

# EPCAMR 2009 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – September 17<sup>th</sup>

Earth Conservancy Office, Ashley, PA

5:30 P

**Call to Order – Attendance:** Al Mabus, Bernie McGurl, Josh Longmore, Tim Ference, Cheryl Brobst, Mary Wagner, Ed Wytovich, Bruno Najaka, Alana Roberts, Paul Lohin, Christine Haldeman, Ryan Koch, Robert Hughes & Michael Hewitt

Bernie

**Minutes from Last Mgt. (June 18<sup>th</sup>):** Moved to accept & approve (*Al, Cheryl & All*)

Cathy

## Treasurer's Report

- Moved to file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit (*Josh, Irvil & All*)
- Received a \$30,000 Line of Credit from First National Bank (asked for \$40,000)

Cheryl  
Robert

**AMR Program Reports** (See highlights at end of document; Full reports are posted to <http://www.orangewaternetwork.org/index.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=47>)

AMR PG Staff

## Committee Reports

 (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Transition)

Respective  
Comm. Chairs

- Personnel: Motioned to postpone vote on Draft Employee Policy was distributed to entire board for comment after the board meeting as requested by board members not on the personnel committee (*Mary, Paul and All*) and was approved by a majority proxy vote via e-mail on 10/1/09. Billable Rates discussion was tabled until next meeting.
- Budget: Reported updates to Annual Budget suggested at last meeting.
- Strategic Planning: Worksheets given to committee via e-mail and plan to convene a meeting in October.

## Old Business

- Discussed state budget approval delay and effects on EPCAMR budget (i.e. 319 Program and Growing Greener Grant Extensions)
- Discussed a legal pro bono look over policies as suggested by board... Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association Lawyer Referral Service (nothing pro bono), North Penn Legal Services (no fees for eligible clients)

Bernie

Robert

## New Business

- Acknowledged the Establishment of an EPCAMR WISH LIST online and for Board Members to assist ( i.e. Conference table, other supplies, monetary donations from foundations, etc.). Also, Ed mentioned searching for a website that donates industry surplus to schools and non-profits.
- Showcased Scranton Area Foundation Grant Products: AMD Avengers & Pollution Posse Costumes by Barbara and Bernie suggested following up with Bob Slussenger who is associated with the Scranton Public Theatre.

Robert

## Correspondence and Information

Robert

- Flurry of Press Releases on Bullitin Board
- Received a Scranton Area Foundation grant for \$1,408 (asked for \$3,000)
- CFB Ash letter send to DEP Secretary John Hangar
- Pizarchik Letter sent to US Senate Energy & Natural Resources Comm.
- Citizens Coal Council and Enviornmental Integrity Project Articles

### **Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops**

Robert

- **Carbon County Heritage Festival:** Mauch Chunk Lake Park, Jim Thorpe, PA – Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 8AM – 4PM
- **ICL Workshop: Cultivating Board Excellence:** University of Pennsylvania – Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 9AM - 4:30PM
- **SRBC Water Quality Advisory Council Meeting:** USGS Office, New Cumberland, PA – Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- **Wyso In-mine Exhibit:** Pioneer Tunnel Mine Tour in Ashland, PA from September – October 2009.

All

### **Watershed Reports**

8:00 P

**Next Meeting Date:** *Tentatively* **December 17<sup>th</sup> ? @ 5:30pm** and Adjournment

## AMR Program Staff 4th Quarter Highlights (July 2009 – September 2009)

### Executive Director's Highlights

- Picked up several costumes of our AMD Avengers vs. The Pollution Posse from Barbara Gavlick-Costumes by Barbara, to be used in the Fall 2009 when we do Education Programs in the schools on AMD. Received another award from the Scranton Area Foundation to continue the development of the Theatrical Performance.
- Partnered with Wilkes University's 2009 Summer Freshman Orientation Class and worked with 25 students to pour additional batches of iron oxide chalk for our educational programs
- Provided Letters of support for 6 groups submitting Growing Greener Projects including Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Earth Conservancy, Marywood University, Catawissa Creek Restoration Association, Schuylkill Conservation District & the Pennsylvania State University.
- Received donated 10 gallons of anti-graffiti paint and rollers from PA DOT for the AML Beautification Project and graffiti removal project at the Avondale Mine Site, Plymouth Township, Luzerne County; EPCAMR interns will be covering up all graffiti at the site, on buildings, and the State underpass that runs over the Susquehanna Warrior Trail
- Closed out the PA DEP 319 Program Grant including the additional funds received for the Fence at SCRA's Site 15 AMD Treatment Site. Received paperwork the next grant award, a 3 year agreement instead of 1 year. Submitted a Request for Working Capital and 2 Reimbursements.
- Conducted an AMD Tie-Dye Outreach Program for the Carbon County Conservation District's Nature Camp in partnership with the Carbon County Environmental Education Center staff at Hickory Run State Park; 30 students reached
- Prepared 37 individual letters for each of the Legislators (Representatives and Senators) in the EPCAMR Region where we are actively involved in watershed projects in partnership with our Conservation Districts and their Watershed Specialist staff people; The letters were in support of dedicated funding to support these positions at the Conservation Districts; An additional letter was mailed to PA DEP Secretary John Hanger
- EPCAMR Executive Director worked with First National Bank to finalize the 90-day short term loan of \$30,000 to keep EPCAMR operational until grant reimbursements come in to provide a cash flow balance
- EPCAMR Executive Director prepared 10 press releases and had Mike post them to our website and our FaceBook account; All releases can be found at [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) in the News Scroll. Topics included Avondale Cleanup and 140<sup>th</sup> Mind Disaster Anniversary Ceremony, The AMD Avengers Costumes and Theatrical Play development, Orion Society Award, Iron Oxide Chalk availability, ARIPPA Technical Symposium presentation and the 11th Annual AMR Conference.

Robert Hughes

*Full Monthly Reports for all staff are available online for your review*

### Program Manager's Highlights

- EPCAMR staff are now employed by EPCAMR and moved to a new office in Ashley
- EPCAMR staff coordinated the AMR & CMH conference; produced 150 conference packets; approximately 170 attendees (over 20 walk ins); Conference proceedings can be found at [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com)
- Updated contact information with Duns and Bradstreet and PA Dept. of Revenue and 3 others
- Georeferenced 13 OSM Folio maps, updated 5 layers and converted 1 set of x-sections into contours for the Mine Pool Mapping Project
- EPCAMR staff attended and conducted the AMR & CMH Conf., & 2 OFBH Project Mtg., presented at ARIPPA Tech. Symposium & conducted 1 AMD Tie Dye Wksp.
- Conducted a RAMLIS investigation for 1 watershed group
- Updated [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) and [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com)

Michael Hewitt