

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BUTLER COUNTY**  
**AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD**

Farm Service Agency, 625 Evans City Road, Butler 16001

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022 – 7:00PM

Members In Attendance	Members Absent	Visitors in Attendance
Ken Moniot, Chairman	Luke Fritz	
Bill Duncan, Vice-Chairman	Eugene Bergbigler	
Rob Burr, Secretary	Alvin Vogel	
Larry Baumgartel, Treasurer		
John Allen		
Rick Stuchal		
		<b>Staff in Attendance</b>
Commissioner Kimberly D. Geyer – Ex Officio		Sheryl Kelly

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Ken Moniot on Thursday, August 25, 2022. A quorum was present.

**1. Public Comment**

- There was no public comment.

**2. Commissioner’s Report**

- Commissioner Geyer reported on the following items:

- The Butler County Commissioners attended the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) Convention in Lancaster County. One of the challenges that was discussed regarding farms is the workforce issue regarding the harvesting of crops.
- The Butler County Ag Preservation Board terms for John, Ken and Larry expire at the end of 2022 and all expressed an interest in being reappointed.
- The Conservation District meeting was held earlier in the day and work is going well there – they are very busy. They will be receiving \$2 million from the State Conservation Commission that will be allocated over four years for various projects, including supplementing NRCS projects where applicable.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Chairman Moniot asked if the Board reviewed July meeting minutes and if there were any comments or corrections needed and if not, for a motion to approve. There was a motion made by Rick Stuchal to accept the minutes with a second made by Treasurer Larry Baumgartel. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **4. Old Business**

#### **- 2022 #1 Flinner, 2022 #2 Kradel and 2022 #3 Hartzell**

- Sheryl reported that the appraisal for Flinner has not yet been received.
- Mr. Kradel has accepted the Board's offer for easement purchase.
  - There was a motion made by Vice-Chairman Bill Duncan to move forward with a property survey and title work, with a second by John Allen. All members were in favor and the motion was approved.
- Regarding the Hartzell Farm, there was discussion on hiring an appraiser to get started on this farm. Chairman Moniot called for a motion to hire. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Bill Duncan to hire Jim Kelly if he is available to complete the appraisal and there was a second by Rick Stuchal. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

#### **- Allen (2021 Clinton Twp #1) and Hebda (2022 Clinton Township #1)**

- Sheryl reported that the Allen farm survey is reportedly completed but that she does not yet have a copy.

#### **- Preserved Farm Signs**

- Sheryl is waiting for some clarification to the quote that was submitted by the Dept. of Corrections but that the signs would be ordered once that clarification is made.

#### **- Powell Farm Proposal**

- There was discussion by Board members on the proposal submitted by Cranberry Township and Sheryl reported that township representatives would be attending the Ag Board's September meeting to discuss this. The Board agreed that Doug Wolfgang should be invited to attend and if needed, for him to attend by conference call.

#### **- Guideline Change**

- The Butler County Ag Board's proposed county guideline change regarding the 60-day time limit for a chosen landowner to submit their appraisal deposit will appear on the State Ag Board's October agenda, per Doug Wolfgang.

## **5. New Business**

### **- Clinton Township**

- Vice-Chairman Bill Duncan reported that 15 farms have been added to Clinton Township's agricultural security area and that now 1/3 of the township is enrolled. There will be a possible easement donation of a 150 acre farm being proposed in the near future.

## **6. Adjourn**

Chairman Moniot called for a motion to adjourn. There was a motion made by Treasurer Baumgartel with a second by Vice-Chairman Bill Duncan. All were in favor and the motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

### **Next Meeting:**

**September 22, 2022** at the

**Farm Service Agency Building, 625 Evans City Road, Butler, PA 16001**

Respectfully submitted by Sheryl Kelly for Board Secretary Rob Burr.