

Farm Bureau Adopts Interim Policy On PennDOT Funding

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Pennsylvania Farm Bureau has gone on record in support of increased revenue for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, provided certain conditions are met.

A concern over the deplorable condition of Pennsylvania's rural roads and bridges and a special session of the General Assembly to deal with further damages inflicted by this past winter's snows and floods prompted a special meeting of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's board of directors on March 15.

PFB President Keith Eckel called the meeting to consider the immediate need for policy on the question of a possible state fuel tax increase to repair storm damaged roads. PennDOT surveys show about 1,000 bridges which were subjected to flood waters and ice this winter suffered measurable damages. Fifty-six bridges were closed and await major repairs or replacement costing more than \$67 million.

PennDOT estimates total storm damage to the state highway finances, putting it \$30 million over budget for winter maintenance.

All this has led Gov. Ridge to call a special session and ask the General Assembly for a 6.5 cents per gallon fuel tax increase to pay for repairs during the upcoming construction season. PennDOT surveys show about 1,000 bridges which were subjected to flood waters and ice this winter suffered measurable damages. Fifty-six bridges were closed and await major repairs or replacement costing more than \$67 million.

PFB board members tackled the issue in a session which lasted several hours at the PFB office in Camp Hill to come up with interim policy for the organization. In

supporting a revenue increase for PennDOT, the PFB board stipulated that the agency must undergo some belt tightening, exploring every possible way to improve efficiency, eliminate waste, and cut operating costs before seeking additional funding.

The board also agreed that the state should look at other possible sources of revenue for needed highway repair funding such as floating a bond, expanding the toll highway system, or using revenues from other taxes, instead of raising the fuel tax.

Furthermore, the board reaffirmed PFB's policy that any increased revenues PennDOT receives must be shared proportionately with local governments for road maintenance or rebuilding. All extra revenue going to PennDOT should be used for the repair of existing problems — not new construction projects — with rural roads and bridges receiving top priority, the board agreed.

With these stipulations spelled out, the board adopted interim policy putting PFB in support of increased revenues for PennDOT to repair and maintain the highway system.

"It is never easy to call for increases in government spending for any reason," Eckel said in a letter to county farm bureau leaders following the board meeting. "However, Pennsylvania faces a difficult task in maintaining roads and bridges under normal circumstances, and this year's snows and floods have caused advanced deterioration of our road and bridge system. We feel it is crucial for the state to act now to develop a reasonable financial plan to stop further impairment of our roads."



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 1948 Ford 9N tractor, good tires and sheet metal, needs paint, not presently running, many new parts, \$850. 201-839-9053.
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 489 NH haybine, \$2,300; IH ground drive corn binder, \$500, w/long carrier, \$950, nice. (717)653-5733.
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 520 JD 3pt, PS, rollmatic, hyd remote, restored, A-1 Condition. \$5750. 717/445-4823.
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 5 IH 5100 grain drills, 3 JD 8300 drills, all double disc, some w/seeder Zeisloft Farm Equipment, Bloomsburg, 800/919-3322.
 5ton army truck-tractor, Mack tandem, all-wheel-drive w/602 gas engine, Vgood cond, \$2650. (609)769-3183
 6600 diesel, 50 hrs. on engine major, \$6,500, Deere 3300 through 9600. IH 1420 through 1680. Others, & heads Trade & Finance. 717-249-2317 Stephen.
 6600 diesel, very good condition, \$7,950, Deere 443 header, \$4,200; JD 213 flex, \$4,250; JD 213 rigid, \$2,950 Call Stephen. 717-249-2317 Days.
 680 New Idea forage harvester with 2 row corn and 7.5' grass heads, hardly used \$7,900. (610)681-4134
 750 MF combine, w/14' flex head, 4R & 6R corn head, \$19,500. 301-829-1579.
 7700 combine diesel, turbo, 15' grain head, rigid, \$5,000. Int drill 15 tubes, \$175 66 baler Wisconsin motor, \$350 AC C tractor, \$950. (215)885-1032.
 8N Ford tractor w/loader. Runs good. \$3,000. Anville, Pa Call (717)867-1681.
 8' York rake \$300. T50 Woods rototiller 50" \$500. Ford 6' 951 Brush Hog \$300. 12' lawn roller \$200. Red Devil 8' snow blower 9664C \$2,000. Call (717)748-1095.

810 Gehl self unloading wagon top for parts; hydraulic grove wagon w/new 10ton wingers gear. (717)243-4677.
 9006 Deutz tractor, dual hyd., 3pt hitch, 95hp, good condition. Amos Fisher, 1143 Deaver Rd., Quarryville, PA 17566, 717/284-2193.
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 AC 7045 diesel, power shift, new tires & paint, fully serviced, excellent condition. \$11,500. (717)786-8550, (717)786-1303.
 AC 7060 diesel tractor, 140 DB hp, cab w/air, field ready, \$7,200. Call after 7pm, (717)836-5517.
 AC B w/Woods belly mower, \$1675. Lancaster Co. 717-336-1282.
 Air compressor, vertical tank, 2-cyl., 2-stage, 3hp, 1PH motor, \$500; Gas powerer air compressor, 4-cyl., electric start, 4-cyl., 2-stage compressor, horizontal tank, \$900; 3-phase overhead electric hoist, 1/2 ton capacity, \$125. 717-896-3581; 717-652-1957
 Allis Chalmers 200, 1400 original hours, 2 remotes, 540 1000 PTO, excellent condition. 215/536-3321 Bucks Co.
 Artsway 800 mixer wagon, good condition, \$4,500. Kuhn FC300 discbine, \$3,000. (412)297-3184.
 FOR SALE at public auction of Joe Morrissey, Lebanon, on June 22: double stainless steel tub for milk house; litter carrier with tract; 46' Allied bale elevator; cattle rack for 8' pickup bed; all good condition.
 Backhoe loader tractor Int. 300 utility gas 5-speed w/TA, new clutch, tires, runs good, work ready, \$5000 OBO. Northampton. 610/759-1307.
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 Bobcat 610 skid loader, 2 buckets w/quick tach, \$4000; Farmall 766 black stripe, fender, \$10,500; Int Farmall 886, cab, air, \$13,500. All working daily, excellent condition. 717/784-0111 days, 717/784-6359 evenings.
 Bobcat 743 skid loader, Kubota diesel, \$9,000. Mifflin County, (717)899-6295.
 Bobcat skid loader, belt drive, runs good but smokes. \$2600. 717-933-4442.
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 Farmall 560 diesel, WF, fast hitch, \$3250; Int #53 4R 3pt cultivator, \$350, Int #45 field cultivator, 13', \$695; Int. #1100 pull-type mower, \$975 610/562-4464.
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