

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

September 9th, 2026 7pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tara Christman called the EAC meeting to order at 7:00 pm, in the township meeting room.

ROLL CALL

EAC members present: Tara Christman, Julia Smith, Katrina Faust and Bill Peirsol

Not Present: Barbara Dunn

Others present: Board of Supervisors Romnie Long and Matt McCluskey

TAPING OF MEETING

Tara Christman filled in as secretary and recorded meeting, Bill Peirsol also was taping

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of July 8th meeting minutes - Motion made by Katrina Faust, seconded by Julia Smith- All ayes

Approval of August 12th meeting minutes were not done due to member absence and votes needed to approve them

NEW BUSINESS

BOS Feedback from 8/27 meeting- Tara informed the board that Matt McClusky stated to reach out to township manager Sue Brown, who was absent that night, about seeing what happened with the insurance carrier

EAC conference-Tara gave a brief introduction to the EAC conference, and invited members of the board to attend if they were interested. She stated that there is a cost of \$90 to attend, which she informed the BOS at their August meeting, and that next year it will be asked that the township covers that cost for our members as other municipalities do that for their EACs. EAC members were excited and interested to hear of this opportunity.

Grants for EAC- Christman spoke on the DEP recycling evaluation grants, and that it was requested that the BOS allow the EAC to apply for, or have someone else from the township apply for this grant. She stated another grant opportunity was sent to her from Senator Pennycuik's office regarding can collection. However due to the township not having recycling bins in its park, it would be difficult to do much with that grant,

EAC budget- EAC chair went through the EAC budget. Discussion took place on the request of purchasing a flatbed hand truck and a recycling cart. Member Bill Peirsol stated he wanted it on record that he felt it was not needed to have these things. Tara Christman stated she felt that the items would be a beneficial purchase as it would improve the wait times for cars to unload

materials as more items can be loaded into the carts vs. having volunteers carry them. She stated it could also help people who are elderly, or smaller as they wouldn't have to carry as much weight. Christman also brought up how these items are multi-use- cardboard or other items that need to be off the floor could be stored on them. They would also be available to other township staff/road crew; for example when there are events these could be used by volunteers to unload items or move them around easier. Lastly, it was pointed out that the EAC budget requests are minimal compared to requests from the Recreation board, and that EAC should not feel guilty for asking for a beneficial item when Recreation is asking for \$1000 for birdhouses. Katrina Faust asked to see pictures of what these items looked like, and then suggested maybe purchasing only one item for now. After a brief discussion on the use of a flat bed vs. a bucket type cart it was decided to move forward with the budget as proposed minus the flat bed truck item. Christman Motioned to approve EAC 2027 budget as proposed minus flatbed truck. Faust 2nd, Ayes- Christman, Faust, Smith Nays- Peirsol. Motion passed.

Red Barn Safety Rules and Procedures- Christman went through the packet. It was decided it was unneeded to have volunteers operate the baler only when the center was closed as no one has ever witnessed them doing anything unsafe. Supervisor McClusky asked if all operators were properly trained, in which Tara Christman said yes and informed him that all training materials are available online for anyone to take. McClusky asked if there were any rules for when trained balers were absent, in which Christman said that the baler would only ever be operated if a trained individual was available, so in the case they were all absent there would be no baling done that day. Christman said the new procedures/rules will be given to all employees and made available at all times to them in the Red Barn. Motion to Approve Red Barn Safety Rules- Christman, 2nd Smith

Ayes- Christman Peirsol Smith Faust Nays- None

Letter to trash haulers- Letter to trash haulers was explained. Members were informed that Berks County Solid Waste Authority gave their input on it and they said it sounded good. Bill Peirsol stated he feels that there should be some sort of proof given to the EAC after each letter is sent to make sure trash haulers are getting the letter. Christman made a suggestion of confirming with the township manager that all was sent, and offering to send the letters to the haulers if it made the managers job easier. Motion to approve letter to trash haulers -Bill Peirsol, 2nd Tara Christman All Ayes

Purging of old bins- It was suggested to ask volunteers of Red Barn if they wanted any before getting rid of them.

Data Ordinance and Master Park Plan- a brief overview of both took place. EAC members were encouraged to voice any concerns or thoughts if they had any. None were stated

Newsletter articles- It was agreed upon for Christman to update the recycling information to reflect the dates for the 2027 spring and fall cleanup, as well as list all the Saturdays that the Red barn will be open. It was also agreed upon to give information on the benefits of recycling as well as a section that discussed stray and lost animals. A brief discussion took place regarding the original list of rescues on the 1st draft, and how in order for some of those rescues to be listed as a resource for the township, our township would need a contract/agreement with those rescues. EAC discussed the need for the township to have a contract with these resources as there has been a lot of stray/lost animals and feral cats. Katrina Faust asked what the process was for that, and agreed to take the first step and reach out to the rescues to see how our township could go about contracting with them. Once that

info is given, EAC will discuss making a recommendation to the BOS.

Cubler Ct. Open Space- Discussion of the encroachment issues that were discussed at August BOS meeting were brought up. Tara Christman, who is also a recreation board member, suggested that this issue be discussed with the recreation board because it was an interest of them to look into finding ways to revitalize these smaller open spaces into something low/non cost for the township. For example a meadow, or community garden could be something EAC could seek grant funding for.

SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

None

OLD BUSINESS

Bill to reach out to various recycling centers for quotes- Bill spoke on contacting cougles who was bought by whitetail. He said that he asked about the facility on 663, and if they would be able to take bales there, in which they said no.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board of Supervisor meeting is 9/24/26 7pm

Planning commission meeting is 10/1/26 7pm

Board of Supervisors Budget Meeting 10/6-10/7/26 7pm

Park & Rec committee meeting is 10/13/26 7pm

NEXT EAC MEETING

August 14, 2026 7pm

ADJOURNMENT

Tara motioned to adjourn, Julia 2nd.