

EPCAMR 2nd Quarter Board Meeting

April 20th 2006 Minutes

Columbia County Conservation District Small Conference Room

6:30 PM

Call to Order – Attendance: Andy McAllister, Josh Longmore, Bruno Najaka, Paul Lohin, Ed Wytovich, Carey Entz, Dennis Strouse, Robert Hughes, Michae Hewitt, Rob Lavelle, Valerie Taylor & Pam Kattner

Ed Wytovich,
President

Motion to Accept & Approve Minutes from January 26th, 2006:
(Bruno, Cheryl & all)

Josh Longmore,
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Cheryl Brobst,
Treasurer

- EPCAMR Business Checking Account [**\$16,320.40**] *Waiting on a reimbursement through NFWF Grant and VISTA (Bernie, Bruno & all)*
- Update on the Possible “New Bank” – Columbia County Farmers National Bank, but all branches are in Columbia County, no hidden fees, overdraft protection, but further away for EPCAMR Staff. Board recommends looking at other banks with Regional Offices and follow up with an Executive Meeting (Bruno, Carey & all)

President's Report (See Watershed Report)

Ed Wytovich

Staff Reports (See Page 2 for Highlights)

Staff

Old Business

- NA

Robert Hughes

New Business

- Devon Rother is the new OSM Summer Watershed Intern working on an Anthracite Art using Iron Oxide
- New AMD Resource Recovery Product – “EPCAMR Chalk”
- Memorandum of Agreement with the Luzerne Conservation District – need to get it all down on paper and define roles to create a “paper trail” history
- Application for State Tax Exemption – EPCAMR staff to look into filling out the paperwork (Paul, Josh & all)
- “Donation Transactions” via the Website – EPCAMR Staff researched ability to pay via credit card, but discovered a few fees. Will setup a webpage to sell Recovered Resource Products as a fundraiser via check or money order for starters and possibly look at this in the future. Provide receipt for value of donation for tax purposes.
- AML Campaign Update – Extension till June 2007 with support of 35 of 43 counties that are impacted. Senate Bill 2616 – Santorum is working to promote this reauthorization effort.

Robert Hughes

Pam Kattner

Josh Longmore

Robert Hughes

Mike Hewitt

Robert Hughes

Correspondence and Information

- News Articles and Publicity in Manila Envelope were placed in the Scrapbook Archive
- Thank You from DCNR Nolde Forest Educational Center for tour
- Thank You from DCNR Lackawanna State Park Community Connections Program for tour
- Thank You from Dave Hess for participating in the Schuylkill River Congress
- Thank You from the Citizens Advisory Council for presentation

Robert Hughes

Grants/Conferences, Events, Workshops

Robert Hughes

- Visit www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org for EPCAMR's **Interactive Yahoo! Calendar**, **EC Express NewsFlash** and **Fla\$hGrant\$ Now with Daily Desktop Updates** via the **EPCAMR RSS Reader**
- **"Get Back to Nature"** – May 13th @ NESCOPECK STATE PARK
- **Bear Creek Festival** -- May 24th 12-4@ Schuylkill Co. Fairgrounds
- **West Branch Symposium** – May 12th – 13th 2006 @ Penn Stater, State College, PA
- **8th Annual AMD Conference** – August 24th - 26th 2006 @ the Atherton Hotel, State College, PA
- **Penn-State Conservation Leadership School Program**-Two Sessions
June 25-July 1, 2006; July 9-15, 2006

Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report)

All

8:30 PM

Next Meeting is our Annual Meeting July 20, 2006 and Adjournment

EPCAMR Staff and Program Staff Reports (January 2006 to April 2006)

Regional Coordinator's Highlights

- Made 2 AMD/AML Presentations (Bryn Mawr College and Firwood UMC)
- Conducted 3 watershed tours with EPCAMR staff (Schuylkill Valley, Lackawanna Valley and Wyoming Valley).
- EPCAMR Staff prepared 3 Growing Greener Applications, an application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and a Western PA Watershed Protection Foundation Proposal
- Involved with 4 regional/state-wide planning meetings (COALS, PAEE, AMD Conference, and Sullivan CCD Strategic)

Robert Hughes,
Regional
Coordinator

*Monthly Reports
for all staff are
available online for
your review*

Watershed Outreach Coordinator's (WOC) Highlights

- Made 6 maps and 9 presentations of the new PA Reclaimed AML and AMD Treatment Systems Map with RC to gain support for the AML Trust Fund Reauthorization (including to the DEP Secretary). Updated the PA AML GIS CD (Version 6) to share with cooperating agencies
- Prepared a proposal to the Fund for Wild Nature Foundation
- Produced a study using the data for UGI showing nearly 200 Million Tons of culm available for co-generation energy production
- Continued to update and add to www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org

Mike Hewitt

Municipal GIS Technician's (MGT) Highlights

- 2 Municipal GIS Workshops (Old Forge and Archibald)
- Photo inventoried St. Johns Creek for Old Forge Borough and Gardner Creek with WDC.
- 6 maps for educational presentations and continuing to meet with municipalities produce maps
- **Spring 2006 EPCAMR/NFWF Municipal GIS Workshop Series**
See Rob Lavelle for details or e-mail rlavelle@epcamr.org ; EPCAMR still seeking host municipalities throughout the Region

Rob Lavelle

Watershed Development Coordinator's (WDC) Highlights

- Presented Avondale Hill Community Projects with students from the Wilkes-Barre Area Vocational-Technical School to the Plymouth Township Board of Supervisors on 2/6 and received their support. Presented students with the EPCAMR Partnership Award at the Luzerne Conservation District Banquet. Wrote press releases about their achievement and enjoyed articles written about them in the newspapers.
- Attended meetings and established relationships with watershed and conservation organizations within the Wyoming Valley. Partnered with several organizations to assist with new projects.

Valerie Taylor

Environmental Education Intern (EEI) Highlights

- Created AMD lesson plans for elementary, middle, and high school students and traveled to schools including Pittston Area and Lehman to talk to students about watersheds and AMD with WDC. Over 220 children were reached
- Working with Hanover Area School District to create a Fossil Program at the Luzerne Conservation District for 150 second graders on May 16th and 23rd
- Working with West Side Vo-Tech, a chalk block was created that can make 20 pieces of "EPCAMR AMD Chalk" at a time.

Pam Kattner