

EPCAMR 2nd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes - April 26th 2007

Columbia County Conservation District Small Meeting Room

- 6:30 PM** **Call to Order – Attendance:** Bruno Najanka, Mary Wagner, Tim Ference, John Ed, President
Orr, Paul Lohin, Ed Wytovich, Cheryl Brobst, Cathy Haffner, Alana Roberts, Al
Mabus, Carey Entz, Tom Davidock, M. Irvil Kear, Tom Clark, Joe Looker, Robert
Hughes & Michael Hewitt
- Motion to Accept & Approve Minutes from January 25th, 2006** - Stand as Ed, President
read
- Treasurer's Report**
- Moved to accept the Treasurers Report including Business Checking Account, Cheryl,
PA Invest Account & Sub-Accounts & purchase an upgrade from Quicken 2005 Treasurer
to Quicken 2007 Deluxe (\$52.99) (*Mary, Bruno & all*)
- President's Report** (see Watershed & Cooperation Organization Reports) Ed
- AMR Program Reports** (See Highlights at the end of this Document) AMR PG Staff
- Old Business**
- Update on Luzerne CD/EPCAMR MOU Effort Robert/Tim
 - Refer to MOU Workgroup Mtg Notes
 - AML Campaign Update: Title 4 Townhall Meetings will be held in the EPCAMR Robert
Region. AMR Program staff and WPCAMR Staff are responsible for an
Education and Outreach Program before each session with WPCAMR's Title 4
Video and RAMLIS 7.0 Mapping Tool Demonstration.
 - 5/22/07 @ Luzerne CD/EPCAMR Office, Shavertown (3-8:30PM)
 - 5/23/07 @ Schuylkill CD, Pottsville (3-8:30PM)
 - 5/24/07 @ Hillside Rod & Gun Club, Blossburg (3-8:30PM)
 - 6 More in the next few months in WPCAMR Region that Mike will attend.
 - See Watershed & Cooperation Organization Report: PACD for more...
- New Business**
- Moved to enter into MOA with the ACCWT for a 2007 (& potentially 2008) Robert/Mike
OSM/VISTA. EPCAMR's share is \$5,500. (*Cheryl, Paul & all*)
 - Moved to exhibit at the Bloomsburg Fair and pay for \$40 for additional passes.
The site is listed under Luzerne Conservation District for liability reasons;
EPCAMR does not have insurance to cover it. (*Mary, Cheryl & all*)
 - Discussion about AMR Program Funding from the SMCRA Title IV or other. All
support for AMR Program staff and WPCAMR staff is from PA DEP 319
Program, funds are dwindling in the upcoming years. It would be a good idea to
diversify, we should ask if some money could come from SMCRA Title IV in
exchange for more outreach for Title IV Projects (website, press releases...etc).
 - Moved to explore the funding sources and options to update the Strategic Plan and
report back next meeting. Institute for Conservation Leadership Workshop Results
were presented. Possible sources: Wm. Penn Fdn., ICL... (*Paul, Cheryl & all*)
 - Moved to have EPCAMR join ECRR at an the Organization Level for \$50 (*Tim,
Bruno & all*)
- Correspondence and Information**
- Correspondence, News Articles and Publicity in Manila Envelope Robert
 - Introducing Joe Looker-Luzerne CD/EPCAMR OSM Summer Intern
 - Membership Renewals: Applications ready for distribution
 - FACTS (Funding AMD Chemistry for Treatment Systems) Program
 - Growing Greener Grant FY08-09 AMR Program Submitted: **(90 / 10)**
 - ICL Workshop Handouts: Board Development & Fundraising 101

- Basics of Title IV SMCRA Fact Sheet Developed by WPCAMR
- HR #246 declares May as Watershed Awareness Month
- EPCAMR/Luzerne CD Awarded the Luzerne County Historical Society's *Historic Preservation Award*
- Eastern Coal Region Roundtable Information Sheet & Online Resources

