

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

Anne Daymut

February 14, 2019

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

PA AMR Conference planning meeting (2)
Blackleggs meeting with BioMost (2)
Washington DC Advocacy Meetings (4)
WVU REE Technology Meeting (1)
REE meeting with Tetra Tech and DEP (1)
PA AML Campaign Meeting (2)

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 November 2018, we worked on the construction contract and had discussions with the group and DCED about prevailing wages and other details of the construction contract. In December 2018, further negotiations were held to agree on a construction contract. In January 2019, a construction contract was signed, construction began, and a reimbursement request with OSM WCAP was submitted.

WPCAMR entered into discussions about a possible submission for the Pilot program to collect AMD sludge samples, conduct analysis, and investigate marketing of Rare Earth Elements. Partners in this project would potentially include EPCAMR, PA DEP, and TetraTech. In November 2018, I did further research into the legal concerns that were brought forth by the WPCAMR Staff and Board at the November board meeting. In December 2018, Andy and I attended a meeting at WVU to learn about one of the possible technologies that can be used to extract REE from mine drainage sludge. In January 2019, one additional meeting was held with possible project partners to go over the details and timeline of the possible project.

Abandoned Mine Posts included:

- In December 2018, one AMP was distributed to announce the availability of scholarships for the 2019 conference.
- In January 2019, two AMPs were distributed as reminders of the Quarterly WPCAMR meeting.

PA AMR CONFERENCE

A joint conference with the 2019 NAAML P Conference is also being coordinated. The location and dates have already been chosen and a contract signed. 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. It is our hope that an agreement will work out to allow for affordability for non-profits and Conservation District representatives to attend. In November 2018, one meeting was held with the PA AMR Conference planning committee to discuss specifics about how to deal with fundraising and scholarships. I also attended one meeting with the larger NAAML P Conference planning committee at the Wyndham followed by a meeting with the Gateway Clipper to coordinate the cruise route and activities with Tom

Grote. Lastly, one meeting was held with select members of the PA conference and the NAAMLN conference to discuss the logistics of scholarship reimbursements. In December 2018, one AMP was distributed to announce the availability of scholarships. In January 2019, I continued to collect name submissions for people interested in a scholarship to attend the 2019 conference. One PA AMR Conference committee meeting was held to review those name submissions and decide on a policy in distributing the funds.

PA AML CAMPAIGN

In November 2018 I organized an advocacy trip to Washington DC. I scheduled meetings with Senator Casey's staff, OSMRE Acting Director Glenda Owens, DOI Assistant Secretary Joe Balash, Senior Energy Policy Advisor for the HNR committee Steve Feldgus, and TU's Steve Moyer. I put together packets for each meeting including handouts, talking points, and more.

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In January 2019, one meeting was held to get updates from the smaller national AML community. I began making a strategy for a group of constituents to visit Congressmen in May to advocate for issues affecting AMR.

ARIPPA AWARD

We got word from ARIPPA that they will once again be partnering with WPCAMR and EPCAMR to distribute the ARIPPA Award.

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.