

EPCAMR 2015 1st Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – February 19th

EPCAMR Office / Earth Conservancy Conference Room

11:00AM
Info. Portion
of Meeting

Discussion and Correspondence

- Handouts: Last Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report
- Staff Δ: No changes
- Interns: Amanda Hamstra, Jessica Johnson, Hayley Giannone
- Discussion on 3 EPCAMR Growing Greener grant applications which were not awarded, there were only 18 in EPCAMR region out of 117 statewide.
- Discussion on EPCAMR staff were able to raise more than \$10K through GiveGab and Amazon Smile Fundraising Campaigns. There are also Good Shop and iGive accounts that earn small donations.
- Discussion on AMR Conference Silent Auction items. Ed donated a walking stick and others mentioned local wineries (e.g. Malotessi Winery).

Mike
Robert

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- **PAEE Conference** – March 12th @ Raystown Lake www.paeenet
- **Schuylkill River Congress** – March 14th @ Montgomery CCC, Pottstown www.delawareriverkeeper.org
- **WV Mine Drainage Symposium** – Mar.31 - April 1 www.wvmdtaskforce.com
- **AMR Conference** – June 25-26, 2015 @ Ramada Inn in State College www.treatminewater.com
- **ARIPPA Awards Application** - Summer 2015 (\$2500 in EPCAMR Region)

Robert

Watershed Reports

- Catawissa Creek: Ed was able to dig up some old paperwork whilst going through his files on the “early history” and how the CCRA and EPCAMR formed. He is willing to share. Suggested that we send out an e-mail to the districts that EPCAMR can convert slides to digital photos. Oneida #1 leaf clean-up was completed on intake. Did not get a Growing Greener grant to place a leaf guard on Oneida #3. In contact with Gladstone (connected to “kids for cash” scandal) for Audenreid related to a Cargo Airport Zoning appeal to court. EMARR was to fix the intake on Audenreid, but they did not get their Growing Greener either, probably due to no land owner access.
- Lackawanna River: Municipal Waste Burden (2 large landfills: Dunmore and Taylor). Out of state garbage is the majority incoming now. Leachate leak reported to DEP in one of the wells near the older section (1950-1960's municipal dump). One is asking for expansion up to ~250 feet which could be seen from downtown Scranton. Friends of the Lackawanna are a community organization against the expansion. Goes against SMCRA “restore land to approximate original contour” clause? Was BAMR money spent to reclaim it? If so, should be returned to state by landowner.
- Sullivan Co. Lewis Treatment System being rehabilitated. Waiting on Hedin to complete bid package. Connel's Tunnel Underground Limestone Bed was studied by Hedin. Need to take action. Trout Unlimited Macro study. What about the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategies 10 years ago? Can Sullivan get an updated map? Ask other counties... Columbia, Schuylkill and Lackawanna would be interested. Riparian Buffer Bill that should be supported. More money for BMPs.
- ARIPPA Asking about AMD Impaired Streams data and ones that have been cleaned up (removed from the impaired list). What is this John Arway report and why is it tied to cleanup? Good Question. PA Fish and Boat study is also 10

All

years old and needs to be updated, not just adjusted for inflation. Many streams missing. Original report only dealt with 2,500 streams impaired, now there are over 5,000.

- Columbia Co. Soil Health Conference on March 18th @ Brown Barn. Contact Columbia Co.
- Shamokin Creek Carbon Run has 2 active grants; an Act 13 held by the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) and a Growing Greener grant held by Northumberland County Conservation District. The AOAA grant is installing AMD remediation at 2 different locations in the headwaters of Carbon Run while the Growing Greener grant will be improving the passive treatment system at Site 42.
Site 23; a private foundation grant was received to determine right-of-way access and survey property lines of area for possible new location of a new treatment system.
Site 15; applied for funding through Transco/Williams Pipeline Environmental Stewardship Program to remove accumulated iron sediment from ponds.

