

EPCAMR 2018 1st Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – February 15th

EPCAMR Office

11:15AM
Info.
Portion of
Meeting

Discussion and Correspondence

Staff

- Handouts: Minutes, Treasurer's Report and corresponding documents
- Discussion on EPCAMR Television pilot series: Joe Sapienza, John Welsh & Alana Mauger to start Summer 2018 with ~\$20-45K budget. Setup a cooperative agreement with Centone Prod. to act as grant pass-through until they get nonprofit status.
- Discussion on PA AML Pilot projects: Could EPCAMR be involved? Mentioned Harry E. Banks project. Schuylkill Headwaters Assoc. is involved in one to remove waste coal via rail, create a rail siding and benefit community with a trail. In Luzerne Co., WVSA is taking on MS4 requirements of several municipalities (~2,600 ac.), meeting on how to cooperate with us.
- Discussion on Preckle pumped storage hydro project: Merchant Hydro (private capital) filed for 17 projects thru FERC to take advantage of electricity price differential (tech. to pump at night then reverse and produce during day). In our region, one is Campbell's Ledge/Duryea Swamps. Another one mentioned near Aylesworth and another near Simpson, but both on pristine land. One proposed in Catawissa Creek Watershed as well. Concerned with consumptive use, working on Old Forge Borehole as a source to fill initially/periodically.
- EPCAMR 2018 Membership Applications available

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

Staff

- AIPG Symposium March 3rd
- 2018 AMR Conference June 20 - 21 @ Ramada Inn State College
- 250th Anniversary of Anthracite Industry (1768-2018) events: calendar
- Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funding availability

Watershed Reports

All

- SHA: Redesign of Reevesdale and treatment system design for Otto AMD.
- Sullivan Co.: Loyalsock Creek was named river of the year: 3 treatment systems working well. EPCAMR proposal to monitor 2 WALA systems.
- Schuylkill Co.: Pottsville Republican 250th Anniversary of Anthracite article.
- ARIPPA: New director Jaret Gibbons. Please support HR4977 is a tax credit of \$12/ton coal refuse processed in CFB. Approval of \$5K AMR Awards to EPCAMR/WPCAMR regions.
- Lackawanna Co.: Log veins installed in Leggetts Creek to create habitat, structures in Abington Park. Starting to offer macro ID workshops to public. Currently offering Aquatic/Terrestrial Entomology to Master Watershed Steward Program. EPCAMR offered to donate a SWR leaf pack kit.
- FON: "News of the bizarre"- 6ft. high foam in the Black Creek. DEP in the process of assigning blame but probably old Dial Corp. via storm sewers. Water quality testing expanded (5 sites), provided a full year of data to 6 municipalities. Upcoming film festival at the Draft House in West Hazleton.
- CCRA: Audenreid issues with access for maintenance/refurbishment and water supply to CanDo Ind. Park, encouraging state to purchase mostly forestland from Butler Enterprises. Ondeia #1 routine maintenance (leaf cleanout), but working well. Oneida #3 leaf guard installed and limestone needs replacement/re-plumbing. Pioneer Tunnel celebrating 250th Anniversary of Anthracite at Pioneer Day.
- Luzerne Co.: Submitted EBTJV ~\$20K grant for 2,500 ft. riparian restoration on Mtn. Springs Reservoir. Dam removal on Hunlock Creek at Hillside Farms late fall. \$280K GG regarding 3 project types on the Nescopeck: riparian zone

restoration, stream bank erosion repair and limestone addition at strategic points to reduce AMD impacts. Mentioned issues at SRBC/DEP/USGS meeting. Jeddo Tunnel is “elephant in the room” which impairs 22 miles of streams. Stream color changes hourly. Grabbing samples with GG. Suggested a monitoring station above and below. Dallas Area SD implemented a “no mow” policy to promote on-site botany/biology courses and storm water improvements. Planting trees/shrubs in stormwater basins. Blue Mtn. SD in Schuylkill Co. does this as well.

