

EPCAMR 2012 Annual (4th Quarter) Board Meeting

Minutes – November 15th

EPCAMR / Earth Conservancy Office Conference Room

6:00PM	Call to Order: Bernie McGurl, Cheryl Brobst, Irvil Kear, Paul Lohin, Christine Haldeman, Megan Blackmon, Al Mabus, Jim Koharski, Jeff McNelly, Leigh Ann Kemmerer, Tom Clark, Mel Talmadge, Robert Hughes & Michael Hewitt	Bernie
	Minutes from Last Mgt. (August 16th): <u>Motion</u> to accept & approve (Leigh, Al & All)	Christine
	Treasurer's Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2011 990s were filed by Kovalchik, Kollar and Co. LLP. EPCAMR is 97.58% Non Profit. Board asked for an Accountants Review Report and Profit/Loss Statement. Also do we meet the threshold for BCO 10? Staff requested a quote for both reports.<u>Motion</u> to file Checking & PA Invest Account Balances for audit (Paul, Irvil & All)	Robert Cheryl
	AMR Program Reports (See highlights at the end of this Document)	Staff
	Committee Reports (Personnel, Budget, Strategic Planning & Dinner/Fundraiser)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Personnel: Reviewed EPCAMR employee evaluations. Committee recommended raises to staff with a retroactive amount back to July 1. They also recommended taking a look at the wording in the policy manual. Concern was raised about "merit raises" not being allowed from public funding sources which could be a concern from a civil servants standpoint. Committee will meet and review by next board meeting.	Respective Comm. Chairs
	Old Business	
	New Business	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Motioned to</u> approve Personnel Committee Recommendations (Paul, Irvil & All)<u>Discussed</u> EPCAMR proposal to map ARIPPAs Reclaimed Spoil Piles. ARIPPA approved a pilot-study of 3 plants to participate in the study.	Personnel Com. Jeff
	Correspondence and Information	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Widener University Legal Interpretation on the Good Samaritan Act: A Citizen's Guide. Board recommended that we have Weidner review "Navigable Waterways" laws and ACOE determinations.3 Growing Greener Grants applied for: EPCAMR Abandoned Mine Program Coordination, Lewis Mine Discharge Treatment System Revamp & Datashed (SRI); Several letters of support were given to partners.	Robert
	Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2013 Schuylkill River Watershed Congress March 9th, at the Montgomery County Community College-West Campus in Pottstown, PA.2013 PA EnviroThon May 21st & 22nd at Juniata College. AMD Tie Dye Workshop2013 PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference August 8-10 at Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA. Theme: "15 Years and Counting...Full Steam Ahead!"2013 PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference August 8-10 at Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA.ARIPPA Annual Convention August 20-22 at Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey, Harrisburg, PA.	Paul Cheryl Robert
	Watershed Reports	All
	ARIPPA: Planned a AMD-AML-ASH Reclamation Talks and Fundraiser planned June 11, 2012 at Ramada Inn State College, PA. The first fundraiser raised some cash and we hope the next one raises more. Political Perfect Storm is brewing for the Co-Gen industry. Thanked EPCAMR for a quick support letter to legislators. All ARIPPA Plants are producing a total of 1,500 MW per year.	

Schuylkill (Christine): Concept plans for parks/greenways along Silver Creek AMD Treatment System, New Philadelphia Pond and Otto Discharge. Also conducted a cleanup near Silver Creek TS with an off road group producing about 150 tires sent to CJ tires and large dumpster, probably another dumpster worth of trash left. Several months of monitoring of the Silver Creek TS showed all iron precipitating in the ponds and near neutral pH exiting the system. Mary D TS under construction. Bell Colliery Phase III optimization planned for construction in the Spring 2013. Applied for a \$185K Growing Greener grant with USGS to study the feasibility for the Oak Hill Boreholes AMD Remediation and alternatives like sealing up surface water infiltration to reduce the discharge or pumping from the shaft since there isn't much room for a traditional treatment system in the area of the discharge before it reaches the stream. Also applied for a \$100K Growing Greener grant to restore certain areas in the floodplain of the Schuylkill River and test material with boreholes into piles to determine BTU values between Schuylkill Haven and Lansdale and 2 more sites near the dam.

Schuylkill (Paul): The "Patata Patch" (aka. Rohrsville Pit) is going to be reclaimed due to a change in ownership. Connected to Oak Hill. "Greenberry", an undersized stream conveyance under road causing flooding, will be the next conquest in the Heckshireville Valley. Phase 1 of the creek lining of West Branch of the Schuylkill River in 2 places now complete.

Catawissa (Cheryl): Working on problems arising from the recent Audenreid TS upgrades to the intake system. Oneida #1 is back on track and working well.

