

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2013
Cambria District Mining Office, PA DEP, Ebensburg PA

In attendance:

Denny Beck, Cambria CD Delegate, President	Ron Horansky, PA DEP Steve Putt, Elk CD
Jim Eckenrode, Blair CD Delegate, Vice President	Sean Dougherty, Greene CD Tom Clark, SRBC
Andy McAllister (Staff)	Robb Piper, Cambria CD
Anne Daymut (Staff)	Carl Undercoffler, Clearfield Creek Watershed Association
Adam Cotchen, Indiana CD Delegate	
Kelly Williams, Clearfield CD	

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 10:40 am with Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report (Presented by Denny Beck):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Cotchen/Williams) to accept the February 7, 2013 minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details.

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

Correspondence (Andy McAllister):

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.

- Ron Horansky stated that he is working through the contracting phase of the Growing Greener grant round. He encouraged people to meet their deadlines. The new round of Growing Greener should be up in August so people should start pulling together information. ACT 13 deadline is July 31.
- Sean Daugherty is working with USACE on a water quality assessment of the Mon River. They are considering a basin commission. Sean gave an update on the state park settlement with Consol Mining.

- Tom Clark noted that SRBC got 2 grants this past round, Sandy Run and Birch Island Run. They are both situations where one treatment system will restore a whole watershed.
- Kelly Williams and Carl Undercoffler discussed the Ross site in Morgan Run is doing much better than previously expected. There will soon be 5 systems on Morgan Run, 4 within this year, and they are all working very well. They got a WREN grant to do a virtual tour of Clearfield Creek that gives historical and scientific data. They are kayaking the river to collect data.
- Adam Cotchen continues to partner with SRBC in Bear Run. The final phase is under construction. TU is doing some sampling at the Little Mahoning Treatment System. His other work is primarily farm related.
- Robb Piper congratulated Clearfield Creek Watershed Association for their success and longevity. Cambria has a Growing Greener grant for the Barns and Watkins site. He just completed a Quick Response. The Rosebud Treatment plant is going to be completed soon with a dedication. He has a number of other projects underway. He has water authorities buying data loggers for baseline monitoring and the CD serves as technical assistance. Southern Alleghenies RC&D has closed. If you want to do a project, contact the respective CD.
- Steve Putt reported that Bennett's Branch stocked trout for the first time in 50 years. He continues with data loggers and other monitoring.
- Denny Beck reported that pH is up on tributaries to Portage Run. He has been giving presentations on water withdrawals.
- Jim Eckenrode is working on some stream bank restoration and riparian buffer projects. He is doing a lot of recycling and trash pickup events. Working with Penn DOT is a difficult process. The conservancy owns some right-of-ways and is being forced to get highway occupancy permits. There is a Marcellus shale water studies in the Little Juniata. Jim reported for Missy Reckner that in partnership with the CCCRA, the CVC was awarded a DCNR C2P2 grant for the State of the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin project. This project is meant to update the original KC River Basin Conservation Plan done in 1999 and document the changes in the watershed and the status of the original's recommendations and develop plans for the future. The Stream Team will be reinvigorating the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin Alliance (KCRBA). It is also looking for a representative from each sub-watershed to serve on a core advisory committee. He also noted that CD funding is still being cut.

Special Presentation: Andy McAllister presented on behalf of PA DEP staff. Sequestration did occur and PA is down approximately 10% of AML grant. OSM's proposed budget came out a few weeks ago and it reduces Title V grant by \$11Million. This will require States to come up with funding on own. They have decided to get rid of the advisory counsel.

NEW BUSINESS

CTC Project (Andy McAllister)

Motion (Cotchen/Williams) to approve the support letter for RPSEA proposal. The board asked to have an electronic version of the support letter. Passed.

The board decided to not sign the non-disclosure agreement and to request CTC to keep up at arms length of proprietary information.

Potential O&M Project (Andy McAllister)

Motion (Piper/Eckenrode) to apply for the O&M Growing Greener grant contingent on ability for get admin money and approval of the executive committee. Passed.

Support for Growing Greener (Andy McAllister)

Motion (Undercoffler/Putt) to sign a statement of support for the Renew Growing Greener Coalition. Passed.

Next meeting August 15, 2013, location TBA

Motion (Undercoffler) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut