

# EPCAMR 2009 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – March 19<sup>th</sup>

Earth Conservancy Office, Ashley, PA

5:30 P

**Call to Order - Attendance:** Mary Wagner, Al Mabus, Bernie McGurl, Josh Longmore, Tim Ference, Cheryl Brobst, Ernest Keller, M. Irvil Kear, Bruno Najaka, John Orr, Ed Wytovich, Robert Hughes, & Michael Hewitt Bernie

**Intro:** History of the Earth Conservancy and how EPCAMR will fit in Bernie  
**Minutes from Last Mgt. (January 15<sup>th</sup>):** Moved to accept & approve (*Mary, Tim & all*) Bernie

## Treasurer's Report

- Moved to file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit (*Mary, Ed & all*) Cheryl
- Moved to accept the 2009 annual budget (7/1/2009 – 6/30/2010) remove “unrestricted funding” from income and setup as a “reserve”(Josh, Cheryl & all) Robert
- Discussion on funding opportunities:
  - Mike Korb sent a grant for water work (economic stimulus), Board
  - Growing Greener 2 (bond) is no more, Growing Greener 1 (tipping fees) is all that is left and some is going to pay off debt on GG2

**AMR Program Reports** (see highlights at the end of this Document) AMR PG Staff

## Committee Reports

 (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Transition) Respective

- Moved to establish a “Policy Document” for EPCAMR and Personnel Committee will continue to update policies. Staff to work on combining ARIPPA and LCRA policies as a starting point then editing from there. Comm. Chairs
- Discussion on “liability” (accrued annual and sick time) related to staff transition to EPCAMR. LCD proposed 3 options:
  - LCD terminates staff early and pay out using 319 grant
  - EPCAMR assumes all LCD liability
  - EPCAMR negotiates deal with staff to buy out part and accept part (reference to Northumberland CCD situation).

## Old Business

- Discussion on reconciling books with LCD. EPCAMR board wants to make sure that 08-09 numbers are correct and that all debts/credits are take care of with transition. EPCAMR now has quickbooks and Robert will coordinate with Josh. Robert requested official training on quickbooks, but LCD suggested that Diane Dorman, Quick Books Instructor, could help and a Tutorial CD would be more effective. Robert

## New Business

- Moved to act on Earth Conservancy Lease Agreement. Toured space. EC still liable for “structural” problems, as is condition (EPCAMR making “cosmetic” changes). Board requested modification of lease to include a 2 year term and language saying rent will not increase unless legitimized. (*Irvil, Cheryl & all*) Robert
- Discussion on estimated costs to move / renovations (handout). Moved to approve double the “spruce up” budget (up to \$8,000) (*Josh, Cheryl & all*).
- Moved to act on General Liability Insurance from POWR. Includes aggregate annual coverage up to \$6 Million. Does not include D&O and E&O. (see handout for more) (*Irvil, Mary & all*)
- Moved to apply for Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage (PA DL&I) as outside sales to spend up to \$1,200 per year (*Irvil, Cheryl & all*).
- Discussion on Insurance, Phone & Internet quotes received. Moved to approve Service Electric Cable / PTD as the Phone & Internet provider (*Josh, Cheryl & all*). Tabled a decision on Insurance quotes.

## Correspondence and Information

- Carly's VISTA End of Term Letter
- EPCAMR's new Iron Oxide Chalk Box & Production Activity
- RAMLIS v. 9 GIS Tool available on CD and Online (Google Earth)
- Nescopeck Creek Watershed Newspaper Insert

Robert

## Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **Anthracite Heritage Area VISTA Workshop:** Pottsville District Mining Office - Mar 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 9-5PM
- **LHVA and the Heritage Valley Roundtable Funding Symposium:** Mar 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 8-5PM
- **ARIPPA Legislative Tour of AMR/AML:** Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009
- **Deadline for Proposals for Stimulus Projects to Mike Korb:** Apr 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- **AHA VISTA AMD Monitoring Training:** April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 - All Day meet at Ashley Park & Ride
- **William Penn Foundation Luzerne Co. AMR Tour:** Apr 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 10-3:30 PM
- **ARRI Media Day:** May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 10AM
- **Lackawanna River Canoe-a-thon & River Fest:** May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- **Nescopeck-Jeddo Wonders of our Watershed Conference:** PSU Hazleton - May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 10-5PM
- **NE PA Energy Expo:** Jun 13-14, 2009 @ Luzerne County Fairgrounds, Dallas, PA (hosted by the Pocono NE RC & DC)
- **2009 PA AMR Conference:** University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown - July 13-16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Robert