Wiconisco (Megan): Bear Creek Phase 1 TS is bypassing the system again and the conservation district is looking to fix it. Pond C liner was "bubbling up", but was fixed. Phase 2 was never completed. Board suggested that they contact WPCAMR for the Quick Response Grant money and the Audenreid system fixes.

Lackawanna (Bernie): Working on OFB and DB to the river which drain the Lower Lackawanna Watershed. SRBC study says it is possibly the largest AMD discharge to the Anthracite Region and Eastern US which equals about 25% of iron loading to Susquehanna river. EPCAMR taking flow measurements. Draft of LLWRAP almost complete. Looking to work with BAMR to complete a QHUP to design a treatment system. Scranton Farmers Market Electronics Recycling event.

8:30PM **Next Meeting (Annual): Tentatively February 21st @ 6:00pm** and Adjournment

AMR Program Staff 3rd Quarter Highlights (September 2012 – November 2012)

Executive Director and General Staff Highlights

- Coordinated an AMD Tour of Luzerne/Lower Lackawanna Counties for PACD/SCC, Luzerne and Lackawanna County Conservation Districts.
- EPCAMR Staff and Interns conducted two full days of 12 electro-shocking surveys on the Solomon Creek Watershed with Trout Unlimited as part of the Solomon Creek Coldwater Heritage Conservation Planning effort. A portion of Sugar Notch Run that was on the impaired waters list actually was supporting a trout population. Data will be sent to DEP to support removal from the list.
- EPCAMR Staff attended the Non-Profit Community Assistance Center's (NCAC) Awards Dinner at the Radisson, Scranton and was awarded a Runner-Up Award Plaque, and year-long membership to the NCAC for our Mine Pool Mapping of the Anthracite Region.
- EPCAMR Staff worked on the budget, narrative, and Scope of Work for 5 grant proposals: the Lewis AMD Mine Bond Forfeiture Discharge Treatment System Revamp proposal to GG (~\$97,000), the EPCAMR AML Program Coordination proposal to GG (\$125K), the ARIPPA Reclaimed Areas GIS proposal to ARIPPA (~\$8K), the Espy Run AMD Treatment System AMD Water Monitoring Proposal to EC (~\$2,400) and the Huber Miner's Memorial Park reclamation project proposal to FFA with the WB CTC (\$2500). The last 3 were already approved for funding.
- EPCAMR Staff participated in and AMD/Outreach Earth Day Festival at Camp Kresge, White Haven with the entire Bear Creek Charter Elementary School consisting of 430 students
- EPCAMR Staff, along with Tom Clark-SRBC co-presented our Abstract on Mine Pools at the 2012 National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Program (NAAML) Conference and attended the conference from 23rd-27th of September in Des Moines, Iowa.
- Interviewed Sarah-Jane Gerstman, senior from Wilkes University, with a background in environmental science, for a non-paid internship for credit through Wilkes; She had previously been an EPCAMR volunteer on several illegal dump site cleanups.

Robert Hughes

Full Monthly Reports for all staff are [available online](#) for your review

Program Manager Highlights

- EPCAMR staff participated in an AMR Conference Call and converted over 20 PPT presentations to PDF and posted to www.treatminewater.com.
- EPCAMR staff conducted a tour for DCNR Community Connections to Our Watershed Forum students, attended the LRCA 25th Anniversary Dinner and attended the PEC NEO Dinner as an awardee.
- Continued to update mine pool GIS files in the Southern and Western Middle Anthracite Fields and North Western Semi-Anthracite fields. Created contiguous set of 100' contours for the Southern Field. Produced a 3D Mine Pool Video and printed 4 cross sections for presentation to a national audience.
- Produced a case study showing 72% of reclamation not accounted for in AMLIS (near the Hanover Industrial Park) for the ARIPPA as an addendum to a proposal to document reclamation by the co gen industry. A pilot project was approved starting with 3 volunteer plants to begin to develop methodologies.
- EPCAMR staff sampled 16 boreholes in the Lackawanna Valley and 26 boreholes in the Wyoming Valley. Measured flow on 4 discharges. Sampled 1 Passive Treatment System.
- Updated www.treatminewater.com and updated www.epcamr.org. Administered the EPCAMR and HBPS facebook page and Google Apps for Nonprofits account.
- EPCAMR staff submitted 2 grants, collaborated on another and provided several support letters for partner Growing Greener Grant proposals.
- Created 1 published map file, 3 maps, 2 GIS and 1 statistical database for partners.
- Measured flow and chemistry on 4 more discharges with a grad student at Lehigh U.

Michael Hewitt