

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2014
Westmoreland Conservation District Barn

In attendance:

Jim Eckenrode, Blair CD Delegate, Vice President	Rob Cronauer, Westmoreland CD
Jim Resh, Indiana CD Delegate, Secretary	Kelly Williams, Clearfield CD (phone)
Andy McAllister (Staff)	Rachel Kester, TU (phone)
Anne Daymut (Staff)	Lance Bowes, Vanango CD (phone)
Dave Beale, Armstrong CD Delegate	Heather Fowler, Fayette CD (phone)
Shaun Wessel, Jefferson CD	Tom Clark, SRBC
Chelsea Walker, Armstrong CD	Eric Cavazza, PA DEP
Victoria Tantlinger, Armstrong CD	Ron Horansky, PA DEP
Adam Cotchen, Indiana CD Delegate	Jim Shaner, Beaver CD
Pete Dalby, Mill Creek Coalition	Jeff Fliss, PA DEP
Missy Reckner, KC Stream Team	Jackie Ritko, Cambria CD
Dave Leiford, PA DEP	Deane Thomas, Cambria CD
	Brook Esarey, Indiana CD
	Gordon Snyder, Jefferson CD

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 10:27 am with introductions.

Secretary's Report (Jim Resh):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Miller/Cotchen) to accept the November 2013 minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details.

Motion (Beale/Cotchen) to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

Correspondence (Andy McAllister):

Motion (Wessel/Shaner) to reply to respond to Mountain Watershed's letter with a diplomatic response that WPCAMR supports the beneficial use of AMD but does not take a stance on SB 411. Passed.

Andy will also compose a letter to EPCAMR Chairman from WPCAMR Chairman in response to being called out in their SB 411 opposition.

OLD BUSINESS

Regional Coordinator's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage.

Watershed Coordinator's report (Anne Daymut):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage.

Conservation District/Agency/Watershed Association reports (All present):

Those in attendance reported on current and future activities within their respective organizations that relate to WPCAMR interests.

- Adam Cotchen has been aiding the Blacklick Creek Watershed Association lately. Wensel Run on Laurel Run is being remedied. They are working to have a sedimentation pond turned into an additional treatment system. The Yellow Creek system needs repairs. ICCD continues to partner with SRBC in Bear Run. They are now setting up the Watershed Trust. They are aiding Blacklick Creek Watershed Association with some questions and concerns on the Big Run Treatment Complex.
- Jim Resh asked if a Quick Response can be extended due to weather conditions. Resh will be retiring from ICCD in May yet may continue to serve as WPCAMR Secretary.
- Jeff Fliss noted things going on with Act 13 grant program. As of now, there is still going to be a program.
- Amy Miller noted that Allegheny CD has a new District Manager and a new office location. They had an open house. They are doing a monitoring program and a dam removal program.
- Jim Eckenrode has an MS4 program to evaluate the remaining AMD in the county and the existing systems.
- Rob Cronauer pointed out some reconstruction to the Barn. He has an Act 13 grant and noted that the process is smooth so far. Rob mentioned that the Lober/Marchand treatment system is getting some educational improvements.
- Missy Reckner recently completed the KC Stream Team annual report. She continues to offer trainings through C-Saw. Natural Biodiversity is now a program of Conemaugh Valley Conservancy. They have important anniversaries coming up. She has a facebook page. May 14 is CVC annual meeting. June 5-8 is the sojourn.
- Dave Beale has 3 new Growing Greener Grants and an ARRI project.
- Pam Meade reported that maintenance was completed on the White Lake system and wetlands.
- Chelsey Walker reported on a training on dataloggers held Jan. 25 at the Armsdale building. Data is turned over to KC Stream Team.
- Dave Leiford noted another treatment system will be built on Blacklick Creek that will clean up 22 miles of stream. It will be Title IV money. He brought to our attention the success that the St Michael's discharge has brought to the Little Conemaugh. Near the Wehrum shaft an active system will be constructed to combine the mine pool with the Three sisters. Groundbreaking should start in 2015. Cresson Plant will eliminate several discharge and will include a inter-basin transfer to supplement flow in the Susquehanna River Basin. He wanted the group to know that groups should apply for Growing Greener even if they are not in a QHU. However, the money used from the Set-aside will be used for maintaining the active plants they have built and there may be less money available for grants.
- Kelly Williams has been aiding local groups with managing grants because they are having trouble with it. Morgan Run Watershed is to the point where there are

- only a few projects left. They have set the goal to have it restored in 5 years. Clearfield CD received over \$1M in Growing Greener funds this last round.
- Tom Clark noted that the Bear Run Watershed Renaissance is finishing up and the success they have had.
 - Jim Shaner discussed an abandoned lake project that Beaver County is doing. The shale cracker environmental team is doing some projects.
 - Jackie Ritko is finishing on streambank rehab projects and a monitoring project. They are also working on some watershed education projects.
 - Lance Bowes noted that he was turned down for a treatment system from 319 grant.
 - Rachel Kester reminded everyone that the 7th Annual West Branch Susquehanna Symposium is coming up and the first day is a workshop on grant management. Friday is the typical general session with presentations.
 - Ron Horansky is working with grantees to turn in grant contract requirements.
 - Shawn Wessel and Gordon Snyder discussed the Act 13 grant that he got for this year. The grant is for an active treatment plant and he received a large sum of that for OM&R.
 - Pete Dalby talked about the three projects that Mill Creek is conducting this year.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Slate of CD Delegates and Alternates (Anne Daymut)

**Motion to accept (Cotchen/Miller) the Delegates and Alternates as presented.
Passed.**

Remaining meetings for the year will be May 15, August 14, and November 13, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut

Approved by Jim Resh