

WPCAMR

*Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2023 @ 10:00 AM ET
PA DEP Cambria District Mining Office, Ebensburg PA*

In attendance:

Denny Beck, President	Janis Long, Blacklick Creek Watershed Association
Andy McAllister, Staff	Branden Deihl, FPW
Anne Daymut, Staff	John Klamut, GAI Consultants
John Dryzal, Cambria CD Delegate	Ron Doumont, Penn Environment Consulting
Chelsea Walker, Westmoreland CD Delegate	Evan DeLong, Jefferson CD Delegate
Jim Brakosky, Westmoreland CD Alternate	Jenna Waller, Washington CD Delegate
Jon Smoyer, PA DEP	Adam Cotchen, Western PA Conservancy
Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration Inc	Tom Malesky, PA DEP
Bob Onyshko, Harsco Minerals	Jeff Painter, PAGC
Len Lichvar, Somerset CD Delegate	Tom Sassong, PA DEP
Rob Fulton, OSMRE	William Wall, PA DEP
Maria Sorce, Armstrong CD Delegate	John Dryzal, Cambria CD Delegate
Pat Webb, PA DEP	Jon-Marc Burdick, Cameron CD Delegate (by phone)
Ben Wenger, Indiana CD Delegate	

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am.

Secretary's Report (Amy Miller):

Review of past meeting minutes from November 2022.

Motion (Walker/Dryzal) to accept the November 2022 minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Andy McAllister):

See report for details.

Motion (Wenger/Walker) to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Reports

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.*

PA DEP AAMO Update (Pat Webb)

Pat gave some introductions to new staff and announced new positions within PA DEP. Pat gave a presentation on IJJA/BIL. Pat has been making rounds with this presentation to educate the public and advisory councils on what this new program will do and how it will work. The group was allowed to ask questions. New to the group was the Buy America Build America Act (BABA) goes back to older grants. Davis Bacon also applies to all federal money. Robbie added that these rules are also coming to WCAP. Pat spent time going into depth on how the BIL and traditional set-aside programs differ. Pat noted there are still a lot of unknowns yet to be worked through and less than 5 years to figure out. Key for the 2023 grant application to BIL is working through how sites are identified and planned so that public can comment. Pat clarified what

each of the funding sources can cover and what they can't. They are currently reviewing the applications they received for the subaward program. They still anticipate multiple rounds of the grant each year. Many questions were asked about the specifics of grant applications and eligibility. Assessments score lower. Pat went on the give an update on the current and upcoming projects which included very large projects that they have not been able to tackle before and includes mine fires, major subsidence, and large discharges.

Partner Updates (All present):

- Cliff discussed AMD treatment systems in Slippery Rock Watershed and Stream Restoration Inc. SRI is doing another Snap Shot. SRI also has a TAG program for triage and basic maintenance of treatment systems, with a soft limit of \$10K/site. Cliff is now the full time executive director of SRI. They still do Datashed.
- Maria has completed construction on Huling Run and she is monitoring. She is gathering info for other potential projects.
- Janis reported that they are working on organizing projects on Yellow Creek. The Vintondale pile is almost gone.
- Ben Wenger is working on an Upper Two Lick assessment. He has met with PAGC for potential projects.
- Jon Smoyer noted that applications to the subrecipient program need to be very detailed. For example, design estimates need to include hours and rates.
- Jenna noted that Jennifer Dann is the new District Manager at Washington. They staff is working on some macro sampling with current grants.
- Robbie gave an update on the approvals for WCAP proposals submitted last year. He hopes to get grant contracts out by this construction season.
- Chelsea shared that OSMRE has been to Brinkerton for technical assistance. Westmoreland CD was awarded 5 GG projects, mostly stormwater.
- Evan said that they are putting an aquaponics system for lettuce on one of their AMD projects. He is doing a lot of streambank stabilization this year.
- Branden reported that there is a prioritization of OM&R of systems if the Little Conemaugh. Branden celebrated the work done in the last few months with Stream Act. FPW is trying to work with PA's new governor and DCED to come up with a way to report economic impact. LOI's are due to the foundation for convening grants on Feb 17.
- Jeff shared updates on how to prioritize and manage AML on game lands. They are identifying new features and building the inventory.
- John Klamut of GAI is giving out quotes and ready for money to start helping.
- Ron Dounmont is also looking forward to start helping.
- John Dryzal is waiting for funding to start flowing for his projects.
- Tom Malesky is thankful for the input today.
- Ron Onyshko note that Harsco is waiting for outside testing on their silt socks and filter product.
- Adam covers the entire Ohio River Basin and is willing to help.
- Lenny gave an update on Oven Run and has a new data from last year that show everything is working very well. They did some baseline fish sampling and found brown trout within Johnstown city limits. He is having muskrat and beaver problems at another site. There was an oil spill above the Oven Run sites.
- Jon-Marc has two AMD systems going in this year in Cameron County. They got two watersheds relisted as class A.

NEW BUSINESS

Request to apply to FPW for convening grant for website update.

Motion (Walker/Sorce) to apply to FPW for a convening grant. Passed.

Election of Officers

Motion (Walker/Wenger) to nominate and retain all officers including Denny Beck as President, Amy Miller as Secretary, and Jared Zinn as Vice President. Passed.

2023 Meeting Schedule: *(Locations TBD)*

May

August

November

Meeting adjourned @ 12:18pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut

Approved by Amy Miller on 2/13/2023