



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PLANNING COMMISSION
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Matthew J. Edmond, AICP
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Environmental and Energy Advisory Board
Government Services Center Room 351E/Zoom

April 22, 2026
Hybrid meeting

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Paul Spiegel, Chair, Carol De Wolf, Vice Chair, Seung Ah Byun, Matthew Edmond, Richard Moseley, Kelsey Boyd, Ann Colby-Cummings

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Steve Krug, David Stauffer, Chinaza Akobi, Bill Messerschmidt, Jeff Byers, Sarah Sharp, Mark Connolly, Marcus Kohl, George Martynick, Kevin Warren

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Richard Drake; Carrie Conwell, Ryan Mawhinney, Rachael Griffith, Jeanne Franklin, Carol Stauffer, Nancy Shields.

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Peter Buck; Shawn Paul Reagan; Karin de Vries; Brandi Robinson

CALL TO ORDER:

The Environmental and Energy Advisory Board meeting, held in the Government Services Center in Room 351E and via Zoom video/audio on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, was called to order at 2:05 P.M. by Chair, Paul Spiegel.

Approval of February 25, 2026 Minutes:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 25, 2026 MEETING WAS MADE BY MS. COLBY-CUMMINGS, SECONDED BY MR. MOSELEY, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD. MS. DE WOLF ABSTAINED. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion: Climate Action Plan Update

Chester County's student team from the LCAP program presented a quantitative analysis they developed to prioritize a subset of actions the EEAB previously identified as high-impact, high priority actions. Discussion ensued about the assumptions used to develop scores for each action, and whether the assumptions should be more aggressive or conservative. General consensus from the board to aim high in terms of targets and assumptions, and to prioritize actions that will set the table for when the policy landscape becomes more favorable.

Ms. Griffith provided the board with an update on engagement of stakeholders internal to county government related to prioritizing actions for county facilities & operations. Initial priorities include: 1) energy conservation, 2) transitioning vehicle fleet to electric, 3) expanding tree canopy on county lands; 4) communications and outreach; and 5) sustainable procurement.

Clean Energy Subcommittee Report

Mr. Warren led a discussion about integrating the objectives in the subcommittee's draft Energy Strategy Plan into the Climate Action Plan rather than pursuing adoption of a stand-alone energy policy at this time. Board was supportive of integrating the two and potentially revisiting a stand-alone policy at a later date.

The Subcommittee also shared updates on a webinar series on agrivoltaics they are pursuing. Mr. Stauffer noted that farms preserved through the county's program can only have solar for the farm's operations. Ms. Colby-Cummings shared an idea for a future program to update EACs and the public on the status of clean energy incentives. Ms. Griffith shared that the Planning Commission's Data Center Ordinance Guide was released in early April and thanked the Clean Energy Subcommittee for their comments on the draft.

EAC Resources Update

Ms. Colby-Cummings noted the EAC database has been updated for 2026. She is working with WeConservePA on creating content for their Fall conference.

Planning Commission Update

Ms. Griffith shared that CCPC partnered with CCATO and Montgomery County to host a data center event in March. The Planning Commission is launching an Open Space Accelerator mini-grant program for municipalities and will be co-hosting an Open Space Summit with the Parks & Preservation department, scheduled for June 1. She also shared the counties involved in the Sustainable Energy Partnership are issuing a joint procurement for on-site solar at several county facilities. She also shared an update on public outreach efforts for the Climate Action Plan.

Updates from the Board:

Ms. Byun noted that the county's new Catch the Rain program has launched, which provides rebates for homeowners who install green stormwater infrastructure.

Public Comments: Mr. Sean Walsh, supervisor in West Goshen Township, expressed his support for the Board's work on the climate action plan, shared greenhouse gas reduction strategies the Township has recently undertaken.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE AT 4:18 P.M. BY MS. DE WOLF, SECONDED BY MS. COLBY-CUMMINGS, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Edmond". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew J. Edmond, Secretary

MJE/RG