

Cindy B. Harding, Chair
Thomas E. Boldin
Carl V. Homan
Ralph Wheland



Joseph Homan
Thomas Songer III
Ronald J. Hoover
Dennis E. Buffington
Diana Griffith, Coordinator

CENTRE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 29, 2021

Present: C. Harding; T. Boldin; C. Homan; R. Wheland; J. Homan; T. Songer; D. Buffington

Staff: Diana Griffith (Centre County Planning Office)
Stacy Mann (Centre County Planning Office)
Ray Stolinas (Centre County Planning Office)

Public: David Burket & Lynn MacNamara; Nancy & Webb Miller; Ryan Hamilton

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harding at 7:32 p.m. The meeting was held in person in Room 146 of the Willowbank Office Building and was also on the Zoom virtual meeting platform. The meeting was recorded for future reference.

Introductions

At the suggestion of Mr. Buffington everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Songer and seconded by Mr. C. Homan, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinators Report

Pauline E. Cooper Estate Farm

Ms. Griffith said the Cooper Farm was approved at the State Board Meeting in June. We will have the closing when the funds are processed in about four months.

Larry F. and Suzanne M. Harpster Farm Survey

Ms. Griffith reported that Greg Shufran completed the survey and said she was working hard to meet the deadline to get the Harpster farm on the State Board's August agenda.

Recommendations for Successor to Frederick Moore

In light of Mr. Moore's resignation, Ms. Griffith reminded the Board of the vacancy to be filled by an at large individual.

ASA Archive Updates

Ms. Griffith is continuing to work with municipalities on their ASA updates.

Education and Communication Projects

Ms. Griffith is working on a gallery of photos of the preserved farms for the website; a presentation for the

Ag Forum at the November Meeting, and updating various fact sheets and publications.

2021 PACE Ranked Waitlist

Benuel Zook Farm Application Status

The Benuel Zook Farm was put on hold because of Mr. Zook's passing and until his estate's executors are ready to proceed with his application. Ms. Griffith reported that she had sent a condolence letter to the family on behalf of the Board and advised them to let us know their wishes when they were ready. Mrs. Zook's father called to advise that the family is still interested in preserving the farm.

Leo and Bernard Corl Application Status

The Corl Farm is now active again on the waiting list. The Corls are no longer under contract with the solar company and no solar panels were installed on their property.

David Burket Farm, 2021 PACE Applicant #1

Ms. Griffith presented the board with an overview of the 19.94 acre property that scored 77.367 in LESA. Mr. Burket has an Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control (AG E&S) Plan on file through the farm's operator, Kirk Behrer. Both Daina Beckstrand of the Conservation District office and Andrea Reiner of the PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation advised that the AG E&S Plan complies with their conservation plan requirements. After long discussion, and on a motion by Mr. Songer and seconded by Mr. Boldin, the Board voted to approve the Burket Farm with the contingency that an NRCS approved plan be obtained prior to closing on the easement. Motion carried.

On a motion by Mr. Wheland and seconded by Mr. C. Homan the Board voted to authorize an appraisal for the Burket Farm in Ferguson Township. Motion carried.

Nancy and Webb Miller Farm, 2021 PACE Applicant #3

Ms. Griffith presented the board with an overview of the 62.33 acre property that scored 75.161 in LESA. The conservation plan on file is that of preserved landowner Todd Irvin who now farms their property. After long discussion, and on a motion by Mr. Buffington and seconded by Mr. C. Homan, the Board voted to table approval until clarification of the manure management plan and an NRCS plan that is specific for the Millers' parcel can be verified. Motion carried.

Items for the Good of the Order

Mr. Boldin suggested adding to the agenda an advisory that the meeting is being recorded.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 23, 2021 in Room 146 of the Willowbank Office Building beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Homan and seconded by Mr. Boldin, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Stacy Mann
Recording Secretary