

# **WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report**

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**August 8, 2019**

## **PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:**

NAAML P Conference Call (3)  
PA AML Campaign meeting (5)  
RECLAIM meeting (1)  
PA AMR Conference Committee meeting (6)  
Blackleggs Meeting with grant advisor (1)  
DC Advocacy Meetings (15)  
In-District Congressman Kelly Advocacy Meeting (1)  
ARIPPA Review Committee Meeting (1)  
Blackleggs Creek Trout In the Classroom (1 day)  
ARIPPA Awards luncheon (1)  
Evergreen Conservancy Annual Picnic (1)

## **OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

Blackleggs Watershed Association has an Act 13 grant which is expiring in June 2019 and they have not yet begun work. The group has decided that due to personal issues for the directors, they are not able to manage the grant. BioMost Inc will be taking over grant management. An OSM WCAP grant is to be the match for the project. In February 2019, one meeting was held to discuss progress and discuss the submission of another reimbursement request. In March 2019, I submitted another round of reimbursement requests and coordinated efforts with the construction contractor and engineer.

- In May 2019, construction continued. Additional materials were purchased and one meeting was held with BioMost to review progress.
- In June 2019, construction feverishly continued but excessive rain events caused mudslides and flooding. Further, material deliveries were severely delayed for the providers. Members of the organization visited their State Representative and were granted an extension at the last moment. One reimbursement request was submitted in June 2019 and one meeting was held with the contractor and engineer.
- In July, construction continued and they are now about 80% complete with the entire project. One meeting with our new OSM grant manager was held and one reimbursement request was submitted.

Abandoned Mine Posts included:

- In May 2019, one AMP was distributed for the conference registration, scholarship and call for papers reminder.
- In June 2019, one AMP was distributed to advertise for OSM's WCAP grants.
- In July 2019, one AMP was distributed for the Quarterly WPCAMR Board Meeting.

## **PA AMR CONFERENCE**

A joint conference with the 2019 NAAML P Conference is being coordinated. The PA AMR Conference will be participating by aiding in planning tours, proving the website and means of registration, and helping with promotion and sponsorships. Scholarships will be awarded to allow for affordability of the conference to the typical PA AMR Conference registrant. In May 2019, I notified scholarship awardees of their coupon codes. I was able to confirm two

Congressman as speakers at the conference. Tom Grote and I did a test ride of the gateway clipper cruise, practiced the narration and planned the cruise schedule. In June 2019, one meeting was held with the entire NAAMLPC conference planning committee and two meetings were held with the PA AMR Conference Committee. In July 2019, two meetings were held with the entire NAAMLPC conference planning committee and three meetings were held with the PA AMR Conference Committee. I continued to coordinate the scholarships and be the go-between with the NAAMLPC portion of the conference.

### **2020 PA AMR Conference**

We have begun preliminary work on coordinating the 2020 PA AMR Conference. It will be held at the Ramada in State College and dates are being considered.

### **PA AML CAMPAIGN**

In May 2019, five meetings regarding SMCRA reauthorization advocacy meetings were held including three PA AML Campaign meetings. I continued to develop the PA AML Campaign general fact sheet. I continued to organize legislative meetings. I met with Senator Toomey's staff in his Johnstown office. I began organizing a DC drive-in focusing on WV legislators. I attended the Southwest Regional Roundtable Meeting for Conservation Districts to present on SMCRA Reauthorization Advocacy efforts.

In June 2019, one meeting regarding SMCRA reauthorization advocacy meetings was held. I also attended one meeting focused on RECLAIM. I continued to develop the PA AML Campaign general fact sheet. I began organizing a DC drive-in focusing on WV legislators. To date, 6 meetings are confirmed. I also began coordinating a second round of in-district meetings and site visits, two of which are currently confirmed. I continued to maintain the shared databases for the campaign and I began to update the PA AML Campaign website. I also sent letters to all of the conservation districts that WPCAMR represents to regarding resolutions and began reaching out to watershed organizations.

In July 2019, Three meetings of the PA AML Campaign regarding SMCRA AML Fund reauthorization advocacy meetings were held. I also attended one meeting focused on RECLAIM. I completed a final draft of the PA AML Campaign General Fact sheet. I organized an advocacy trip to DC where 10 meetings were held with legislators of PA, KY, and WV. I also continued coordinating a second round of in-district meetings and site visits, two of which are currently confirmed. I continued to maintain the shared databases for the campaign and I updated the PA AML Campaign website.

### **ARIPPA AWARD**

We got word from ARIPPA that they will once again be partnering with WPCAMR and EPCAMR to distribute the ARIPPA Award. In May 2019, applications were collected, reviewed, and scored. The review committee met to decide on the distribution of the award. The 2019 ARIPPA Award will be given to Clearfield Creek Watershed Association in the amount of \$1,800 and Armstrong Conservation District in the amount of \$700. I began drafting the Power Point presentation to be presented at the ARIPPA luncheon in June 2019. In June of 2019, I developed the ARIPPA Award presentation for the ARIPPA Awards Luncheon. I attended the luncheon along with EPCAMR and delivered the presentation. WPCAMR also set up a display at the luncheon, trade show, and legislative networking session.

### **GOOD SAMARITAN**

No new activity to report

### **CONTRACTED VIDEO WORK**

I am working with PA DEP to develop a video on AML emergencies, demonstrating the need for Reauthorization. In July 2019, I began editing the video that was shot in the spring. The video is due before the conference.