WPCAMR

Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2026 @ 10:00 AM ET
PA DEP Cambria District Mining Office, Ebensburg, PA

In attendance:

Denny Beck, Cambria CD Delegate, President
Amy Miller, Allegheny CD Delegate, Secretary (via zoom)
Andy McAllister, Staff
Anne Daymut, Staff
Len Lichvar, Somerset CD Delegate
Jackie Ritko, Cambria CD Delegate
Jeffrey Kim, Washington CD Delegate
Pat Webb, PA DEP BAMR
Jon Smoyer, PA DEP BAMR
Bryan Rabish , Cambria CD Alternate
Joe Dykes, Harsco
Ben Smith, Jefferson CD Delegate
Shane Hofius, SRI
Marco Vigilante, Westmoreland CD Alternate
Joe Sassaman, PA DEP BAMR
Jerry McMullen, Clearfield Creek Watershed Association
Roger Rummel, PA DEP BAMR (via Zoom)

WPCAMR BUSINESS MEETING:
Meeting called to order at 10:14 am.

Secretary's Report (Andy McAllister):
Motion (Smith/Kim) to approve the May 2026 Minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Kelly Williams):
Motion (Smith/Vigilante) to approve the August 2026 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 Update (Pat Webb)
Pat talked about the National Coal Council's recent letter. PA DEP alerted legislators including Thompson's office and McCormick's office with a response to the untruths in the letter and problems with their opinions. There is also a 2-pager from IMCC that refutes NCC's letter.

Jon Smoyer offered to update on specific projects.

Joe Sassaman gave an update on the AMD/AML Grant. He gave the number of contracts awarded to date and the number pending. Total award amount to date, since 2022, in over $200 million. It is about a 50/50 split of AMD/AMD. They are meeting to go over risk assessments for organizations now on active recipients. All organizations completed procurement compliance forms. 2027 round dates has been chosen. The risk assessment includes prior involvement in the grant program, understanding of goals and compliance, and compliance with 2CFR200. Low risk applicants will receive full request. Moderate will receive 80% and additional oversight for 1 year, and after one year, you will get your full award.

Partner Updates (All present)

- Marco said that Westmoreland applied for 2 grants, one at Lober Design and one for Lavard construction and regrading. In the future, they hope to apply for Brinkerton upgrades and Thorn Run Discharge.
- Jerry asked about Brubaker Run treatment. Jon Smoyer said there are some ideas and discussed those with Jerry. Bryan also asked a lot of questions regarding the stream.
- Jackie asked about how much money is available for Quick Response. Andy will get back to Marc.
- Shane is working on about 11 projects for SRI. They broke ground on a project in McIntyre with AWARE.
- Joe from Harsco is replacing Bob Onyshko. Harsco is working on the McIntyre project mentioned by Shane. Joe talked about Hasco's product for soil amendments.
- Ben talked about sampling in Mill Creek Watershed, work in Beaver Run treatment systems, And a couple possibilities of projects in the Eastern side of Jefferson County.
- Jeffrey talked about the Raccoon Creek Benefit Fun, which would support AMD Treatment.
- Len talked about SCRIP, which is celebrating 30 years. The Bottom Lands Conservancy created a newsletter. Bottomlands accepted 7 AMD treatment systems and is starting to maintain them completely on their own.
- Amy sent a written update, read by Pat. Montour Run Watershed Association is working with SRI to apply for funding for North Fork and McCaslin.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval sought for Dues Increase to $200 for Conservation Districts, $300 for Corporate, $50 for groups, and $10 for individuals.

Motion (Ritko/Smith) to approve the dues structure increase. Passed.

Approval for November Quarterly meeting on November 4, 2026 due to Veteran's Day on November 11th.

Motion (Vigilante/Smith) to move November Quarterly board meeting to November 4, 2026. Passed.

Approval sought to secure general liability insurance and vehicle liability insurance.

Motion (Ritko/Kim) to secure general liability and vehicle insurances. Passed.

Approval to apply to Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds for funding for another year of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Chronicles

Motion (Smith/Vigilante) to apply to FPW for podcast funding. Passed.

2026 Meeting Schedule: *(Locations TBD)*

November 4, 2026

Meeting adjourned @ 11:50 pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Anne Daymut

Approved by Amy Miller on 10/27/2026