

WPCAMR

Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2022 @ 10:00 AM ET
PA DEP, Cambria District Mining Office, Ebensburg PA

In attendance:

Denny Beck, President
Jared Zinn, Vice President, Greene CD
Delegate
Amy Miller, Secretary, Allegheny CD
Delegate (*virtual*)
Chelsea Walker, Treasurer, Westmoreland
CD Delegate
Andy McAllister, Staff
Anne Daymut, Staff (*Virtual*)
Jennifer Dann, Washington CD Delegate
Lenny Lichvar, Somerset CD Delegate
Rob Cronauer, Westmoreland CD

Jon Smoyer, PA DEP BAMR
Pat Webb, PA DEP BAMR
Maria Sorce, Armstrong CD Delegate
Robert Sabo, Indiana CD Delegate
Kelly Williams, Clearfield CD Delegate
Rachel Gleason, PA Coal Alliance
Branden Diehl, FPW
Rob Fulton, OSMRE
Eric Cavazza, Tetrattech
Heather Trexler, Tetrattech
Chelsea Wyant, Blair CD Delegate

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 10:07 am.

Secretary's Report (Amy Miller):

Review of past meeting minutes from November 2021.

Motion (Zinn/Williams) to accept the November 2021 minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details.

Motion (Williams/Dann) to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Reports

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.*

Current Strategic Planning Update: (Andy McAllister)

Andy presented the draft strategic plan.

Special Presentation: Legislative Update from Rachel Gleason, PA Coal Alliance

Handouts were provided. Rachel presented about concerns over proposed legislation on Manganese limits. She gave a powerpoint presentation.

BAMR Update: Pat Webb, PA DEP BAMR Director.

Pat shared where we are with previous AML fund money and AMLER grants. He also discussed where they are with organizing implementation of the Infrastructure funding. Infrastructure funding cannot currently be sued for set-aside so there is no money going forward for P3, water quality projects. One important note is that

there is no funding to pay for OM&R of the 350+ passive treatment systems constructed by watershed groups. They do have enough in set aside to pay for all currently constructed active systems operated by the state.

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

- Branden reported on a number of issues that FPW is working on in regards to implementation of the Infrastructure funding, including the set-aside, justice 40, sequestration.
- Kelly shared that Clearfield didn't get any of her Growing Greener projects. She discussed the projects and an assessment she is working on.
- Maria talked about a Growing Greener project that she is working on for streambank stabilization.
- Len is working to reconstruct the Oven Run treatment systems. They were able to get several grants. There is still one discharge pipe that needs addressed but they don't have funding for it. They have raised over \$50,000 for a trust fund
- John Dryzal has some funding requests out for an AMD project. John noted that CD's have begun to take the opinion that they can't continue to administer projects if they don't get support funding.
- Eric Cavazza and Heather Trexler were present to offer assistance to any groups looking to do projects.
- Jennifer Dann reported that Todd Thornburg is leaving the district and a replacement has been chosen. Washington County is working with Independence Conservancy to reconstruct an AMD system. She is also working to gather data on an active system that is in disrepair.
- Robert Sabo shared plans to replace a lime dosing silo with a different treatment and their search for funds. They have another project that goes into construction this summer.
- Robbie Fulton said that the federal budget is what will determine if WCAP funds can open this spring. Robbie also noted that there is a possibility to add Quick Response to WCAP and there are several ways this could go.
- Chelsea Want reported that Blair county is doing stream restoration projects.
- Jared talked about a bridge that collapsed in Greene County and the need to find funding to fix it.
- Chelsea Walker
- Branden added that FPW's deadline for LOI for convening grant is Feb 14
- Jon Smoyer noted that there will be a lot of money coming to PA soon and it is likely that some money will "trickle down" to CD's and non-profits.
- Amy talked about two GG projects that Allegheny is working on.

NEW BUSINESS

Receive Slate of Candidates and vote for new Treasurer (Denny Beck)

Motion (Sorce/Dryzal) to nominate Robert Sabo, close nominations, and elect Robert Sabo as treasurer.

Passed. (As per the WPCAMR Executive Committee on 2/23/22, the following clarification is given: The intention of the Board of Directors was to elect a new Treasurer who will be a signatory on our accounts and the removal of former Treasurer, Chelsea Walker as a signatory).

2022 Meeting Schedule: (Locations TBD)

May 12, 2022

August 11, 2022

November 10, 2022

Meeting adjourned @ 12:30 pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut

Approved by Amy Miller on