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For Immediate Release

Spring Mills, PA (June 5, 2020)-- Pennsylvania Certified Organic (PCO) Advisory Board is excited to announce the selection of Diana Kobus as Executive Director beginning June 15, 2020. Diana comes to PCO with over a decade of non-profit leadership in an environmental certification organization.

Diana has a Masters in Environmental Science and Management with a focus in Organic Agriculture and has been Executive Director of the Institute for Environmental Practice (IPEP) for the past twelve years following work for Whole Foods Markets in the early 2000s. She is currently the President of the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB). She brings extensive leadership experience along with a passion for organic production and the critical impact it has on climate and the environment.

"I am honored to join the PCO staff and board as we work together to achieve the vision that all communities are enriched through organic food and farming. The PCO Core Values were a key driver in my choice to lead the organization, and I will use them to guide us, as we fulfill our mission to ensure the integrity of organic products and serve our farming community," commented Diana Kobus.

The PCO Advisory Board gathered input from members and organic stakeholders since June of 2019 to help shape future strategic priorities while exploring growth opportunities for the organization. Diana will apply her expertise and vision to bring these priorities to life by setting a course for action. She will help lead PCO through its next growth phase while staying true to the integrity and service it strives to uphold for members and organic industry partners.

"I feel confident that bringing Diana Kobus onboard with her passion for organic agriculture, her background in certification systems, and her extensive leadership experience will help us both with implementation of our strategic goals and with the continued growth and success of PCO to further our mission and values." stated Tina Ellor, President of the Board.

The successful search for the new PCO Executive Director could not have been done without the valuable input and efforts of staff and stakeholders, and interim Executive Director, Katherine DiMatteo.

Any questions can be directed to Tina Ellor, PCO Board President (phone: 610-656-7250, email: tinaellor@gmail.com).

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PCO is a non-profit organization based in Spring Mills, Pennsylvania, that educates and certifies more than 1,600 organic farms and processors. For information on organic certification, contact PCO at www.paorganic.org, 814-422-0251.

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