

## EPCAMR 2008 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – April 17<sup>th</sup>

### Columbia County Conservation District Small Meeting Room

- 6:30 PM **Call to Order – Attendance:** Bruno Najaka, Paul Lohin, M. Irvil Kear, Ed Wytovich, Ed, President  
Cheryl Brobst, Paul DiRenzo Jr., John Orr, Mike Potthoff, Cathy Haffner, Mary  
Wagner, Al Mabus, Tom Clark, John Stefanko, Robert Hughes & Michael Hewitt
- Minutes - Motioned to Accept & Approve with corrections from January 24th, 2007-** (Irvil, Bruno & all) Cathy, Sec.
- Treasurer's Report** Cheryl,  
Treasurer
- Moved to accept the Treasurers Report including Community Checking account, PA Invest account balances (Irvil, Bruno & all)
- President's Report** (see Watershed & Cooperating Organization Reports) Ed
- Guest Speakers:** John Stefanko, PA DEP BAMR  
(see Watershed & Cooperating Organization Reports)
- AMR Program Reports** (See highlights at the end of this Document) AMR PG Staff
- Old Business**
- Moved to increase EPCAMR Membership Dues for Watershed Groups to \$50 for 2009, other categories do not change. (Cheryl, Irvil & all) Suggested that staff shorten the letter to 1 page and extend to economic development and municipal partners. Board to send contacts to Mike. Ed
  - Moved to establish an EPCAMR Strategic Planning Committee of Irvil and Al (Irvil, Cheryl & all)
- New Business**
- Staff introduced EPCAMR OSM/VISTA Development Coordinator, Carly Trumann Cathy
  - Moved to approve Skelly & Loy contract for Hicks Creek Project (Irvil, Cheryl & all)
  - Moved to approve Bear Creek Phase I final reimbursement to Dauphin CD (Irvil, Paul & all)
  - Moved to approve a \$100 donation towards the Jeddo / Nescopeck VISTA (Mary, Cheryl & all)
  - Moved to not exhibit at the Bloomsburg Fair 2008. (John, Irvil & all) Proved to be a great outreach opportunity, but required too many hours and travel. Thank you to all Board Members who participated in previous years, special thanks to Cheryl who always made sure we had a spot!
  - Staff updated board on Strategic Planning effort. Contacted ICL to facilitate: Work would consist of surveys of staff, board and stakeholders with a full day on site facilitated process and follow-up. EPCAMR would write the actual document off notes. An invoice was e-mailed to board after meeting. Costs were much more than budgeted (even after "low cost tier" and 50% discount with the help of the William Penn Foundation). Will need to look elsewhere or do it "in-house." Board suggested contacting Karen Ely (CDs were eligible for this through DEP Central Office).
- Committee Reports** (Personnel & Budget) – nothing to report, did not meet Ed
- Correspondence and Information**
- Growing Greener: AMD/AML projects need a letter of acknowledgement or support from EPCAMR / WPCAMR (May 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline) Mike
  - PA AML Campaign Update: Pittsburgh Post Article
  - Search with [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com); earn money for EPCAMR (\$15.28 in 4 mos)

### **Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops**

- **Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists Symposium:** “Water and the Environment, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center - May 7 Robert
- **Lackawanna River Fest:** near Scranton High School – May 10
- **Nescopeck State Park Back to Nature Festival:** May 10
- **Growing Greener Grant Deadline:** May 16, 2008
- **Bear Creek Festival:** Sch. Co. Fairgrounds – May 18
- **Council for Research and Reclamation of Disturbed Lands (CRRDL) in PA:** Pottsville District Mining Office – June 5 -6
- **Susquehanna Riverfest:** Kirby Park, Wilkes-Barre – June 21
- **West Branch of the Susquehanna River Symposium:** Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA – July 18-19
- **10th Annual AMR Conference:** Reclaiming our Past - Shaping our Future, Ramada Inn, State College, PA - August 12-14
- **ARIPPA’s 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention:** Sharaton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel - August 26-28

