

Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Board Meeting

June 20, 2019

DEP South-Central Regional Office
Harrisburg, PA

In Attendance—Members

William Neilson, PA Farm Bureau
Ramez Ziadeh, DEP, Executive Deputy Secretary
Christopher Uhland, Ornamental Horticulture
Destiny Zeiders, PA House
Walter Moore, Dairy
JV Lamb, PA Grange
Matt Royer, Penn State
Pete Vanderstappen, NRCS

In Attendance—Agencies, Advisors, and Guests

Kelly O'Neill, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Jay Braund, PA DEP Bureau of Clean Water
Nate Crawford, PA DEP Bureau of Clean Water
Steve Taglang, PA DEP, Bureau of Clean Water
Megan Porta, PA DEP, Bureau of Clean Water
Doug Goodlander, PA DEP, Bureau of Clean Water
Lauren Shaffer, PA Farm Bureau
Brian Chalfant, PA DEP, Policy Office
Tom Barron, PA DEP, Bureau of Clean Water
Karl Brown, SCC
Amy Brown, PACD

The meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Board (Board) was called to order by JV Lamb at 9:30 am.

Members of the board introduced themselves, as did the other meeting attendees.

Meeting Minutes— A quorum was not achieved.

Legislative Update— Destiny Zeiders provide the Board a list of agriculturally related bills.

PAG-01 – Low Impact Project Chapter 102/NPDES Permit and PAG-02 Chapter 102/NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Stormwater Construction Activities – Nate Crawford, provided the Board with an update on the development of a new low impact Chapter 102/NPDES Permit. The intent is to facilitate somewhat easier and faster permitting for sites deemed to be low-impact construction sites. Mr. Crawford also reviewed updates to the PAG-02. It was the consensus of the Board to form a workgroup to review the PAG-01 in more depth.

Manganese – Tom Barron provided the Board an update on the Water Quality Division’s efforts to develop a water quality standard for manganese. On October 30, 2017, Act 40 was passed, directing the Environmental Quality Board to promulgate regulations that would require moving the point of compliance for discharges of manganese from the point of discharge to the point of potable water supply (PWS) withdrawal. A presentation on manganese was given to the Board on October 25, 2018, seeking input on the potential impact on agricultural uses, or agriculture-related businesses on operations; and estimates of the direct and indirect costs to these uses, businesses, or operations.

Ag E&S Manual – Megan Porta thanked the board for their participation in the development of the manual. The development of the Ag E&S Manual involved many different parties, including CCDs, SCC, Penn State Extension, NRCS, and Board members. DEP received constructive feedback that was incorporated into the manual following publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. Next steps include publication and development of accompanying materials (FAQ/Fact Sheets) and training (web-based and in-person)

The next Board meeting will be August 29, 2019 at the PA Department of Agriculture.