

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2011
Westmoreland Conservation District Barn, Greensburg, PA

In attendance:

Jim Panaro, Robinadale Energy, President	Alysha Trexler, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Jim Eckenrode, Blair CD Delegate, Secretary	Eric Robertson, PACD
Greg Phillips, Westmoreland CD Delegate, Treasurer	John Stefanko, PA DEP
Andy McAllister (Staff)	Duke Adams, PA DEP
Anne Daymut (Staff)	Ron Horansky, PA DEP
Donna Carnahan, PA DEP	Rob Cronauer, Westmoreland CD
Pam Milavec, PA DEP	Pam Meade, Armstrong CD Alternate
Jeff Fliss, PA DEP	Dave Beale, Armstrong CD Delegate
Carl Undercoffler, Clearfield CD	Shaun Wessel, Stream Restoration Inc
Adam Cotchen, Indiana CD Delegate	Tom Grote, WPCAMR volunteer
Rob Piper, Cambria CD Alternate	Tom Clark, Susquehanna River Basin Commission
Bob Richie, CD	Julie Maxwell, Green CD Delegate
Austin Russell, Shade Creek Watershed Assoc	Megan Baskerville, Crooked Creek Watershed Association
Amy Miller, Allegheny CD Delegate	Greg Shustrick, Somerset CD
Kelly Williams, Clearfield CD Delegate	Dave Mankamy, Somerset CD

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting chaired by Jim Panaro and called to order at 10:25am with around the table introductions.

Secretary's Report (Jim Eckenrode):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Phillips/Miller) to accept the minutes with corrections. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Greg Phillips):

See report for details.

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

Correspondence (Andy McAllister):

Letter from Jim Resh, ICCD, regarding his opposition for the St. Michaels Discharge project support letter to EPA. The board discussed the letter and decided to proceed with last meeting's motion to send the letter.

OLD BUSINESS

Regional Coordinator's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage. Andy asked the board if they are agreeable to sending a letter to Toomey to reach out and make them aware of our concerns, not in favor or apposed to the merger of OSM and BLM. **Motion (Phillips/Richie) to write the letter. Passed.**

Watershed Coordinator's report (Anne Daymut):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage.

PA DEP Reorganization, SMCRA and Title IV (John Stafanko):

Stefanko reported that when dealing with AMD issues, we will still be contacting the same DEP employees housed in the same place. The Title IV will still be managed by BAMR and that the full set-aside will be taken each year. The major reason for the changes is consistency.

Duke Adams described the Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Conservation.

Break for Lunch

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.

- Jim Eckenrode talked about some stream assessments that he is beginning. He also has an AMR project underway
- Pam Milavec discussed three projects that are currently in various stages of development: Cresson active treatment plant, Wehrum (Smoyer handling), and Alvin in the Broad Top with the help of Army Corps. Kovalchic owns the Alvin property and there is a possibility it could be a remining project, which would save the state considerable funds on the stream reconstruction end, however this has temporarily put the project on hold. Lancashire 15 is now treating water. Hollywood plant is also in construction and scheduled to be completed early next spring.
- Julie Maxwell is hosting a workshop for Oil and Gas. Her district is working with Army Corps on a TDS study of the Mon River.
- Dave Beale also has a new partnership with PennDOT for fish habitat. He also has several AMD/AML projects. He is still looking for funding for a ARRI reforestation project in Roaring Run Watershed.
- Jeff Fliss passed on making comments!
- Tom Grote said he is willing to be applied as in-kind match.
- Rob Cronauer reported on some of his AMD-related projects.
- Greg Shustrick reported that the Oven Run AMD site needs OM&R. Construction on a new system on the Flight 93 property is to begin soon. Dave Mankamyer reported on some deals the Cassleman River group is working on to clean up some AMD. Rosebud is doing some remining which presents a new opportunity for AMD restoration. He also stressed the importance of the PACD AMD engineers and continued funding for their program.
- Shaun Bussler reported on his experience on John Foreman's new technology. And said that the disposal of the sludge was very high. There will be a dedication for the Reed's Run, Altman Run Watershed, project on November 15th. The Operation and Maintenance TAG is available for smallish jobs.

- Pam Meade reported that she is requesting SRI's help with the TAG grant for While Lake and wetland.
- Dave Beale is working on an ARRI grant and Gen-On grant on for the Roaring Run Watershed Association.
- Adam Cotchen introduced the new VISTA, Megan, who will be working with CrCWA and Evergreen Conservancy.
- Amy Miller discussed treatment plans for the Gladden Discharge.
- Tom Clark discussed SRBC's work in Bear Run, Indiana County. There is remarkable effort and improvement up there. Tom also reported on the other WPCAMR-covered portions of the West Branch Susquehanna. He has several projects under construction in Drury Run and Birch Island.
- Rob Piper discussed some aspects of the South Fork project. He also discussed their monitoring efforts. His CD is also trying to diversify his funding. John Foreman's new technology is being considered but it appears to be extremely costly, at least for the Webster Discharge.
- Alysha Trexler reported that WPC has a new office in downtown Indiana. She also reported on the AMD projects that Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association is undertaking.
- Ron Horansky reported on some of his remaining permits and projects. He is primarily working on the Primacy Bond forfeiture projects and some 319, TMDL, and Growing Greener work.
- Greg Phillips congratulated SCRIP for 30 years and thanked Dave Mankamyer for his hard work.
- Carl Undercoffler discussed some problems he has with a huge beaver dam. Clearfield County is doing a bond forfeiture. The CD and Susquehanna Greenways are sharing an OSM VISTA.
- Donna Carnahan announced that Gary Price left to go to DCNR and she will likely be our grant advisor. Steve Lathrop's position will also likely be changing. She announced that there is a new AMD video up that was funded by the marketing grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposals for Audit

Motion (Phillips/Beale) to engaging accounting services by Henniger for one year at \$4200. Passed.

Strategic Plan Initial Review Committee discussed some options and will begin negotiations with someone who is capable of facilitating a strategic plan.

WPCAMR Lease at Greenforge

Motion (Piper/Cotchen) to enter into a new lease for the WPCAMR office at \$5742/year for 5 years, abstained by Phillips. Passed.

WPCAMR 2012 Budget

Comments were made about the possibility of amending a budget, the lack of wiggle room, balancing, travel, costs for strategic plan contracting, and carry over. Motion (Eckenrode/Phillips) to approve the budget. Passed.

ARIPPA Award Presentation.

2010 AMR Conference contract with Ramada

Motion (Cotchen/Miller) to sign a contract with the Ramada. Passed.

The next WPCAMR meeting is the annual membership meeting and is scheduled for February 9, 2012 (Location TBA).

Meeting adjourned at 1:54pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut