

EPCAMR 2008 3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Tentative Minutes – July 24th

Northumberland County Conservation District EE Center

- 12:30** **Call to Order – Attendance:** Bruno Najaka, Paul Lohin, Mike Potthoff, Cathy Haffner, Mary Wagner, Al Mabus, Bernie McGurl, Josh Longmore, Jeff McNelly, Jaci Harner, Judy Becker, Tim Ference, Alana Roberts, Earnest Keller, Vinny Clausi, Frank Sawicki, Kurt Masser, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt & Carly Trumann Bernie, V. P.
- Minutes from Last Mgt. (April 17th):** Motion to accept & approve Cathy, Sec.
- Treasurer’s Report** Bernie
- Moved to accept Community Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (*Al, Cathy, All*)
 - Moved to report only account balances to board as opposed to the current “ledger” format (*Jeff, Bruno, All*)
 - Moved to file Financial Reports for Audit and pay Kovalcheck and Kollar (*Judy, Bruno, All*)
- AMR Program Reports** (See highlights at the end of this Document) AMR PG Staff
- Committee Reports** (Personnel, Budget & Strategic Planning)
- **(Executive Session)** Personnel & Budget Committee Reports Respective
 - Strategic Planning Committee Report Comm. Reps.
- Old Business**
- Motion to act on Committee Recommendations Bernie
- New Business**
- Moved to approve Mike to co-present with Robert at ESRI Conference. Expenses will be covered by the WPWP RAMLIS Program Funding. (*Tim, Cathy, All*) Bernie
Robert
 - Moved to approve Borton-Lawson Contract for Hicks Creek NSCD Project (*Paul, Josh, All*)
 - Motion to approve purchase of Gravity Convection Oven for drying FeOOH (*Irvil, Bruno, All*)
 - Welcome to new EPCAMR Intern / OSM Summer Associate Victoria Harkavy postponed (and cancelled since she did not accept the position)
 - Motion to sponsor a \$100K OSM Grant for Bear Creek Phase 2 as long as \$10K is available for administration. (*Jeff, Mary, All*) Will cover a shortfall from the Growing Greener Grant received.
 - ---Recess---
 - Confirmation of Members, Nomination of Officers & Election of Officers
- Correspondence and Information** (Manila Envelope)
- OSM SMCRA Federal Rulemaking available for comment (8/19/08) → [WebLink](#) Mike
 - PA DEP BAMR Draft AMD Set-Aside Program Position → [WebLink](#)
 - PA DEP BAMR Draft Mine Drainage Treatability & Project Selection Guidelines → [WebLink](#)
 - West Branch Of the Susquehanna River Reports
- Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops**
- **2008 ESRI International User Conference:** San Diego Convention Ctr., CA - Aug. 4-8 Robert
 - **10th Annual AMR Conference:** Reclaiming our Past - Shaping our Future, Ramada Inn, State College, PA - August 12-14
 - **PARC 2008 Conference:** Bloomsburg, PA - Aug. 25 & 26
 - **ARIPPA’s 18th Annual Convention:** Sharaton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel - August 26-28
 - **Pocono NE RC&D Annual Meeting:** Sep. 5, 2008

- **Wildlands Conservancy “Green Gala”:** Brookside Country Club, Emmaus - Nov. 21
- **NAAMLPA Conference 30th Annual:** DoubleTree Hotel, Durango, CO – Oct. 26-29

Watershed Reports (See Watershed Report Document)

All

**2:30
PM**

Next Meeting Date **November 12th** and Adjournment

Tour of sites in the Shamokin Creek Watershed following the meeting lead by Leanne Bjorklund of the SCRA (on the way home for most of us)

