# PENN TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES March 13, 2025 – 7:00 PM

#### ATTENDANCE:

Richard Landis, Board of Supervisors & Chairman Glenn Sauder Jared Bruckhart Dale Nolt

# **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jennifer Tulonen, Township Planner

#### **Call to Order**

Mr. Landis called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

#### Introductions

There were no community members present.

#### **Previous Meeting Minutes**

After review of the January 09, 2025 meeting minutes, Chair Landis asked for a motion of approval. Nolt made a motion to approve and Sauder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

The committee discussed the 2026 farmer appreciation event in detail.

- Speaker for the event/evening, several options were discussed:
  - Solar energy (Paradise Energy)
  - o Roger Rohrer, Stasburg Township farmer (2023 DELP award recipient, active in riparian buffering)
  - o Sean Haldeman, quail farm
  - o Purple Moon Farms, lavender farm
  - o Haldeman Mills, flours and mixes, grain mill
  - o Hershey Farms, freezer beef
  - o Chemgro, seed production

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The committee discussed the potential speakers and format for the evening and tentatively decided to choose 2-3 speakers for 10-15 minutes each for a short presentation/explanation on each of their farms/business operations. Richard L. will work with Jennifer T. on points of contact.

The committee considered dates for scheduling the farmer event for 2026 as follows, ordered by preference. Consideration is being given to evenings where other planned Township meetings do not fall.

- 1. February 5, 2026
- 2. February 12, 2026
- 3. February 3, 2026

The Township's meeting calendar and schedule hasn't been determined yet, but Jennifer T. will coordinate with Barb G. on date preferences for the farmer event when the Township calendar is being drafted in the fall.

# **New Business**

The committee discussed the potential for awarding an agricultural scholarship to a Penn Township community member pursuing a college education in agriculture. A letter from the Township Solicitor was presented to the members on some of the legal issues that may arise for the ASAAC/Penn Township Board of Supervisors to allocate funds in this manner. Alternatives, such as allocating funds for agricultural internship in lieu of scholarship, utilizing the existing PennIDA as an option, and awarding a scholarship to 3<sup>rd</sup> year college students were discussed in great detail. No decision on the matter was taken, and the item was tabled for further discussion.

# **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:27PM on a motion from Nolt and a second from Bruckhart.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 08, 2025 at 7:00 PM at Penn Township Municipal Building.