

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2016
Westmoreland County Conservation District Barn

In attendance:

Chelsea Walker, Treasurer
Jim Resh, Secretary
Jim Eckenrode, Vice Preseident
Andy McAllister (Staff)
Anne Daymut (Staff)
Brook Esarey, Indiana CD Delegate
Adam Cotchen, Indiana CD Alternate
Rob Cronauer, Westmoreland CD

Greg Phillips, Westmoreland CD
Al Budinsky, Skelly & Loy
Jeff Means, PA DEP
Mark Killar, WPC
Jared Zinn, Green CD Delegate
John Dryzal, Cambria CD
Cliff Denholm, SRI/Biomost
Bob Onyshko, Harsco Minerals

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 10:15 am.

Secretary's Report (Jim Resh):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Zinn/Esarey) to accept the May 2016 minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Chelsea Walker):

See report for details.

Motion (Esarey/Zinn) 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.

- Cliff Denholm mentioned that they still have funds for their OM&R grant. They will be offering datashed training in the fall
- Brooke Esarey discussed some additional advances in Bear Run. They need funding for overburden analysis to potentially treat minor seeps throughout the watershed. Some sections of Bear Run have been delisted. Game Commission has found some funding to help with road improvements and soil amendments. Additional funding is needed for the soil analysis. Adam Cotchen mentioned that PSCD recently voted to support AMD used as frack fluid.

- Mark Killar discussed his work with Sewickley Creek Watershed Association and Anderson Creek. Sewickley Creek recently applied for a Quick Response for an Agri Drain repair.
- Al Budinsky discussed a number of projects that Skelly & Loy is working on in Western PA including Glenn Run.
- John is the new Cambria County District Manager. He discussed some monitoring of Leslie Run the Erhnfeld Project. He is aware of multiple other projects that are underway throughout the county.
- Greg Phillips noted that he has a stream that is being relisted as Class A.
- Bob Onyshko mentioned that Harsco is helping with Erhnfeld. His material was also used in Bear Run.
- Jeff Means discussed the \$30Million as part of the pilot project. The list of projects they will be funding is on the website. They have 3 years to spend the money. Jeff feels it will be a challenge to spend the money on time so the list may evolve so that they don't lose money. There is an additional \$25 Million that may come through. There is no guidance for project selection. Jeff feels it should be run through the Grant Center but he is not sure yet how it will be distributed. PA is so far ahead of the game compared to other states, yet still concerned about spending money on time. so it looks like other states may lose money. No QHUP is needed for the pilot program money. Jeff also discussed that the guidelines for the selection process for the Title IV program is finished but not yet released. Jeff also briefly mentioned the progress that has been made on the construction projects that they were already involved in including Cresson, Weirum, and Little Conemaugh. Some issues were encountered with right of way at Cresson. Cresson should be bid early 2017. Lastly, Jeff asked for discussion on performance measures on stream improvements. He feels that stream miles is too general.
- Jared Zinn discussed a stream stabilization project on reclaimed AML. He also just applied for Quick Response for another stream bank stabilization.
- Chelsea Walker noted Quick Response funding at Lober. She is working on surveys and hoping for GG to open soon to apply for a project at Pine Run.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of WPCAMR's ARIPPA Award nominee (Anne Daymut)

Motion (Esarey/Zinn/Abstained by Walker) to recommend Sewickley Creek Watershed Association receive \$2500 through the ARIPPA Award. Passed.

Budget Discussion

Greg Phillips agreed to assist Andy in commencing discussions with the Melon Foundation. Much discussion was had about office space and it was agreed that WPCAMR needs a central location that works for them and member districts even if they don't go there every day. It was agreed that remote office is a good way to save money for individual staff. It was recommended that we need to put out some funds to have a consultant write a grant. Adam Cotchen offered that Indiana may have office space in a new building soon. Andy will weigh costs and benefits of keeping a WPCAMR car, office space, and district interest in meeting space.

Conservation District Watershed Specialist

The board discussed WPCAMR's support of the Watershed Specialist program. Andy will try to get on the committee for these discussions.

Next Meeting on November 10, 2016

Meeting adjourned at pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut

Approved by Jim Resh on