12:00PM	<p>Call to Order Business Meeting: Bernie McGurl, Cheryl Brobst, Ed Wytovich, Ben Vaupel, Corey Richmond, Tim Ference, Maryruth Wagner (Quorum), Jeff McNelly, Peter Haentjens, Christine Haldeman, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Kelsey Biondo, Amanda Hamstra & Jessica Johnson.</p>	Bernie
Begin Business Portion of Meeting	<p>Minutes from Last Mgt. (November 20th): <u>Moved to</u> accept & approve (Mary, Ed and All)</p> <p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Moved to</u> file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit <p>AMR Program Reports (Anticipated Work at the end of this Document)</p> <p>Committee Reports (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Dinner/Fundraiser)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominating Committee: Looking for Executive Committee successors. Looking for business management / marketing skills in particular. Leigh Ann Kemmerer, a prospect, was reluctant to commit at this time due to work load. <p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Motion to</u> approve \$5K Coldwater Heritage Plan Agreement for Laurel Run Watershed, Luzerne County (Jeff, Tim and All) • <u>Discussed</u> venue for next board meeting. Decided on the Pioneer Tunnel Pavilion. EPCAMR staff to work with Ed to get a caterer and maybe a group rate on the mine tour and/or lokie. Discuss more at next meeting in May. • <u>Motion to</u> adjourn Business Portion of meeting (Jeff, Tim and All) 	Christine Cheryl Staff Respective Comm. Chairs
Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.		
1:00PM	<p>Next Meeting: <i>Tentatively</i> May 21st 11:00AM (with lunch, bring \$5 donation) Tentative for 2015: May 21st, August 20th(Annual Meeting @ Pioneer Tunnel), & November 19th, 2015</p>	Bernie

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.
- Harvest, dry, process, package, and inventory Iron Oxide with EPCAMR Interns
- Sample chemistry and monitor flow of multiple AMD treatment sites throughout the Region: **Askam, Espy, Aylesworth**, and treatment systems in the **Catawissa Watershed** as a part of the **Datashed** spring sampling event.
- Joint Permit approved on **Hicks Creek** Natural Stream Channel Design Project (**Exeter Boro., Luzerne Co.**). Develop a bid package and site showing with **Skelly & Loy**. Hoping for Bid Award for Construction by late spring 2015 in cooperation with **PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office**.
- Waiting on \$136K mitigation project cooperative agreement with **PA Fish & Boat Commission and PA DOT** for a Trout Stream Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Dam Removal Project along the **Solomon Creek (Ashley Boro., Luzerne Co.)**
- Awarded a \$5K Coldwater Conservation Heritage Award to create a plan for **Laurel Run (Mill Creek Watershed, Luzerne County)**. Field work to start in spring.
- Coordinate the **2015 PA statewide Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference** via conference call with **WPCAMR** and the **AMR Conference Committee**. Maintain treatminewater.com website, process registrations and co-host conference in 2015.
- Begin distribution, outreach & education program for \$15K Waterboxx Grant for the **EPCAMR Region**. Regional partners will obtain boxes and return monitoring results monthly. EPCAMR continues to monitor tree growth in WaterBoxxes monthly at **Espy Run and Huber Park (Nanticoke & Solomon Creek Watersheds, Luzerne Co.)**.
- Create “Seed Bombs” with school students at a Riverfront Parks Outdoor Environmental Education event on April 17th in **Wilkes-Barre**.
- 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. Unique regional iron oxide glaze developed by **Wilkes University**. Pottery in the classroom “kicks off” before school year end.
- Preparing several grants to seek funding for Municipal Stormwater Outreach and Education in the **Wyoming Valley**. Unfortunately, EPCAMR was not awarded any **Growing Greener** Grants to provide technical assistance in the Region this year.
- Waiting on agreement with SMS,LLC to install transducers and monitor water levels in several boreholes in the Scranton-Metropolitan Mine Pool related to the Old Forge Borehole AMD Remediation for the **Lackawanna River (Lackawanna Co.)**.
- Conduct a “Seed Bombs for Reclamation” Education Program with Ms. Tombasco's STEM Classes at **Drums Elementary School, Luzerne County**.
- Sample Guten Mine Drift (Lewis Mine AMD), upstream and downstream points on Birch Creek (**Loyalsock Creek, Sullivan Co.**). Develop a bid package and site showing with **Hedin Environmental**. Hoping for Bid Award for Construction by late spring 2015 in cooperation with **PA DEP Moshannon District Mining Office**.
- Plan for cleanup of illegal dump sites in the **Centralia (Columbia Co.), Honey Pot (Luzerne Co.), Solomon Creek (Luzerne Co.)** in cooperation with the Great PA Cleanup and other local partners (ex. **Blaschak Coal Company & Columbia CCD**).
- Working with **GiveGab** on a \$10K Equipment Outreach Fundraising Campaign.
- Obtained a \$10K grant from **Polaris** to purchase field sampling equipment and ATV
- Complete EPCAMR 2013 & 2014 Annual Reports and post to GuideStar.org.
- Complete another update of RAMLIS for 2016 with updated information from the **Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA) Server**.
- Continue to provide technical & outreach assistance to **EPCAMR partners** dealing with AML issues, as needed.

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

