Berkshire Conservation District
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BCD Supervisor Meeting Minutes
Monday June 9, 2025 starting at 4:30pm

The Berkshire Conservation District convened a Supervisors Meeting. Members of the public were invited to attend via Zoom link and were welcome to speak during the public comment period.

1. 4:34 Call to order and Determination of Quorum - Adam Galambos, Chair
   There was a quorum, and Adam convened the meeting at 4:34pm. Present: Adam Galambos (Chair), Ron Kujawski (Vice Chair), Donna Kittredge (Secretary), Max Prum, Dave Klimowicz, Ambrose Clausen (Program Manager), Cynthia Grippaldi (District Administrator), and Jill Wenner (Strategic Program Assistant)

2. 4:36 Public Comment Period
   There were no members of the public present.

3. 4:40 Report from NRCS Representative - Kaliegh Walther, Soil Conservationist, USDA-NRCS a.
   Update on NRCS office staffing – Emily Mariott is filling in for Sylvia who will be returning from maternity leave on July 5th.
   b. NRCS Practices and Activity status update

4. 4:46 Secretary's Report – Submitted by Donna Kittredge, Secretary
   a. Review and approval of the May 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes
      Ron made a motion to accept the May 8 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Donna. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.

5. 4:48 Treasurer's Report – Submitted by Lynn Browne, Bookkeeper
   a. Review and approval of Treasurer's Report
      Liability insurance is due in July. Mike wants to order some replacement parts for the no-till. Ron made a motion to approve, seconded by Donna. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.

6. 4:52 Program/Grant Updates - Ambrose Clausen, Program Manager
   a. Healthy Soils programming update – still coming out of Challenge Grant Round 1. Soil health workshops finished up at Muddy Brook during the second week in May. Ambrose shared some photos of the workshop. Magic puppets will send high-res photos of the event. He spoke with some teachers who want help with content. The teachers love people who come in with enthusiasm. He recommended applying to Mass Ag in the classroom. There's a fall application for that grant. Eleven people attended the April 22nd workshop in Great Barrington with Rubin Perilla. A free workshop was held in Sheffield on May 24th to demo using things you can find for free for measuring soil density.
   b. Plant Sale updates – the catalog is ready to go. Ambrose printed posters. Plant Sale costs will mostly happen in FY '26.
   c. No-Till updates – we have had 3 rentals: 1 on the large drill, and 2 on the small drill. We had 1 new person because of the small drill. Another is scheduled for September. A couple of people are waiting to decide. Participation in the program is slow this year.
   d. Environmental Film Festival participation – the movie was about a conservation group in Spain buying up land that was once farmed and creating relationships with abutting farmers. Ambrose brought postcards for the No-till and plant sale and was part of a panel at the end of the movie.
   e. FY25/26 B&I 'Urban Ag and Community Engagement' grant planning and implementation – Ambrose contacted our partners and explained the reimbursement model. Pittsfield Community Gardens has been in touch with Amy Pulley at Wing And a Prayer to order native plants and to talk about educational options she could support. They are going to expand the garden beds on

the Commons and we are going to fund half of that expansion. Dicken will be providing compost.

f. MDAR Farmland Protection Program grant application update – Jill reported that the partner proposal has been submitted to MACD. We are one of 9 applicants. We got notice on the 19th that MACD submitted the proposal to MDAR.

7. 5:18 New Business
   a. BCD Annual Plan – Jill mentioned this is a living document for internal guidance. This is a valuable document showing what our District does. Ron made a motion to accept the 2025 Annual Work Plan as submitted, seconded by Max. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.
   b. There was an issue with our online sign-up form not working. Cynthia engaged Sitka to help get the sign-up form corrected on our website.

8. 5:38 Supervisor/Staff Comments and/or Announcements
   a. Supervisor Committees - fundraising, grant opportunities, programming, etc. –
      Adam mentioned that members of the public can join the committees we develop. Max is interested in forming an agro forestry committee. Donna offered to be on a fundraising committee. Adam mentioned that outside folks can be involved in these committees. Adam suggested targeted asks with meeting dates, and meeting content to entice people. We talked about needing a supervisor to lead each committee. Fundraising comes through each committee. A plant sale committee?
   b. Schedule July Supervisor meeting for Monday, July 7th at 5:30pm.
   c. Adam mentioned he needs to step away from being chair. He asked if anyone is willing to take over the officer position of chair. Adam brought up Max's name and suggested they talk offline. Cynthia suggested we define the role of chair which is running meetings, being on record, and signing documents.

9. 6:15 Motion to Adjourn Meeting
   Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ron. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.