## Watershed Reports (Forgone due to time)

All

8:00 P

Next Meeting Date **Tentatively June 18<sup>th</sup> (annual) 5:30pm at Earth Conservancy Office** and Adjournment

## AMR Program Staff 4th Quarter Highlights (January 2009 – March 2009)

### Regional Coordinator's Highlights

- Selected by the SRBC for the 2009 William Jeanes Sr. Environmental Service Award for over 10 years of dedication to working in the Susquehanna River Basin to address AMD, AML, public education and outreach, and community service projects to improve the health of the watershed.
- EPCAMR Staff submitted 2 grant proposals: \$50K to the Foundation for PA Watersheds and the other to FISKARS Project Orange Thumb
- Prepared 3 Letters of Request for Funding for the 2009 AMR Conference: PA DEP for \$2500 to J. Scott Roberts, PA DEP Deputy Secretary of Mineral Resources Management, \$2000-2500 from the Office of Surface Mining, Pittsburgh through Lois Uranowski, Appalachian Region Tech Transfer Program Manager, Gander Mountain in Johnstown for \$1750 worth of "Gander Box coupons" and began targeting potential sponsors, vendors, and exhibitors.
- Prepared a 5 Letters of Support: T. Allan Comp for the 2009 River Network Hero Award, Dr. David Kargbo-Temple University to become actively involved in the Environmental Futures Program, Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority at the request of Commissioner Urban for the Coal Brook AML Realignment Project, for the Huber Breaker in Ashley, PA to the Luzerne County Commissioners and Senator Specter, Senator Casey, and Congressman Kanjorski for keeping the Watershed Cooperative Agreement Pgm.
- Completed 5 letters of recommendation to Yale, UC-Davis, Bainbridge, Antioch University, and Harvard on Carly's behalf as she begins to seek acceptance into several graduate schools across the country and a letter for Eric Bella, a senior at Lake-Lehman High School, EPCAMR volunteer, and Anthracite Living History Group (ALHG) Co-Chair to PSU for Mining Engineering and was recently accepted into the program.
- Prepared a Congratulations Award to the Newport Township Community Organization, who the EPCAMR Staff has nominated to receive the EPCAMR Partnership Award in Luzerne County
- Provided PPL with EPCAMR's perspective on the potential for mine pool re-use for industrial needs to generate electricity and steam power through the consumptive use process determined by the SRBC.
- EPCAMR staff attended a Renewable Energy Mtg. with Pagnotti Enterprises and Intelliwatt, and a Bradford County Gas Well Tour by Fortuna Energy.
- Conducted interviews with 3 individuals who are interested in internships / positions with EPCAMR.

Robert Hughes

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

### Watershed Outreach Coordinator's Highlights

- Updated 8 and created 2 GIS databases; and began work on a 3D model using EarthVision prototype scripts. Produced 12 and georeferenced 25 maps
- Created a new version of RAMLIS v 9 GIS Tool CD, distributed 5 copies and 1 online Google Earth version
- EPCAMR staff attended and presented at an Old Forge Borehole Project Mtg., and a "Grass on AML" Mtg. with the Pocono Northeast RC&D Council.
- EPCAMR staff participated in 2 Mine Pool Mapping Mtgs.
- EPCAMR Staff submitted 1 grant proposal for \$50K to the Foundation for PA Watersheds
- Attended a Mine Pool Forum at the DEP Office in Harrisburg
- EPCAMR staff lead 3 AMR Conference calls and updated the website with preliminary info at <http://2009.treatminewater.com>
- Presented maps and suggestions at a Catawissa Creek Rivers Cons. Plan Meeting
- Updated [www.orangewaternet.org](http://www.orangewaternet.org)

Michael Hewitt