Grants/Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **West Branch Symposium III** April 27-28th Genetti Hotel, Williamsport, PA
- **Back to Nature Festival** 10am – 3pm, May 12th @ Nescopeck State Park, Drums, PA
- **LRCA's Lackawanna River Canoe –A-Thon** May 12th
- **Bear Creek Festival** 12pm – 4pm, May 20th @ Schuylkill Co. Fair Grounds, Summit Station, PA
- **EPCAMR AMD Tie-Dye Workshop** @ Mt. Carmel Elementary, May 25th
- **9th Annual State-wide AMR Conference** July 20 & 21st, 2007 @ the Ramada Inn & Conference Center, State College, PA. <http://2007.treatminewater.com>

Robert

Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report Document)

All

8:30 PM Next Meeting Date **July 19th, 2007** and Adjournment

AMR Program Staff Highlights (February 2007 – April 2007)

Regional Coordinator's (RC) Highlights

- AMR Program Staff Co-hosted the PAEE Conference, conducted a Wyoming Valley AMR Tour and presented as a Keynote Speaker in Wilkes-Barre on EPCAMR's Placed-Based Environmental Education Programs & Philosophy; **125** environmental educators attended
- Prepared **12** letters of support for the PA EnviroThon and sent to legislators
- Received **\$6000** in discount coupons from DICK's Sporting Goods for the Youth Fishing & AMD Watershed Tour Program with the PA F&BC
- Participated in **1** COALS Cleanup Project and Coordinated **1** COALS Tour for PA DEP, PGC, and PEC throughout the West Side of the Wyoming Valley: Avondale Hill-Bureau of Forestry Lackawanna State Forest West Nanticoke Tract (AML impacted), Plymouth Township; **60** tires were collected and **4** Tons of trash were removed with only **7** volunteers in **5** hours
- AMR Program Staff conducted **3** AMD Education & Outreach Watershed Programs & Tours: PA DCNR's Community Connections, Watershed Forum Program, throughout the Wyoming Valley and at the Old Forge Borehole, Lackawanna County with a combined total of **14** teachers and **128** students
- **1,100** 4-7th graders attended a AMD Tie-Dye Workshop at the Earth Day Festival in Wilkes-Barre
- Reviewed **22** grant proposals for technical merit and provided a letter of support / acknowledgement for the Growing Greener Grant Round, the C2P2 PA DCNR Grant Round and the Toyota Tapestry Grant as requested
- AMR Program Staff submitted **1** Growing Greener Grant: The AMR Program Support (LCD) for fiscal year 2008-2009 for **\$123,500**
- AMR Program Staff presented to the American Mushroom Institute in Avondale, PA on potential partnership opportunities between mushroom growers, watershed groups, and land reclamation-oriented organizations
- Nominated by OSM/Pittsburgh Office to become a member of the OSM Technical Information Processing System (TIPS) National GeoSpatial Data Standards Task Group to represent PA's environmental interests in assisting with the development and implementation of a uniform National Data Standard and layer for Surface Coal Mining Boundaries, Underground Coal Mining Boundaries, & AML Inventories for the Coal-Producing States
- Attended an Organizational Capacity Building Workshop sponsored by William Penn Foundation and facilitated by the Institute Conservation Leadership (ICL) in Pottsville as a requirement under the WPF Grant with Stell Environmental Enterprises
- AMR Program Staff attended and presented at the ACCWT Training. Learned a new technique to estimate flow using only a 3' Aluminum Straightedge. The measurement will be right 90% of the time in flows that range between 1" and 18"

Robert Hughes

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

Watershed Outreach Coordinator's (WOC) Highlights

- EPCAMR program staff are working toward the SMCRA Reauthorization Education and Outreach Program in cooperation with WPCAMR. Andy McAllister is working on a video that will provide an overview the changes with a bit of levity.
- Updated the PA AMD AML GIS CD, now called RAMLIS, to v.6.3 with 2004 Color Infrared Aerial photos, 2005 Color Aerial Photos and Political boundaries for all of PA live from PASDA.
- Produced 11 maps for EPCAMR Partners and added information to 3 EPCAMR GIS Databases.
- Aiding the AMR Conference Steering Committee as we gear up for the Conference in July. Setup a webpage, led several conference calls and kept minutes.

Michael Hewitt