

EPCAMR 2014 4th Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – November 20th

EPCAMR Office / Earth Conservancy Conference Room

2:00PM
Info.
Portion of
Meeting

Discussion and Correspondence

- Handouts: Last Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report Mike
- Staff Δ: Hired Part-time Watershed Outreach Specialists, Gabby and Liz Robert
- Interns: Peter Falvey, Public Relations & Outreach Intern, Cait Dickson
- Discussion on Community Foundation donation in honor of Paul Lohin and Dave Irvil
Derbes

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- AMR Conference – June 25-26, 2015 @ Ramada Inn in State College Robert

Watershed Reports

All

- ARIPPA – “Red Ash” Film soon to be released seems to be sensationalistic propaganda against coal ash in general. Questions on landowner access issues for culm piles, because there potentially 3 separate “landowners” on a specific culm pile: the landowner, mineral rights owner and physical property owner.
- Schuylkill Co. – 42” William Gasline coming through region. Meetings in Hegins and Wilkes-Barre. Will cross over underground mines. Tremon Historical Society representative brought mine maps to Hegins meeting showing area that it will cross. Suggested that Robert contact.
- Columbia Co. – Discovery Channel contacted Ed about a reality show or documentary on Centralia or the Pioneer Tunnel. Bloomsburg U applied for 2 flow monitoring stations on Fishing Creek.
- Friends of the Nescopeck – EE grant to work with Hazleton Area STEM School up to early summer 2015. Looking at establishing an outdoor EE center (with laboratory potential) near Jeddo Tunnel. Sorting out who owns the land: county, Pagnotti, and who else. Job Corps leases property from the county and could be potential workforce.
- Sullivan Co. – Most AML Reclaimed and AMD Treated. Working with TU and Hedin to evaluate the efficiency of AMD Tunnel A (Oxic Limestone Drain, similar to Oneida #1). Loyalsock Creek Headwaters limestone dosing project still going strong since 2000. “KISS” style project of adding limestone sand and ford crossings to generate alkalinity. Terry Schmidt to come up and talk about their efforts and outcomes for the past decade and a half.
- Catawissa Creek – Oneida #1 leaf cleaning being done on intake and Oneida #3 pool cover leaf guard and sunlight dampening to kill algae bloom. Also working on getting power to #3 for automation of flushing. Both are treating water as expected. Audenreid on hold with access issues since Gladstone Partners took over the property. Looking at Conservation Fund grants (unlimited funding) to repair Audenreid.
- Luzerne Co. – Red Brook and Stony Brook on SGL 57 are being looked at for remediation.

3:00PM

Call to Order Business Meeting: Cheryl Brobst, Al Mabus, Ed Wytovich, M. Irvil, Kear, Ben Vaupel, Corey Richmond, Ian Palmer (Quorum), Tim Ference, Maryruth Wagner, Jeff McNelly, John Levitsky, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt & Kelsey Biondo Christine

Begin
Business
Portion of
Meeting

Minutes from Last Mgt. (August 21st): Moved to accept & approve (Jeff, Mary & All) Christine

Treasurer's Report

- Moved to file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit (initially tabled) Cheryl

- due to errors; fixed errors then approved over an e-mail vote: Ed, Cheryl & All)
- Moved to accept filed 2013 990s from Kovalchik, Collar & Co. (Jeff, Irvil & All)

AMR Program Reports (Anticipated Work at the end of this Document)

Staff

Committee Reports (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Dinner/Fundraiser)

- Personnel Committee: Review of Annual Staff Evaluations; Committee met and reviewed staff submitted information. Question raised to validate (via GSA website) that the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) was based on the Consumer Price Index.

Respective
Comm. Chairs

Old Business

Hotlinks in
this
document
will take
you to
more info.

