

EPCAMR 4th Quarter Board Meeting

October 19th 2006 Minutes

Columbia County Conservation District Small Meeting Room

6:30 PM

Call to Order – Attendance: Paul Lohin, Bruno Najanka, Mary Wagner, Josh Longmore, Tim Ference, John Orr, Dennis Strouse, Al Mabus, Ed Wytovich, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt & Valerie Taylor

Ed Wytovich,
President

Motion to Accept & Approve Minutes from July 20th, 2006

(Stand as Read)

Josh Longmore,
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

- EPCAMR Business Checking Account *(Mary, Bruno & all)*
- Opened PA Invest Account, motion to add an additional \$5K to the account to make \$15K total *(Josh, Bruno & all)*

Cheryl Brobst,
Treasurer

President's Report (See Watershed Report Document)

Ed Wytovich,
President

Staff Reports (See Staff Highlights on the last page of this Document)

Staff

Old Business

- Update on Luzerne CD - EPCAMR MOU Effort – LCD District Manager provided EPCAMR Board written clarification to Robert and Mike as staff of the LCD to run the AMR Program.

Josh Longmore

New Business

- Discussion about O, M & R Ad Hoc Committee Results. Committee started at the conference with a panel discussion. BAMR had a 7 point recommendation how to work with watershed groups on OM&R. Funding was a big issue. A way to go would be to set aside funding through Growing Greener, but by 2010 about 60% of the budget may be needed to upkeep the systems.
- Motion to Purchase EPCAMR embroidered shirt or jacket for staff and board was tabled, since it was just a board issue.
- Motion to Purchase GIS Laptop through WPWP Foundation Grant *(Mary, John & all)*
- Passing Go Revitalization through 2 separate EPA Grants: Trout Unlimited and Eastern Coal Region Roundtable (ECRR). Hopefully only 1 will be funded. Put the word out.
- AML Campaign Update: All counties in EPCAMR Region passed resolutions, these resolutions are being passed on to our legislators. 2616 is the newest bill with the 11 points. SMCRA is extended until September 2007, so we have a little more time. Title 4 can only fix priority 1 & 2 Sites, we are looking to have up to 30% Set aside for lower priority sites.
- New England Organics BioMix Topsoil approved by DEP (Class A). Samples were passed around. Strong ammonia smell could cause air quality problems in large quantities, but this is true for many soil amendments. Another disadvantage is that Class B is free or they pay.

Ed Wytovich

Michael Hewitt

Robert Hughes

Correspondence and Information

- Correspondence, News Articles and Publicity in Manila Envelope

Robert Hughes

Grants/Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **COALS Summit** –November 29th @ Luzerne County Community College
- **University of VA Wise Wetlands Symposium** – October 26th -27th
(Valerie is Presenting AMD Curriculum)
- **South Street Cleanup** – October 21st 8am – 12pm. Meet @ Nanticoke Terrace Community Room (233 South Street, Nanticoke, PA)
- **Fall 2006 Workshops from the Institute for Conservation Leadership**
– Board University, Big Money for Small Organizations and Mid Atlantic Complete Fundraiser Program. (See Blue Card for details)
- **Chesapeake Bay Symposium** – November 17-19th Sheppardstown, WV
- Visit 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*

Robert Hughes
Valerie Taylor

Michael Hewitt

Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report Document)

All

8:30 PM **Next Meeting Date January 25th, 2007 and Adjournment**

EPCAMR Staff and Program Staff Highlights (August 2006 to October 2006)

Regional Coordinator's (RC) Highlights

- EPCAMR Staff prepared for and coordinated the 8th Annual Pennsylvania AML Reclamation Conference. From seven states, 200 people attended the conference, which offered 35 workshops provided by over 40 presenters.
- Conducted 6 watershed tours with Keystone College, Penn-State's AgLEAP Program, Wyoming Valley Artists, a Delaware Valley College representative, Senator Santorum's Legislative staff and Luzerne County's Children Service Center respectively.
- EPCAMR was awarded a **\$1,528** Scranton Area Foundation Award for art supplies
- LCD was awarded a **\$20K** PA DEP Environmental Education Grant for EPCAMR PGM
- EPCAMR Staff met with 2 consultants interested in culm pile reclamation
- EPCAMR Staff conducted 3 COALS Illegal Dumpsite surveys with Steve Bartos and other PA DEP Waste Management Staff.

Robert Hughes,

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

Watershed Outreach Coordinator's (WOC) Highlights

- EPCAMR Staff assessed AML impacted streams in Luzerne County for flood damage and created a GIS Layer to facilitate cleanup in Luzerne County and assessed 2 discharges (McCauley Mtn Discharge, Columbia Co. and Glen Nan Discharge, Luzerne Co.)
- EPCAMR Staff, 4 EPCAMR Board Members and new WPCAMR Watershed Outreach Coordinator, Andy McAllister, tended the booth and spoke with thousands of citizens at the Bloomsburg Fair. EPCAMR also received **\$74** in donations.
- Printed 3 GIS Maps for municipalities and watershed groups and updated the PA AMD AML GIS CD to v.6.2 with topographic maps and 2001 Aerial photos for all of PA live from PASDA.
- Began an Anthracite Region Mine Pool GIS Data Layer adapted from EMARR files and Scarlift Maps.
- EPCAMR was awarded a **\$20K** WPWP Foundation Grant for AML Trust Fund GIS Work

Michael Hewitt

Municipal GIS Technician's (MGT) Highlights

- Conducted NFWF GIS Workshops at Mt. Carmel Township, Northumberland Co., Laflin Borough, Luzerne Co., Lackawanna County Council on Economic Development and Butler Township, Luzerne Co.
- Completed NFWF GIS Maps for the following: Mt. Carmel Township, Northumberland Co., Clinton Township, Wayne Co., Wilkes-Barre City, Laflin Borough, Luzerne Co., Forest City Borough, Susquehanna Co., North Union Township, Schuylkill Co., Butler Township, Luzerne Co. and Crestwood School District, Luzerne Co.

Rob Lavelle

Watershed Development Coordinator's (WDC) Highlights

- Completed the project on Avondale Hill with a community cookout. 40 volunteers donated 766 hours of their time to design and construct an industrial metal art piece, to create a large perennial garden, and to build a community bulleting board. Gathered resources for the entire project equal \$1,167.00 of direction donations and \$15,600.00 of in-kind donations.
- Began a water sampling program with local volunteers from Plymouth Twp. and in cooperation with PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office. They will collect at least a year's worth of data on the Glen Nan Discharge.
- The South Street Cleanup in Nanticoke, PA occurred on 7/22. 25 volunteers worked for 2 hours and collected 47 bags of trash (~1880 pounds), 23 pieces of furniture and appliances, 108 tires collected, and 1350 pounds of scrap metal recycled. More litter remains at this site and the Nanticoke Terrace Residents' Association is planning another cleanup.
- Conducted 5 AMD Tie Dye Workshops at Blue Ridge Elementary School (92 students), Carbon Co. Env. Ed. Center (35 students), Luzerne County Mental Health Department (60 students), Moon Lake Park's Family Weekend Fun Days (50 attendees) and Summer Splash with the Wilkes-Barre Boulevard Townhome Residents (60 youth 4 times).

Valerie Taylor

Anthracite Art Intern (AAI) Highlights

- Gallery showing of the Anthrascapes Art Exhibit for the week of August 6th and 13th at the Third Floor Gallery in Arts YOUiverse.
- Baking AMD sludge into AMD Iron Oxide Pigment to supply to local artists
- Coordinated with artists from the AFA Gallery in Scranton for another art exhibit

Devon Rother