

EPCAMR 2017 2nd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – May 18th

EPCAMR Office

11:00AM
Info.
Portion of
Meeting

Discussion and Correspondence

- Handouts: Minutes, Treasurer’s Report and corresponding documents: Hardcoal Homecoming and POWER Plus Sign-On Letter (100+ orgs.)
- Discussion on: [Administration's 2018 "Skinny Budget" proposes 30-45% cuts to Categorical Grants \(grants to states like 319 NPS funding\)](#) Plan for EPCAMR staff if 319 Funding is severely reduced? Board was interested in letting their delegates know personally. Asked that staff send senate and congressional contact information and a synopsis of the issue.
- Discussion on: Plan for projects in each county related to \$25M in Pilot funding and \$300M in RECLAIM Act? Projects must have Environmental / Economic Nexus. Could EPCAMR aide in new mining or re-mining permits? Discussion on coal resurgence followed. Coal mines and power plants are laying off in the region. Difficulty in cash flow with state construction contracts.
- Available: [Board Member Welcome Packet](#)

Staff

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- 2017 AMR Conference will be June 21-22 at Genetti’s in Wilkes-Barre
- ARIPPA Tech Convention August 15-16 at Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey
- 250th Anniversary of Anthracite Industry (1768 Obadiah Gore) events to happen throughout 2018; contact Scott Herring for details (handout).
- Lackawanna RiverFest May 20th at Sweeney’s Beach 40 Poplar St. Scranton

Staff

Watershed Reports - forgone due to time

All

12:00PM

Call to Order Business Meeting: Attendance - Bernie McGurl, Christine Haldeman, Cheryl Brobst, Ben Vaupel, Jacquelyn Rouse, Tim Ference, Peter Haentjens (Quorum), Ed Wytovich, Dan Taroli, Maryruth Wagner, John Levitsky, Jacob Becker, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Kelsey Biondo, Gabby Zawacki, Denise Hernandez, Gavin Pellitteri, Spencer Zurawski, Abbie Keefe & Rachael Grube

President

Begin
Business
Portion of
Meeting

Minutes from Last Mgt. (February 16th): Filed for Audit (Mary, Ben and All)

Secretary

Treasurer’s Report

- Filed for Audit: Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (Pete, Ed and All)

Treasurer

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

Staff

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

- Strategic Planning Committee: Working on an update from 2011; Survey
- Nominating Committee: continue to look for Exec. Committee successors. Looking specifically for Human Resources and Economic Developer skills.
- Executive Committee: exemption declaration paperwork

Respective
Comm. Chairs
Robert

Old Business - none

President

Hotlinks in
this
document
will take
you to
more info.

New Business

- Motion to approve committee recommendations President
- Motion to approve Solomon Creek Habitat Restoration Project extension (Ed, Robert
Cheryl and All)
- Motion to adjourn Business Portion of meeting President

1:00PM

Next Meeting: *Tentatively* August 17th 11:00AM (with lunch on EPCAMR)

Tentative for 2017: August 17th (Annual Meeting), & November 16th, 2017

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

General Staff

- Scan & catalog 500, georeference 125 and digitize 31 Mine Maps from **PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) Wilkes-Barre Office** and then the **PA DEP Pottsville District Mining Office (DMO)** related to the Mine Subsidence Insurance (MSI) Mine Map Processing Grant. **California District Mining Office (DMO)** and invoice for time and resources spent. Retaining a backup of all mine map images on our 14TB local server.
- **Earth Conservancy** contract to monitor chemistry/flow at **Askam** monthly and **Espy Run** Treatment Systems quarterly, both in the **Nanticoke Creek Watershed**.
- Sample chemistry/flow monthly at **Plainsville Borehole** with a \$4.5K grant from the **Foundation for PA Watersheds**
- 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**. Extension approved by PA DEP. Expecting bid award for construction in 2017.
- Coordinating a \$108K 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.)**
- Plan for the **2017 PA statewide Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference** via conference call with **WPCAMR** and the **AMR Conference Committee**. Conference will be held June 21 & 22nd at the Best Western Genetti Hotel in downtown **Wilkes-Barre, PA**. Maintain treatminewater.com website.
- Continue \$15K Waterboxx III Grant for the **EPCAMR Region**. Partners picked up boxes, saplings, tools and return monitoring results monthly.
- Continue \$16K **SRBC** Contract to map/model mine pools in the **Rausch Creek Watershed (Schuylkill Co.)**. Begin working on a similar \$32K proposal for **Mocanaqua Tunnel Discharge (Luzerne Co.)** with treatment technology by **AES**.
- Continued a Stormwater Management Plan for **Wilkes-Barre City** with ~\$8.5K of funding from the **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)**. Downspout Disconnect workshops scheduled.
- Select school for a Bird Box Program with funding from **PPL Donate Well**.
- Implement our own **Clean Our Anthracite Lands and Streams (COALS)** program with \$5K from **Community Aide, Inc**. Coordinate 4-5 cleanups in 2017.
- Implement “Take Me Fishing” program for city kids with \$10K from **First Federal CF**.
- Begin a **Coldwater Heritage Plan** on Abraham’s Creek with \$5K funding from **PA TU**.
- 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.)**.
- Continue preparing several grants to seek funding for to further EPCAMR’s Mission.
- Complete EPCAMR Annual Reports and post to GuideStar.org.
- Completed another update of RAMLIS for 2017 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.
- Update EPCAMR websites, including www.epcamr.org as needed, as well as the G Suite for Nonprofit Email Account and Facebook Social Media outreach tools.
- Administer the \$2.5K **ARIPPA** AMD/AML Reclamation Awards for **EPCAMR Region**.
- 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**.
- ~\$4.5K **SRI** contract with update www.Datashed.org website & host trainings.
- Continue to provide AMD Field Tours and participate Environmental Outreach Events.
- Harvest, dry, process, package, and inventory Iron Oxide with EPCAMR Interns.

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

- Create monthly progress reports, post them to the EPCAMR website and send to **PA DEP BCR Section 319 Program** along with an invoice of time and resources spent for reimbursement.
- Continue to work with **EPCAMR Board** to increase Quarterly Board Mtg. efficiency.