New Business

- Moved to approve Committee Recommendations: Approved a 2.5% raise for both Robert and Mike effective January 1, 2015. Also, Board wishes to establish a pot of money for staff education expenses. (Irvil, Jeff & All)
- Moved to approve and sign the \$15k WaterBoxx Distribution and Study Grant from Groasis (Irvil, Jeff & All)
- Moved to Adjourn Business Portion of Meeting

Christine

4:00PM

Next Meeting: Tentatively February 19th 11:00AM (with lunch, bring \$5 donation)
Tentative for 2015: February 19th, May 21st, August 20th(Annual Meeting suggested venue Pioneer Tunnel), & November 19th, 2015

AMR Program Staff Anticipated Work for Next Quarter (looking forward)
Partners and Places in bold

General Staff

- Scan, catalog, georeference and digitize Mine Maps from **PA DEP Pottsville District Mining Office (DMO)** and then **PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) Wilkes-Barre Office** related to the Mine Subsidence Insurance (MSI) Mine Map Processing Grant. Send maps monthly for review by **PA DEP California District Mining Office (DMO)** and invoice for time and resources spent.
- Obtained a \$10,000 grant from Polaris to purchase field sampling equipment and ATV
- Working with **Greater Nanticoke Area (GNA) School District** on **PA DEP Environmental Education (EE) Grant** regarding the Outdoor Education and AMD Pottery Art Classroom Program. Field tours in November and December.
- Working with **PENNDOT** and **PA Fish and Boat Commission** Mitigation Project development of a dam removal along **Solomon Creek** in **Ashley Borough** over \$100K.
- Approve design on the Lewis AMD Treatment System Rehabilitation Project (**Loyalsock Creek, Sullivan County**) in cooperation with **Hedin Environmental** and **PA DEP Moshannon DMO**.
- Finalize Joint Permit on Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design Project (**Hicks Creek, Luzerne County**) in cooperation with **PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office** and extension for another year.
- Monitor native tree growth in WaterBoxxes monthly at **Espy Run, Huber Park and other sites TBD (Nanticoke and Solomon Creek Watersheds, Luzerne County)**. Next \$15k grant will be a program to distribute boxes and gather data from partners in the EPCAMR Region.
- Complete EPCAMR 2012, 2013 & 2014 Annual Reports and post to GuideStar.org.
- Aiding **Huber Breaker Preservation Society (HBPS)** in development of the Huber Memorial Park in **Ashley, PA** (ie. mine car restoration, mock slope entry, multi-media theatre, trails and installation of gardens with **Wilkes-Barre Career and Tech Center Horticultural Class Future Farmers of America (FFA) Grant**).
- Coordinate the **2015 PA statewide Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference** via conference call with **WPCAMR** and the **AMR Conference Committee**. Maintain treatminewater.com website and co-host conference in 2015.
- Update EPCAMR websites as needed, as well as the Google Apps for Education Email+ Account and Facebook Social Media outreach tools.
- Keeping our fingers crossed on 3 Growing Greener Grants: Nanticoke Stormwater Planning, Limestone Tank Treatment System Study and EPCAMR Technical Assistance for Flow Monitoring.
- Continue to work with **EPCAMR Board** to increase Quarterly Board Mtg. efficiency.
- Continue to provide technical & outreach assistance to **EPCAMR partners** dealing with AML issues, as needed.
- Complete another update of RAMLIS for 2015 with updated information from the **Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA) Server**.
- Continue to look for stream segments in the EPCAMR Region, where improvements have been made to streams on the 303 (d) List of Impaired Waters, that should be reassessed and stand a good chance of being removed from the list. Gather supporting water quality monitoring or biological monitoring evidence and report to the **PA DEP Bureau of Conservation and Restoration (BCR) Section 319 Program**.
- Create monthly progress reports, post them to the epcamr.org website and send to **PA DEP BCR Section 319 Program** along with an invoice of time and resources spent for reimbursement.
- Second cleanup of illegal dump sites in the **Town of Centralia** in spring 2015. **Blaschak Coal Company** donated \$500 to aide in the effort. EPCAMR will contact Columbia County.

Full Monthly Reports for all staff are [available online](#) for your review