

EPCAMR 2010 4th Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – November 18th

Earth Conservancy Office, Ashley, PA

6:00PM	Call to Order – Attendance: Al Mabus, Cheryl Brobst, Bruno Najaka, Irvil Kear, Paul Lohin, Mary Wagner, Jeff McNelly, Tim Ference, Christine Haldeman, Tom Clark, Ray Clarke, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt & Wren Dugan	Al
	Minutes from Last Mgt. (Aug. 19th): <u>Moved to accept & approve</u> (<i>Mary, Cheryl & All</i>)	Cheryl
	Treasurer’s Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Moved to</u> file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit (<i>Paul, Mary & All</i>)<u>Moved to</u> pass a resolution from First National Bank for new account & designate signatories (<i>Mary, Paul & All</i>)	Cheryl Robert
	AMR Program Reports (See highlights at the end of this Document)	Staff
	Committee Reports (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Dinner/Fundraiser)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strategic Planning: notes on outcome of the brainstorming session – Next Steps: work on an update with prioritized long term and short term goals (mirror 319 PG)Dinner/Fundraiser: work on a brochure to hand out for dinner – call a comm. mtg.Personnel: staff evaluations distributed. met briefly but – will decide over e-mail with a full committee	Respective Comm. Chairs
	Old Business	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Discussed</u> the “Keeley Decision” and potential for NPDES to be required for passive treatment systems in PA. May also scare industry away from the use of not so clean sources (ex. minewater) of water for fracking as well.<u>Discussed</u> supporting staff to seek professional geologist status.	Robert
	New Business	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Moved to</u> adopt the Chesapeake Clean Water and Eco System Restoration Act (S. 1816 & H.R. 3852) & join Clean Water Coalition (<i>Irvil, Ed & All</i>)<u>Discussed</u> sponsors for the 15th Anniversary Fundraising Banquet – list will be available for committee... Seek out a historian / student to document history	Al Robert
	Correspondence and Information	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enrolled in a free Business Overdraft Honor program with FNB up to \$1KEPCAMR earthVision training Press ReleaseChalk Fest Flier (EPCAMR as a sponsor)PEC 40 under 40 Award Notification Letter to Executive DirectorCongratulatory letters from John Dawes and William Peduto (City of Pitt.)Wilkes-Barre Chamber Membership acceptance letterThank You from DEP EE Interns for conducting a tour in Schuylkill Co.Thank You from Corp. for National and Community ServiceLetter from Ashley Borough regarding garbage disposalPlanet Green Recycle Fundraising Flier	Robert
	Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Eastern Coal Region Roundtable State of the Region Meeting: Pipestem State Park - March 21-23, 2011PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference & EPCAMR 15th Anniversary Dinner/Fundraiser: Genetti’s Inn in Hazleton - August 4-6, 2011	Robert
	Watershed Reports	All
8:30PM	Next Meeting: <i>Tentatively</i> February 17 th @ 5:30pm and Adjournment	

AMR Program Staff 3rd Quarter Highlights (August 2010 – October 2010)

Executive Director and General Staff Highlights

- Chosen to receive the PEC's first ever 40 Under 40 Environmental Award
- Conducted a speaking engagement with Penn Future and was interviewed along with VISTA for 105 The River's Community Forum show.
- Provided letters of support for 2 organizations submitting grants, 2 for the Beneficial use of coal ash for abandoned mine reclamation, 1 Public Comment document response letter for the US EPA draft Chesapeake Bay TMDL and the draft PA DEP Watershed Implementation Plan, and signed on to a plea to the State Senate to finish the job on the severance tax.
- Highland Manor Care signed-off on the Hicks Creek AML NSCD Project, the largest of the landowners adjacent to the project area.
- EPCAMR Board approved funding 3 organizations with funds towards their projects in the Region under the ARIPPA donation of \$10,000 to each of the Coalitions.
- Submitted 2 proposals to PPL's Project Earth Environmental Education Grants Program. Awards up to \$5,000 to schools for projects that enhance established classroom curricula and academic standards.
- Partnered with Marywood University Senior Graphic Design students who offered to provide free "marketing" services as a part of their class project to help local non-profits. Applied for a \$1000 grant to support the printing costs of large format posters from the Office Depot Fdn.
- EPCAMR staff prepared 2 proposals for professional services to the Earth Conservancy to establish a baseline water quality monitoring program to determine the improvements after AMD Treatment System installation at the Askam Borehole (~\$7K) and Espy Run Revamp(~\$2.5K) both in the Nanticoke Creek watershed
- Received EPCAMR's \$5000 PA Fish & Boat Commission grant to conduct an Aquatic Resources Education and Outreach Program in the Wyoming Valley
- EPCAMR staff completed the "Abandoned Mine Drainage: an Epic Tale" publication, attended a video shoot & screened a draft video of the AMD Formation EE 319 Directive.
- EPCAMR staff attended the Annual EPCAMR Board Mtg. and Strategic Planning Session, ARIPPA Awards Luncheon; Participated the JMRC Conference call, a TIPS earthVision Training, TMDL Clean Water Briefing Meeting, hosted a NAAMLPL site tour, setup at Chalk Fest, hosted 3 AMD site tours, and 2 EE events.

Robert Hughes

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

Program Manager's Highlights

- Submitted and received a grant for free webhosting thru HostGator.com, reviewed proposals for member organizations & provided 5 letters of support for organizations submitting grants
- Sampled 5 discharges and sampled 2 in-stream sites, certified 1 VISTA in water monitoring & sampled water levels in 15 boreholes (2x). Added sampling information to datashed.org
- Started a new webhosting service to partner organizations to bring in some administrative funding
- Conducted 2 RAMLIS Investigations and continued distribution of RAMLIS version 10; Georeferenced 3 maps, updated 2 layers and metadata for 5 layers related to the Mine Pool Mapping Program. Created 4 maps, georeferenced 5 maps and updated 2 GIS database for partners and taught 12 VISTAS to read Topo Maps at ACCWT Training,

Michael Hewitt

OSM/VISTA Watershed Community Development Coordinator' Highlights:

- Hosted a Community Service Project at Wilkes University for incoming RA's.
- Wrote and submitted a **\$2000** proposal to receive a Pepsi Refresh Grant for the Huber Breaker Preservation Society to finish payments and cover installation of the Miner's Monument. Assisted in editing HuberBreaker.org the EPCAMR.org websites.
- Began training with EPA's Watershed Academy online and attended Watershed Academy webinar on building network capacity.
- Composed new brochure to promote EPCAMR's environmental education programs.
- Attended Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor's monthly board meeting, a seminar and video on the Knox Mine Disaster, ACCWT's fall training, and the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour at McDade Park, first direct experience in a coal mine.
- Initiated dialogue with Laurie Popeck of Stream Restoration Inc. about collaborating sales of iron oxide products through Clean Creek Products. Initiated contact with Professor John Lysak to experiment with iron oxide as a print making medium and a potential market for AMD sales.
- Initiated new partnership with Wilkes-Barre School District Science Coordinator, Mike Corcoran to develop new environmental education programs to underserved schools.
- Began designs and research backdrops for the AMD Avengers vs. Pollution Posse EE Comedy skits.

Wren Dugan