

# EPCAMR 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

July 20<sup>th</sup> 2006 Tentative Minutes

## FOOD - Luzerne Conservation District Conference Room - FOOD

6:30 PM

**Call to Order – Attendance:** Paul Lohin, Bruno Najanka, Cheryl Brobst, Cathy Haffner, Josh Longmore, John Orr, Ed Wytovich, Bernie McGurl, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Rob Lavelle & Valerie Taylor

Ed Wytovich,  
President

**Motion to Accept & Approve Minutes from April 20th, 2006:** *(Bruno, Bernie & all)*

Josh Longmore,  
Secretary

### Treasurer's Report

- EPCAMR Business Checking Account *(Bruno, Bernie & all)*
- Invest Program for Nonprofits is a savings account that many districts have. It earns 4.9% with no minimum. It is not an FDIC insured account. Unlimited accounts. Motion to start an account and place \$10K from discretionary funds. *(Josh, Bruno & all)*
- EPCAMR Draft Budget FY 06/07 was reviewed and approved.

Cheryl Brobst,  
Treasurer  
Josh Longmore

Michael Hewitt

### President's Report (See Watershed Report)

Ed Wytovich,  
President

### Staff Reports (See Last Page for Highlights)

Staff

### Old Business

- Tax Exempt form is too complicated to fill out. Sending to Kovalcheck and Kollar to aide with a reasonable fee. Will help in acquisition of building supplies for treatment systems. *(Bernie, Cathy & all)*

Robert Hughes

### New Business

- Landscaper's Advantage Compost presentation
- EPCAMR Executive Committee Nominations were opened. There was a motion to nominate our current officers. *(Paul, Ed & all)* Nominations were closed. *(John, Paul & all)* All were in favor in re-electing the current officers.
- Membership Drive Results - 19 voting renewals out of 21. Including 1 new voting membership from Reading Anthracite. 3 new non-voting members.
- EPCAMR "Online Store" is now posted. Accepting donations for 2 items: Coloring Books are minimum donation \$5 and Tie Dye T-Shirts are a minimum of \$10. Shipping is included in the price. Checks are the only payment method. Hoping to include art gallery items also. Discussion about more galleries/places to show the work around the region. Applied for \$3,000 grant to the Scranton Area Foundation.
- AML Campaign Update: 42 out of 45 counties have signed resolutions. EPCAMR staff played a large role in the AML Trust Fund Campaign in this region. The fund has been extended till September 2007. The new bill S.2616 will seek a fee reduction over time and 10% set-aside will be raised to 30% set-aside for lower priority and water problems. The bill also calls for mandatory spending of guaranteed funding.
- \$3,300 PA Fish and Boat Commission "Take Me Fishing Grant" was received and the contract was signed. Money for equipment such as "single line biological samplers", testing kits, waders, leaf pack kits and transportation for less fortunate kids to "sampling" sites.

Matt Mascaro  
Robert Hughes

Michael Hewitt

Robert Hughes

Robert Hughes

### Correspondence and Information

- Correspondence, News Articles and Publicity in Manila Envelope Robert Hughes

### Grants/Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **South Street Cleanup** – July 22<sup>nd</sup> 8am – 12mp @ Nanticoke Terrace Valerie Taylor  
Community Room (233 South Street, Nanticoke, PA)
- **Spring 2006 NFWF Municipal GIS Workshop Series** – Next workshop: Rob Lavelle  
August 2<sup>nd</sup> @ Mt. Carmel Township Building from 8am – 10am. See Rob  
for more information and other workshop times / locations
- **Anthrascapes Art Show** – August 6<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2006 @ the Arts YOUiverse Devon Rother  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Gallery, 156 S. Franklin St, Wilkes-Barre, PA
- **8<sup>th</sup> Annual AMD Conference** – August 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 2006 @ the Atherton Robert Hughes  
Hotel, State College, PA – ***DEADLINE to Register is July 28<sup>th</sup>***
- **Susquehanna River Conference** - September 23, 2006 @ Bucknell Michael Hewitt  
University
- Visit [www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org](http://www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org) for EPCAMR's *Yahoo! Calendar, Message Board, EC Express NewsFlash and Fla\$hGrant\$* Now with Daily Desktop Updates via the *EPCAMR RSS Reader*

**Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report)** All

8:30 PM **Next Meeting Date October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and Adjournment**

## EPCAMR Staff and Program Staff Reports (April 2006 to July 2006)

### Regional Coordinator's (RC) Highlights

- EPCAMR Staff conducted 3 AMD Tie Dye workshops, 4 general AMD/AML educational displays/presentations and 5 watershed tours
- EPCAMR Staff coordinated 2 COALS cleanups with Wilkes students at Sickler Hill and the LCD District Wetlands and participated in 2 other cleanups in the Wyoming Valley (Gardner Creek and Smith's Pond Rd.).
- Hosted the 3 –day ACCWT workshop at Penn State Wilkes-Barre for about 25 VISTA's throughout the northern Appalachian Coal Fields.
- Continue to be involved with 5 regional/state-wide planning meetings (COALS, PAEP, Pocono NE RC&D, AMD Conference and the West Br. Susq. River Task Force)
- Submitted a **\$20,000** PA DEP Environmental Education Grant

Robert Hughes,

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

### Watershed Outreach Coordinator's (WOC) Highlights

- Produced 3 GIS maps for partners/watershed groups, made a GIS presentation and sent 3 GIS Data CDs.
- Created 2 new versions of ArcReader interactive GIS maps (UGI Culm Version 3 and PA AMD AML Version 6.1) with new DEP active mining information linked to e-facts
- Trained 2 EPCAMR Staff to monitor water quality on AMD streams.
- Continued to update [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) and prepare for the AMD Conference in August

Michael Hewitt

### Municipal GIS Technician's (MGT) Highlights

- Gave GIS presentation to Mt. View High School, Susquehanna County, along with hands-on GIS support
- Conducted NFWF GIS Workshops at Black Creek Township, Luzerne Co., Wiconisco Township, Dauphin Co. and Forest City Borough, Susquehanna Co.
- Completed NFWF GIS Maps for the following municipalities: Avoca Borough, Black Creek Township, Larksville Borough, City of Wilkes-Barre, and Swoyersville Borough, all in Luzerne County

Rob Lavelle

### Watershed Development Coordinator's (WDC) Highlights

- Five workdays on Avondale Hill have included 36 volunteers with 320 hours put into preparing the site's gardens, finishing details of the memorial plaque, and clearing the parking area. The in-kind donations for this project within the past three months total: \$7300 (includes 20 tons of topsoil, perennial flowers and work supplies)
- One cleanup completed at the PPL Susquehanna Riverlands (5/18) and one in the works with Nanticoke Housing Authority (7/22) and COALS
- Continue to Co-Chair the program subcommittee of the AMR Conference.
- Pam Kattner and I presented the lesson plan we created to 1,000 youth at Freeland Elementary and Middle School for their Earth Day celebration.

Valerie Taylor

### Anthracite Art Intern (AAI) Highlights

- Partnerships have been forged with the AFA Gallery, Sue Hand, Arts YOUiverse, En Plein Air Society, Shamrock Studio, Quixotic Art, and The Endless Mountains Council for the Arts as well as many other local artists.
- Gallery showing scheduled for the week of August 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Third Floor Gallery in Arts YOUiverse.
- Artists have multiple finished pieces for our show and are constantly seeking more iron oxide pigment samples.
- The art community is abuzz about our project of turning AMD into Art and will do commissioned works for us next year if our subsequent grant from the Scranton Area Foundation comes through.

Devon Rother