

EPCAMR 3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes - July 26th 2007

Columbia County Conservation District

- 6:30 PM** **Call to Order – Attendance:** Bruno Najanka, Mary Wagner, Tim Ference, Josh Ed, President
Longmore, Paul Lohin, Ed Wytovich, Cathy Haffner, Jaci Harner, Al Mabus, Bernie
McGurl, M. Irvil Kear, Ian Palmer, Robert Hughes & Michael Hewitt
- Motion to Accept & Approve Minutes from April 26th, 2007-** Stand as read Ed, President
- Treasurer’s Report**
- Moved to accept the Treasurers Report including Business Checking Account, PA Cheryl,
Invest Account, Sub-Accounts & the Opening of a new Sub-Account for the GIS Treasurer
Mine Pool Mapping Grant (*Paul, Tim & all*)
 - Approval of Big Ticket Item–
 - Ramada Conference Center, AMR Conference- **\$10,189.45** (*Paul, Josh & all*)
 - Zodiac Printing Corp.- Reprint 2,000 Brochures- **\$867.00**(*Bernie, Mary & all*)
 - Kovalchik, Kollar & Co., LLP- 2006 990s Finished- **\$950.00** (*Al, Cathy & all*)
 - Revise signatures on bank card to reflect current slate of officers (*Josh, Paul and 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**
- Discussed a DRAFT Luzerne CD / EPCAMR MOU document which was sent to Josh
board members. Josh is looking for comments.
 - Discussed a Strategic Plan Update: Funding and Options. I was suggested that Robert / Mike
someone contact Stacy Koch or the Institute for Conservation Leadership who they
would suggest. Ed would call Dave Zanus (Schuylkill Co.)
- New Business**
- Held Election of Officers at the Annual Meeting-1 year term. Articles 5 & 6 of the Bernie McGurl,
bylaws were read. Vice Pres.
 - Cleared up a difference between Nomination by Conservation Districts and
acceptance of Nominees by Boar Members. Reconfirmed 16 board members to
3 year terms starting 1/2008.
 - Nominated present slate of officers. Josh respectfully declined re-nomination as
Secretary. Cathy Haffner was nominated to fill the position of Secretary (*Mary,
Bruno & all*).
 - Decided to have AMR Staff setup a PA Anthracite Council/EPCAMR Board-Fall Robert / Mike
Meeting. Ed suggested was that it be a night meeting and separate from EPCAMR
Quarterly board meetings. (*Paul, Bernie and all*)
 - Discussion on Considerations for Bloomsburg Fair 2007 (handout). Josh reiterated
the comp time issue and restriction of AMR staff to a 40 hour week. Theme may
be “Getting your Priorities Straight” similar to conference. Suggestion to add
number of Fatalities from MSHA and PA DEP “Stay Out, Stay Alive”.
 - Motioned to approve Geisinger Health System Environmental Health Institute &
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Proposal to EPCAMR for GIS
Technical Assistance (*see e-mail*) with minimal time and travel. Conference calls
and e-mail communication would be preferred due to the heavy research focus and
a wider scope of other environmental issues outside of AMR Program scope.
 - Motioned to direct AMR Program staff to prepare a contract for the Mine Pool
Mapping Grant with either the Schuylkill Headwaters Association or the Schuylkill
Conservation District to hire contractor to gather information. (*Bernie, Mary and
all*)

- Discussion on suggestions from SMCRA Title 4 Townhall Meetings that EPCAMR / WPCAMR should update PA DEP BAMR website (or other means) with current Title 4 Projects to let partners (and other arms of DEP) know where they may be of assistance. Ed

Correspondence and Information

- 2007 AMR Conference a Success (see AML Post e-mail) Robert / Mike
- Membership Renewals 2007. Will report on this next meeting.
- PA Council of Trout Unlimited Support of Title IV Reauthorization to BAMR (handout)
- Anthracite Report-July 2007 from the PA Anthracite Council (handout)
- FREEBIES – EPCAMR Brochures, RAMLIS 7.0 CDs & WPCAMR Title IV DVDs

