONS:** None

**ADJOURN:** Kelly Stagen made a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors Meeting. Ken Coutts seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Dolci, Board Secretary