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

Regional Coordinator's Highlights

- Prepared 15 Letters of Support and 3 Letters of Acknowledgment for regional groups upon reviewing GG and DCNR Grant Applications to the Commonwealth
- EPCAMR Staff completed the EPCAMR Program 319 Growing Greener Grant that was submitted to the PA DEP for FY09-10 for **\$123,500**
- Provided an EPCAMR Letter of Support for the SRBC proposed Consumptive Use Mitigation Fee Increase and a Letter of Support to the PA Anthracite Council at the request of Duane Feagley, Executive Director, on supporting remaining incentives for the Anthracite Industry to OSM
- Meeting with Carly and John Dziak-Greater Pittston Historical Society to prepare a **\$1000** grant application to OSM/VISTA and the ACCWT for a Summer Associate (Anthracite Historian Research Assistant) 10 week full-time intern to work with John and EPCAMR on developing some historical anthracite related learning packets, a web-site for regional historical resources on abandoned mines, history, and people, places, and events;
- Informed the EPCAMR Board the our EPCAMR PA Sales and Use Tax Exemption as an Institution of Public Charity has been approved, retroactive to January 9 ,2008 and will need to be reviewed again in 2013
- Coordinated and conducted two AML cleanups- Avondale Mine Colliery and LCD Wetlands Area; 226 bags of trash removed, 70 tires, 3150 pounds of metal collected, 28 volunteers
- Exhibited at the LRCA RiverFest, the Schuylkill County Bear Creek Festival and the Wyoming Valley RiverFest ~ 275 AMD Tie Dye T's created
- Co-presented with Mike at the PA Council of Geology Professionals "Water & the Environment" Symposium on EPCAMR's RAMLIS GIS Tool at their Annual Meeting in Hershey
- EPCAMR Staff conducted 2 AMD/AML Outreach Programs with Blossburg Elementary and Dallas Elementary for 288 students in the 4th & 5th grade

Robert Hughes

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

Michael Hewitt

Watershed Outreach Coordinator's Highlights

- Produced 18 maps, and 6 sets of statistical data for EPCAMR partners through GIS
- Finished RAMLIS v.8.0 and began distribution (so far 25 copies have been sent). Working availability through our website (via download and/or interactive with Google maps)
- Modified 5 GIS layers for the Mine Pool mapping Program to give to the USGS. Began building 3D structural contours from USGS C-Series Coal Investigations Maps to aide in 3D modeling of mine pools in the Western Middle Coal Field.
- Aided several groups in the region with Growing Greener proposals. Worked in depth with 3 in particular: the EPCAMR Program Funding to the 319 Program, the Honey Pot (Susquehanna #7) Discharge Treatment with SRBC, and the Old Forge Borehole Treatment with EcoTech.
- Presented at a Community Connections Watershed Forum, and a Northumberland CCD Board Mtg. Co-presented at the PA Council of Professional Geologists Symposium, and the Northumberland and Lackawanna Co. Stakeholders Mtgs. with Regional Coordinator. Conducted 1 AMD Tour, a 1 day field investigation, and 2 interactive EE events with VISTA.
- Continue to update www.orangewaternetwork.org

Carly Trumann

VISTA Development Coordinator's Highlights

- Created watershed tile mosaic group art project, which community members glue pieces of broken tile to create an overview of the Susquehanna River valley. Coordinated project at Wilkes-Barre Earth Day festival, Susquehanna RiverFest, and several school field trips.
- Faxed letters to 35 AMD-impacted municipalities in the Wyoming Valley watershed; offered assistance with watershed-related projects.
- Toured Jeddo Tunnel and Old Forge Bore Hole AMD discharge sites with PA Fish & Boat and EcoTech, LLC; wrote press release and submitted to local media contacts.
- Wrote and submitted 2 grant applications: to PACD's Educational Mini-Grant Program for

\$2000 funding to purchase a kiln for processing iron oxide, and to pay to run educational programming on uses of the iron oxide as a pigment in classroom and professional art projects. (Grant not awarded.)

- Prepared and submitted \$3000 Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts grant proposal to Scranton Area Foundation; requested funding for elementary school skit costumes based on EPCAMR's "AMD Avengers vs. the Pollution Posse" coloring book characters.