Grants/Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **2007 Mined Land Reforestation Conference (ARRI); 8/7- 8/8** in Abingdon, VA -sponsored by the ARRI & SW Virginia Higher Ed. Ctr Robert
- **Mauch Chunk Lake Heritage Festival, Jim Thorpe; 9/15;11AM-11PM;** Bluegrass Musicians; Carbon Cty Parks & Rec. sponsored; Still taking exhibitors and vendors
- **2nd Annual Susquehanna River Initiative Symposium; 9/29; 8:30AM-5PM;** Bucknell U., Langone Center, Lewisburg; Reclamation DVD Documentary Preview-WVIA
- **Little Friendship Girl Scout Camp AMD Tie-Dye WS; 8/6, Forty-Fort**
- **Pocono NE RC & DC Annual Mtg; 9/7** at the Pike Co. CD, Blooming Grove
- **Mid-Atlantic RC & DC Annual Mtg; 9/16 - 9/19** -Holiday Inn, Grantville
- **153rd Annual Bloomsburg Fair 2007; 9/22 - 9/29**

Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report Document) All

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

AMR Program Staff Highlights (May 2007 – July 2007)

Regional Coordinator's (RC) Highlights

- Provided Technical Assistance to Laffin Boro & Newport Township on available grant opportunities for stream restoration, stream remediation, & AML reclamation projects in their respective municipalities
- Submitted Quarterly Report for Bear Creek AMD Remediation Project, Dauphin Co.
- Met with Schuylkill CD and other partners on the Audenreid AMD Remediation Project, Schuylkill Co.
- AMR Program Staff conducted **7** AMD Education & Outreach Watershed PG & Tours: PA DCNR's Community Connections, Watershed Forum PG, Nature Interrupted Teacher Training Workshop, Youth Fishing PGs, combined total of **45** teachers and **391** youth. Also, **720** participants attended **3** AMD Tie-Dye Workshops; Bear Creek Festival, Schuylkill County, Luzerne Conservation District Field Day, and Woodland Resources Adventure Camp
- Interviewed by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for an upcoming Reclamation Documentary Video on WVIA.
- AMR Program Staff presented to the SRBC Water Quality Advisory Committee on potential for continued partnership opportunities between the SRBC, watershed groups, and land reclamation-oriented organizations within the Basin
- Attended the National ESRI GIS Conference in San Diego, CA to present on EPCAMR's work with GIS and RAMLIS in PA
- EPCAMR AMR Program Staff attended, presented, and help to facilitate discussions at **3** Title IV Town Meetings throughout PA with the WPCAMR, PA DEP, BAMR, CAC, and MRAB
- EPCAMR & the LCD received the **1st Place** NCAC Community Development Award for 2007 for our support of the Avondale Reclamation Community Gardens & Historical Preservation Project
- Conducted **1** Streamside Cleanup that netted **320 pounds** of trash from Smiths Pond Road, near work and **1** COALS Cleanup at the Newport Cemetary/AML Site with **45** Wilkes University Freshman netting over **100 bags** of trash and **48 tires**

Robert Hughes

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

Watershed Outreach Coordinator's (WOC) Highlights

- Attended, presented, and help to facilitate discussions at an additional **6** Title IV Town Meetings throughout PA with the WPCAMR, PA DEP, BAMR, CAC, and MRAB
- Performed a Routine Wetlands Delineation with EPCAMR Intern along Hicks Creek within the Stream Restoration project boundaries.
- Produced 115 maps / 3 statistical data sets for EPCAMR Partners and added information to 3 EPCAMR GIS Databases (mine pool, infiltration points & tunnels).
- Updated RAMLIS to v.7.0 with 2007 PA DEP Data files (AMLIS, Active Mining Sites, Integrated List of Streams, Beneficial Use Sites...) and more background files live from PASDA.
- Provided technical assistance to PEC and the Catawissa Creek Restoration Association via maps and input for their Rivers Conservation Plan.
- Provided DEP 319 Program staff with Fiscal Year 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 AMR Program Grant deliverables.
- AMR Program Staff coordinated the 9th Annual Statewide AMR Conference via conference calls and e-mails. The conference was held July 20-21 at the Ramada Inn, State College, PA. **131** Attendees, **3** Tracks consisting of **17** presentations, **22** exhibitors. Lots of smiles and networking. Kept attendees informed about the latest on the conference via www.treatminewater.com

Michael Hewitt