

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2010
Cambria District Mining Office, PADEP

In attendance:

Jim Panaro, (Secretary)	John Dryzal, Cambria CD
Dennis Beck, Cambria CD, (Vice President)	Rob Cronauer, Westmoreland CD
Andy McAllister (Staff)	Dave Steele, NRCS
Anne Daymut (Staff)	Melissa Reckner, KC Stream Team
Pam Meade, Armstrong CD	Rob Piper, Cambria CD
Jeff McNelly, ARIPPA	Jeff Fliss, PADEP
John Ball, Hereford Manor Lake Conservancy	Dave Beale, Armstrong CD
Dave Kemp, Somerset CD	Zack Wolfe, Armstrong CD
Pam Milavec, PADEP	Lance Bowes, Venango CD
P.J. Shah, PADEP	Ron Rohall, Westmoreland CD

WPCAMR Business Meeting:

Meeting chaired by Jim Panaro and called to order at 10:14am. Panaro welcomed everyone and asked for an around-the-table introduction.

Secretary's Report (Jim Panaro):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Meade/Beale) to accept the minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Greg Phillips):

McAllister presented the treasurer's report as Greg Philipps was unable to attend. He mentioned we are undergoing an audit, which was necessary due to change in staff and will be completed with in a few weeks. McAllister announced that our Quick Reponse IV for \$100K was granted.

See treasurer's report.

Motion (Meade/Steele) to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

Old Business

Regional Coordinator's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage. Additional items discussed included word that DEP is possibly developing a Title IV spending plan and the next Growing Greener round may include bond forfeiture sites.

Watershed Coordinator's report (Anne Daymut):

See report for details. Report on meeting webpage. Additional items included that staff has begun compilation for documentary film on the formation of AMD which is a 319 deliverable.

Conservation District/Agency/Watershed Association reports (All present):

Those in attendance reported on current and future activities within their respective organizations.

NEW BUSINESS

Mine land reclamation coalition and WPCAMR's support – Andy McAllister

Many environmental groups are supporting that all coal ash be considered as hazardous waste in response to the ash incident in TN. EPA has published a proposed rule saying that coal ash should be listed under RCRA as a C or D material but continue to be administered by OSM so that it may continue to be used beneficially in mining reclamation. ARIPPA has formed a coalition and is seeking supporters for making comments regarding the beneficial use of coal ash and language to be given to Congressman Shuler for amendments to the proposal.

Motion (Meade/Resh) to support the Mine Land Reclamation Coalition. Passed.

Growing Greener III Coalition and WPCAMR's support – Anne Daymut

The watershed movement has been due in part to PA's Growing Greener Program. The funding supporting the program may be ending in 2011. Concerned groups have formed the Renew Growing Greener Coalition to support allocating \$200Million annually to continue the program. Staff will try to arrange that Andrew Heath, ED of the new coalition attend and present at the next meeting to answer specific questions from the board.

Motion (Steele/Beale) to support the Renew Growing Greener Coalition. Passed.

ARIPPA Watershed Award – Anne Daymut

ARIPPA is celebrating their 20th Anniversary by awarding a total of \$20K to watershed groups and conservation districts. ARIPPA has requested that WPCAMR draft an award RFP, evaluate the applications, and make recommendations on who should be awarded the money. WPCAMR executive board gave staff the approval to draft the RFP and evaluation, which were presented at the meeting. Resh, Eckenrode, and Milavec volunteered to be on the review committee but will withdraw participation if they have a conflict of interest such as submitting a proposal on behalf of their district.

Motion (Beale/Resh) to participate in ARIPPA award and celebration. Passed.

Water monitoring training opportunity – Andy McAllister

WPCAMR staff time is limited for involvement in C-SAW. The board discussed subcontracting the Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team to conduct water quality monitoring training as part of C-SAW to spend our allotment of money. The K-C Stream Team already operates an extensive volunteer monitoring program and is qualified to train volunteers on DEP protocol. The trainings they provide through C-SAW will be open to

the entire WPCAMR region. DEP is making final decision on the appropriateness of subcontracting K-C Stream Team.

Motion (Steele/ Meade) to enter into a contract with Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team for C-Saw training opportunity. Passed.

EQB Proposed Rule Regarding GFCC's – Andy McAllister

McAllister presented a proposed rule regarding bonds on GFCC sites. The board agrees, for the most part, on the proposed rule. McAllister will respond simply by stating that this issue is important to our community and that we appreciate their attention to the matter.

Other New Business

2011 Quick Response V Growing Greener Proposal – Jeff Fliss and Andy McAllister

Motion (Beale/Meade) to submit a Quick Response Grant proposal; with consideration made for increasing the requested amount, adjusting the scope of work, and including funds for interest in the event that credit is used; in the coming round of Growing Greener. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut