

WPCAMR
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2011
Waterworks Conservation Area, Indiana, PA

In attendance:

Jim Panaro, Robindale Energy, President	Pam Meade, Armstrong CD Alternate
Denny Beck, Cambria CD Delegate, Vice President	Dave Beale, Armstrong CD Delegate
Jim Eckenrode, Blair CD Delegate, Secretary	Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration Inc
Greg Phillips, Westmoreland CD Delegate, Treasurer	Tom Grote, WPCAMR volunteer
Andy McAllister (Staff)	Steve Putt, Elk CD
Anne Daymut (Staff)	Branden Diehl, Foundation for PA Watersheds
Jeff Fliss, PA DEP	Tom Clark, Susquehanna River Basin Commission
LeRoy Vatter, Indiana CD Delegate	Julie Maxwell, Green CD Delegate
Rob Piper, Cambria CD Alternate	Pam Milavec, PA DEP BAMR
Amy Miller, Allegheny CD Delegate	Adam Cotchen, Indiana CD
Kelly Williams, Clearfield CD Delegate	John Garcia, Rosebud Mining
Jim Resh, Indiana CD Alternate	John Sinclair, Rosebud Mining

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting chaired by Jim Panaro and called to order at 10:15am.

Secretary's Report (Jim Eckenrode):

Review of past meeting minutes.

Motion (Phillips/Piper) to accept the minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Greg Phillips):

See report for details.

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

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.

- Jim Eckenrode talked about some stream assessments that he is beginning. He also has an AMR project underway
- Pam Milevac discussed three projects that are currently being bid: Cresson active treatment plant, Wierum (Smoyer handling), and Alvin in the Broad Top with the help of

Army Corps. Kovalchic owns the Alvin property and there is a possibility it could be a remining project, which would save the state considerable funds on the stream reconstruction end. Lankashire 15 is scheduled to treat water this fall. Holliwod plant is also in construction and scheduled to be complete next June.

- Julie Maxwell is hosting a workshop for Oil and Gas.
- Steve Putt is the new CD Manager in Elk County. They are wrapping up the Mill Creek treatment project. They are beginning a water monitoring project with data loggers and focusing on drinking water sources impacted by Marcellus Shale gas drilling.
- Kelly Williams reported on the three current projects in Clearfield county. All three are being bid currently, which are scheduled to be under construction this fall. They also have multiple design projects underway. She was very fortunate to receive three to four different funding sources for one of her treatment systems. She is very busy and is diversifying her funding.
- Jim Resh discussed the trials and tribulations of caring for treatment systems. He would like to further discuss the possibilities of trust funds for treatment systems. Jim mentioned some of the monitoring that the local Senior group has taken on. Lastly, he mentioned a new partnership with PennDOT for fish habitat.
- Dave Beale also has a new partnership with PennDOT for fish habitat. He also has several AMD/AML projects. He is still looking for funding for a ARRI reforestation project in Roaring Run Watershed.
- Jeff Fliss mentioned the Growing Greener application deadline and has heard that announcements will be made by the end of the year. He also mentioned the Colcom Foundation's data logger grant. He is pleased with IUP's involvement in data collection and reporting.
- Amy Miller reported on her monitoring project with IUP as well. South Fayette Conservation Group is doing a stream bed reconstruction project, not easy in the city where you have a lot of landowners to deal with. The Montour Run project on Airport property needs maintenance and they have applied to SRI for their TAG grant. She thanked WPCAMR for the opportunity to meet Secretary Krancer.
- Tom Grote said he is willing to be applied as in-kind match.
- Cliff Denholm joined the group today to notify everyone of the TAG available for passive treatment system issues. They have had many requests already for needs. Cliff also mentioned Datashed.org, a database to house treatment system monitoring data. Having a user account with Datashed.org is now a prerequisite to getting Foundation for PA Watersheds grants for AMD treatment systems. Lastly, Datashed.org has now replaced OSM as the official source of data for ALL treatment systems across the state.
- Pam Meade reported that she is requesting SRI's help with the TAG grant for White Lake and wetland.
- Tom Clark pointed out that the project we tour today is due to Indiana CD efforts. Most of the work in Indiana County by the CD however, is in the North East portion, Bear Run. There is remarkable effort and improvement up there. Tom also reported on the other WPCAMR-covered portions of the West Branch Susquehanna. He has several projects under construction in Drewery Run and Birch Island.
- Rob Piper discussed some of the obstacles that they have had to overcome on their treatment system construction projects. He also discussed their monitoring efforts. His CD is also trying to diversify their funding.
- Jim Panaro reported on some of the AML projects that Robindale is involved in throughout the WPCAMR region. They are removing multiple piles and thousands of tons. Many sites are nearing completion, including a GFCC project.

- Denny Beck reported that Cambria CD had a very successful Earth Week with students.
- Greg Phillips reported that Westmoreland is beginning work on the Irwin discharge, which will be a big challenge in regards to design and landowner complications. He announced a workshop they will be holding with the help of WPCAMR to discuss OM&R.
- Branden Diehl was asked to present briefly about the GenOn money, which was a settlement for CWA violations. FPW is in charged of administering those funds. The money will be used throughout the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin. There will be a public outreach process. Information will be posted on their webpage. There is also a possibility that a portion of the money will be dedicated to OM&R. They are looking for input on how that money gets dedicated. They do know that it will be a program similar to their current process. On another matter, FPW has a new application process.

NEW BUSINESS

**Growing Greener application for Quick Response VI
Motion (Piper/Eckenrode) to apply for Quick Response VI. Passed.**

**ARIPPA Award Nominations
Motion (Phillips/Eckenrode) to accept the award nominations and make the recommendation to ARIPPA. Passed.**

**WPCAMR 30th Anniversary
Pam Meade will serve on the committee**

**Strategic Plan Review and Current Activities
Greg Phillips, Jim Eckenrode, someone from BAMR, Steve Lathrop (our 319 grant adviser)**

**Special Presentation: St. Michael's Discharge
Motion (Piper/Phillips) to write a letter of support for the project to EPA Region III in regards to the St. Michaels Discharge. Passed with one opposition.**

SMCRA and Title IV discussion postponed.

Tour of Lucerne Treatment System

Other New Business

The next WPCAMR meeting is scheduled for November 10 (Location TBA).

**Motion (Vatter/Phillips) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 .
*Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut***