

DERRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes, July 31, 2018 Special Meeting

3:30 p.m.

The special meeting of the Derry Township Board of Supervisors was called to order in the Municipal Building at 5321 Route 982, Derry, PA at 3:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by David Slifka and seconded by James Prohaska to adjourn the previous meeting.

Voting: David Slifka-yes, James Prohaska-yes, and Vincent DeCario-yes

Members present were: Vincent DeCario, David Slifka, and James Prohaska-Supervisors; Krisha DiMascio, Solicitor.

Also present were: Doug Siler, Engineer; Jessica Kane, Dan Griffith, Tony Quadro, Ron Rohall-WCDPA; Nathaniel Manchin, Guy Hostetler-EQT

The meeting was opened to discuss the recent weather events for the affected property owners along Raymond Avenue, Frank Circle, Gretchen Lane and Louis Drive that border the adjacent farmland.

Dan Griffith, WCDPA said the farm's owner has been required to get a conservation plan from the federal agency Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS) for the property as a result of a complaint filed August 2, 2017 regarding the farmland. That plan has now been developed and we have discussed with the owner the schedule of practices that are to be placed on the land to handle erosion from the 10-year storm.

Tony Quadro said farmer generally works with NRCS, so we're dependent on the NCRS to develop the plan. All we do is try to push that along. WCDPA met with farmer and landowner July 30, 2018 regarding the conservation plan. The plan calls for the planting of buffer strips, a cover crop to be planted prior to harvesting the soybeans this fall and for buffer strips and grass waterways in the spring.

Jessica Kane, WCDPA Erosion Control Specialist and Compliance Coordinator – nature of complaint started with the farm (not EQT pipeline). When she first visited the site, EQT did not meet vegetative cover requirements for its work area, but the company's efforts to work toward meeting the 70% cover benchmark constitutes the company being compliant. They used a practice called hydroseeding, which involves spraying the bare ground with a slurry of grass seed and mulch in an attempt to regrow vegetative cover. Rainstorms washed it off before it had time to cure both times. As long as the company continues actively making attempts to grow vegetative cover in the area, it will be considered in compliance.

Don Weiers of Louis Drive said flooding became an issue in December 2016 when farmer plowed the hillside and made a deliberate 80' channel.

The township solicitor suggested residents affected by runoff from the fields band together and seek legal representation to file a lawsuit against the farm owner and any other entities they deem responsible for the issue.

Doug Siler brought up meeting sometime in September to get parties together to discuss the Sulphur Run watershed problems. Will try to have another public meeting to get input on problem areas before this other meeting.

Brenda Shaffer mentioned also having sewage issues. Flooding coming from sewage lines also. Jim to contact sewage authority to see if they could camera the drains.

Joe McClelland asked if some curbs could be built up around the drain boxes (they helped years ago but got washed away). Dave did not see a problem with this.

Motion was made by James Prohaska and seconded by David Slifka to recess until Tuesday, August 7, 2018.

Voting: David Slifka-yes, James Prohaska-yes, and Vincent DeCario-yes