Berkshire Conservation District
78 Center St. Suite 102, Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 443-1776 x102

BCD Supervisor Meeting Minutes
Monday July 7, 2025 starting at 5:30pm

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. 5:30 Call to order and Determination of Quorum - Adam Galambos, Chair
   There was a quorum, and Adam convened the meeting at 5:35pm. Present: Adam Galambos (Chair), Ron Kujawski (Vice Chair), Donna Kittredge (Secretary), Ned Kirchner, Max Prum, Jocelyn Latvalla, Dave Klimowicz, Ambrose Clausen (Program Manager), Cynthia Grippaldi (District Administrator), and Jill Wenner (Strategic Program Assistant)

2. 5:40 Public Comment Period
   There were no members of the public present.

3. 5:50 Report from NRCS Representative - Kaliegh Walther, Soil Conservationist, USDA-NRCS a. Update on NRCS office staffing
   b. NRCS Practices and Activity status update
   There was no one present from NRCS.

4. 6:05 Secretary's Report – Submitted by Donna Kittredge, Secretary
   a. Review and approval of the June 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes
   Ron made a motion to accept the June 9 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Donna. There was a roll-call and all were in favor. Ned abstained from voting as he was not present for the June meeting.

5. 6:15 Treasurer's Report – Submitted by Lynn Browne, Bookkeeper
   a. Review and approval of Treasurer's Report
   There is some Challenge Grant money left. We're using the new Basic and Innovation grant money. A Paypal deposit of $953 was transferred to the bank. Mike has not ordered parts for the no-till yet. There is money from the Challenge Grant through June '26 for repair and maintenance. Donna made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ned. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.

6. 6:25 Program/Grant Updates - Ambrose Clausen, Program Manager
   a. Healthy Soils programming update – all April and May events have concluded. Ambrose has a booklet of the slideshows from the two events. He would like to purchase a pH meter and is looking for a good price. Ned said to be careful of the low cost meters because of erroneous measurements. Ambrose spoke with Matthew from HCCD and they are working on specialized tools that farms could borrow. He's staying in touch with Multicultural Bridge about possibly holding a second event at the end of the summer.
   b. Plant Sale updates – Ambrose purchased nut trees from Yellowbud Farm (30 plants). He got northern pecan, hybrid chestnut, and two types of hickory. Ambrose lowered the price of the plants from New England Wetlands a bit this year. We discussed adding plants for food to the Plant Sale. As of today, we have 21 orders. Ambrose talked with Dicken about having an educational component at the Plant Sale. Bees and jumping worms are a hot topic. Dicken would like to talk about biochar. We could do a demo on bareroot planting using biochar. There would be a speaker fee.
   c. No-Till updates – it has been a slow start to the season. Mike sent some photos of a seeding he did. Mike has been covering most of the acreage this year. All of our renters are repeats.
   d. FY25/26 B&I 'Urban Ag and Community Engagement' grant planning and implementation –

Pittsfield Community Gardens is working with Amy Pulley to order plants. BCD will cover the invoice. Ambrose shared our reimbursement model with Woven Roots for their education program.

7. 6:45 Supervisor/Staff Comments and/or Announcements
    a. Supervisor Committees - fundraising, grant opportunities, programming, etc. –
    Max is interested in forming an agro forestry committee. Donna offered to be on a fundraising committee.
    b. Supervisor Officers update - Max and Adam had a conversation about Adam phasing out of the Chair role. Max said he would consider an interim temporary chair position. Adam would step into Ron's role as Vice Chair. Ned mentioned that at every Annual Meeting, we review our officers.
    The motions were as follows:
    -Adam made a motion to resign, seconded by Ned. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.
    -Ron made a motion to resign as Vice-chair, seconded by Ned. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.
    -Adam made a motion for Max to fill the role of chair until the Annual Meeting, seconded by Ned. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.
    -Ned made a motion to nominate Adam for Vice Chair, Ron seconded. There was a roll-call and all were in favor.

    c. Schedule August Supervisor meeting for Monday, August 11th at 3:00pm via Zoom

8. 7:15 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.