

**CHESTER COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD
MINUTES**

July 24, 2018 at 2:00 PM - GSC – Room 175

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Melba Matthews called the July 24, 2018 meeting of the Agricultural Land Preservation Board (ALPB) to order at 2:10 pm, in room 175, Chester County Government Services Center.

The following Board Members were in attendance: Melba Matthews, Eli Silberman, Richard Abbott, Bill Covaleski, and Amy McKenna.

Staff: William Gladden, Geoff Shellington, Evan Martin, Caroline Fritschle, and Linda Williams.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Board meeting minutes from May 22, 2018 were approved. Motioned by Eli Silberman, Richard Abbott seconds. Motion Carries.

4. State Ag Easement Status

2015 Round

Hawthorne, Judson & Stayce – Offer Accepted – West Fallowfield Township
Pearson, Dean – Settled Easement – West Nottingham Township

2016 Round

Esch, John – Settled Easement – West Caln Township
Fisher, Christian – Settled Easement – Elk Township
Handy, William – Offer Accepted – Valley Township
Hutchison Farms – Offer Accepted – Penn Township
McElhenny, David – Offer Accepted – Honey Brook Township
Meister, Carl – Offer Accepted – West Bradford Township
Neal, Frank – Settled Easement – West Caln Township
Newswanger, Larry – Offer Accepted – Sadsbury Township
Schulz, Robert – Settled Easement – Franklin Township
Stoltzfus, Christian – Settled Easement – Honey Brook Township
Umble, Ken – Offer Accepted – West Sadsbury Township
Walton Farms – Offer Accepted – West Fallowfield Township
Westlake Land Company – Settled Easement – Honey Brook Township

2017 Round

Astle, Arthur – Offer Accepted – Lower Oxford Township
Buchanan, Sherry – Settled Easement – Elk Township
Glenroy & Glenknockie – Offer Accepted – Lower Oxford, East and West Nottingham Townships
L & T Landholdings – Offer Accepted – Penn Township
Helfferich, William – Offer Accepted – Warwick Township
Martin, Christina – Offer Accepted – West Caln Township
Moore, James – Settled Easement – East Nantmeal Township

Reyburn, Holly #1 – Offer Accepted – Upper Oxford Township
Reyburn, Holly #2 – Offer Accepted – Upper Oxford Township
Roberts, Ken – Offer Accepted – London Britain Township
Rohrer, Gerald – Offer Accepted – Upper Oxford Township
Stoltzfus, Benuel – Offer Accepted – West Caln Township
Stoltzfus, Henry & Sadie – Offer Accepted – Honey Brook Township
Stoltzfus, John et al. – Offer Accepted – Franklin Township
Stoltzfus, Jonas & Lizzie – Offer Accepted – Honey Brook Township
Trzcinski/Camphill – Offer Extended – West Vincent Township
Tupitza, James – Offer Extended – Newlin Township
Waltz, David – Offer Accepted – West Fallowfield Township
Werner, John – Offer Accepted – West Nantmeal Township

5. Challenge Grant Program – Status Report

None

6. Subdivision Request: Astle Easement #1 & #2

Evan Martin, Stewardship Coordinator, presented a request to subdivide the Stoltzfus-Fisher Farm, formerly the Astle Property, a total of 113.6 acres. Motioned by Richard Abbott, Eli Silberman seconds. Motion carries.

7. Drone Presentation

Caroline Fritschle, Stewardship Coordinator, presented before and after drone videos of the Stream Restoration Project at the Richards Farm in East Marlborough Township.

8. Executive Session

Real Estate: Appraisals (1)

9. Updates and Other Business

Geoff Shellington, Agricultural Programs Coordinator, mentioned the PA Department of Agriculture has re-certified the Department of Open Space Preservation until 12/31/2025. Also, Open Space Preservation sent out 705 Farmland Preservation applications. The deadline for the 2018 Round is 8/1/2018.

Bill Gladden presented some statistics of the then and now of “Open Space”. In 1996, only 8% of Chester County’s land was preserved, and as of 12/31/2017, 28% of the County’s almost 500,000 acres are preserved. The Agricultural Land Preservation Board and the Open Space team members thank Bill for all of his conservation efforts as Director of Open Space Preservation and wish him all the best as he moves forward as Executive Director of French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm. Rick Abbott motions, Amy McKenna seconds the motion. Motion carries.

11. Next Meeting – August 28, 2018 at 2:00 PM in Room 175 -- GSC