**Watershed Reports** (see Watershed & Cooperating Organization Reports)

All

8:30 PM Next Meeting Date **July 24<sup>th</sup>** (**Annual Meeting**) **Day Meeting** and Adjournment

## AMR Program Staff 4th Quarter Highlights (January 2008 – April 2008)

### Regional Coordinator's Highlights

- Worked with the D&L National Heritage Corridor Commission to develop an Anthracite Region OSM/VISTA Watershed Team
- Assisted OSM with an AMD Field Investigation on the collapse of the Dundee AMD Outfall, located on Earth Conservancy's property, in Hanover Township, PA, located near the Nanticoke Creek
- Continued work and grant reporting, along with reimbursements on the PEC Manure & Mine Lands, Hicks Creek NSCD, Catawissa RCP, Environmental Education, and GIS Mine Pool Mapping Project
- Continued Conference Planning for the 2008 10<sup>th</sup> Annual AMR/History Conference
- Attended the OSM National GeoSpatial Data Committee Team Meeting, held in Tampa, FL to continue to further develop GIS data standards for mining, abandoned mines, and underground mines
- Provided several letters of support for groups applying for WREN and EE Grants
- Prepared and submitted a **\$2000** Convening Grant application to the Foundation for PA Watersheds to support the 10th Annual Conference
- Created an EPCAMR Invoice system in our newly downloaded and updated Accounting Software, Quicken 2008, which will make tracking outstanding grant reimbursements, sub-contract agreements, or bills for professional service fees easier to manage
- Worked with Carly T. on developing a **\$2500** PACD Mini-Grant Application to apply for funding to purchase a small drying kiln that would allow us to dry the iron oxide that we are collecting from the AMD discharges to be used in our educational programs with the dozens of school districts that we are working with in the region
- Attended the OSM 2008 GeoSpatial Conference from 3-25 to 3-27, 2008 with Mike in Atlanta, GA as the only non-profit organization, from PA to make a presentation on our RAMLIS GIS Tool for Community Groups on AML; Attended the National GeoSpatial Data Standards Data Stewards Meeting; **150** people in attendance
- Luzerne Conservation District received the announcement from Governor Rendell and the PA DEP Office of Water that it had been awarded EPCAMR's 319 Growing Greener Grant application request submitted by the EPCAMR Regional Coordinator for FY08-09 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009) in the amount of **\$123,500**

Robert Hughes

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

### Watershed Outreach Coordinator's Highlights

- Distributed an additional 4 RAMLIS v.7.0 CDs and completed a draft of version 8.0
- Printed 21 maps, created 2 digital maps and provided 4 sets of AML statistics for AMR Program partners.
- Added to 5 EPCAMR GIS Layers (mine pools/geobasins, infiltration points, tunnels, barrier pillars & flow paths) related to the Mine Pool Mapping Project.
- Applied for 3 grants / corporate giving programs and received word about 2 grant awards including EPCAMR work (Growing Greener 319 Program award to EPCAMR and DCED award to Duryea Borough for the Old Forge Borehole Treatment Prototype).
- Finished the EPCAMR 2007 Year in Review (Annual Report) and sent 2008 membership renewals.
- Presented at a Friends of the Nescopeck Mtg., the OSM 2008 GeoSpatial Conference, conducted a 3 field investigations and led 2 AML tours.
- Attended 2 Anthracite Heritage Region VISTA Team Meetings, 2 AMR Conference Conference Call, and a Catawissa Creek RCP Meeting
- Continue to update [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org)

Michael Hewitt

### VISTA Development Coordinator's Highlights

- Attended the Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team Northern Coal Fields Spring Training and attended several sessions including: Beginning Fiscal Training on Grant Acquisition, River Network Information Session, Educational Outreach, Historical Preservation, and Partnership Building. Also had the opportunity to network with other ACCWT partners.
- Working with Huber Breaker Preservation Society to obtain funding for a potential commemorative park construction and resource mobilization plan.
- Acquired donations for Earth Day and Riverfest Projects.
- Tabled the PA Anthracite Museum Charter Day

Carly Trumann