

EAC members attending: Scott McBurney, Robin Hoy, Gia Yaccarino
EAC members absent: Jason Funk, Nicholas D'Amato
Supervisor attending: Jane Magne
Other attendees: Mike Hoy, Dana Hunting

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:30. Minutes of the 7/14/25 meeting were approved.

Scott reported on his conversation with his contact at DEP who specializes in TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) that is responsible for reviewing the sediment reduction requirements, and the SE Regional Coordinator at DEP, Elizabeth Mahoney. Elizabeth indicated that PADEP views the PRP as “a living document” and expect changes for improvement until implementation. The process for modifying the PRP involve re-submitting the PRP with proposed changes to DEP for approval, then re-publicizing for public comment.

Scott, Mike, and Robin reported that they had walked the stream bed a week after the 45 minute 2 1/2 inch rainstorm and the stream water was clear with fish, frogs, and insects, and that the stream bottom is in many places bedrock that cannot easily be deepened as the PRP currently proposes. The stream has many mature trees protecting the banks from erosion and vegetated banks on both sides. A small amount of undercutting was observed in a few isolated locations on both the north and south side, and there is no visible stream widening. One or two fallen trees were observed that should be removed because of the diversions they are creating. Photographs were taken to document these observations.

Robin and Mike met with Karen Ogden of NRCS on 8/11/25. She provided information for alternatives to consider for the current plan. Using the 2025 “Model my watershed” tool created by the Stroud Research Center, which is the same tool that our current PRP used to determine the proposed actions. The model has been updated and was what Karen used to model different scenarios to consider alternative methods of sediment reduction:

1. Our PRP calculated that our goal in sediment reduction is 14,752 lbs. of sediment. She ran the model for our site and removing approx. 7 acres of cropland would provide the sediment reduction we need. She created a map model and suggested that one solution could be: creating either a hay field strip at the top of the steep slope or a bioswale; adding grass ways (plow-skips) that would flatten the two most significant ditches in the field and establish an herbaceous plant community (that could be native grasses like Little Bluestem that support pollinators); and creating a 100 foot riparian buffer along the creek on the north side below the cropland.

2. More sediment reduction could be achieved by converting the turf areas surrounding the cropland to meadow or hay.

The EAC considered working on the Ready for 100 Resolution that we had worked on back in 2019. Robin had begun drafting a Resolution for us based on several that were available locally at that time and still has that information. Now that Buckingham, Doylestown and Solebury have signed Ready for 100 Resolutions and intend to prepare their townships for 100% electric power, it's more likely that our Supervisors will be open to some of the actions that accompany the resolutions. It was decided to re-visit it at a later meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.