- Norry Co: maintenance work on Carbon Run Site 42 and some work upstream, TU water monitoring project on Carbon Run, student field trips to AMD and Wesier State Forest then PPL & PEC tree plantings along Quaker Run. SEDCO promotion and concerns about underground mines.
- Stanley Cooper TU: citizen science monitoring Bowman’s Creek found acid hot spots (ex. Mtn Springs)

12:30PM	<p>Call to Order Business Meeting: Attendance - Bernie McGurl, Christine Haldeman, Tim Ference, Peter Haentjens, Ed Wytovich, Corey Richmond, Dr. Joe Simons (Quorum), Gary Leander, Joe Sapienza, John Welsh, Alana Mauger, Ben Vaupel, Christy Doyle, John Levitsky, Jerry Stiles, Cheryl Nolan, Jaci Harner, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Gabby Zawacki, Denise Hernandez, Gavin Pellitteri, Abbie Keefe & Rachael Grube</p>	President
Break for Lunch then Begin Business Portion of Meeting	<p>Minutes from Last Mgt. (August 17th): <u>Ammedned & Filed for Audit</u> (Corey, Ed & All)</p> <p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Filed for Audit:</u> Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (Ed, John W. & All) • See “Jobs List” and “Grants Applied For” memos for more info (handout) <p>AMR Program Reports (3 minutes each; anticipated work on opposite side)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Hicks Creek Project. Issues with new landowner. Have to re-explain benefits and get a new agreement. May need to turn project down. • Overview of MSI program, new \$485K grant proposal submitted. • \$15K grant submitted to Patagonia to assess culverts for fish passability initially turned down because we supported trout stocking, but rebuttal letter served as a learning experience and decision reversal. • Looking at grant funding to monitor further/sludge judge Plainsville AMD • All staff tasked to write grants, purchased a membership to Grant Station thru Chronicles of Philanthropy. 	Secretary Treasurer Staff
1:30PM	<p>Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget & Finance: updates to Financial Management policy (Ed, Joe & All) • Executive: updates to Conflict of Interest policy (Pete, Ed & All) • Create Ad-hoc Communications Committee of Joe Sapienza, John Welsh, Alana Mauger, Christy Doyle & Dr. Joe Simons <p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Moved to</u> approve committee decisions (see above) • <u>Moved to</u> sign and adopt the RECLAIM Act resolution (Corey, Pete & All) • <u>Motion to</u> adjourn business portion of meeting 	Respective Comm. Chairs President President
Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.	<p>Next Meeting: <i>Tentatively</i> February 15th, 2018 11:00AM (with lunch, bring \$5) Tentative for 2018: May 17th, August 16th, November 15th, 2018</p>	

Invitation to see the EPCAMR Trout in the Classroom Tank

AMR Program Staff Anticipated Work for Next Quarter (looking forward)
Partners and Places in bold

General Staff

- Scanned & cataloged 703, georeference 314, digitize 2 & began to create mosaicked Mine Maps from **PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) Wilkes-Barre Office** related to the Mine Subsidence Insurance (MSI) Mine Map Processing Grant will to continue next quarter. Coordinate with **California District Mining Office (DMO)** & invoice for time / resources spent. Maintain a backup of mine maps on our 14TB local server. Waiting on another 3 year grant proposal.
- Joint Permit approved on **Hicks Creek** Natural Stream Channel Design Project (**Exeter Boro., Luzerne Co.**). Develop a bid package & site showing with **Skelly & Loy**. Extension approved by PA DEP. Expecting bid award for construction 2018.
- Completion of repairs to the cross veins on **Solomon Creek** in Ashley related to dam removal project **PA Fish and Boat Commission** South Valley Parkway Mitigation.
- Begin an aquatic organism passage (AOP) study on creeks in the **Wilkes-Barre Area** with a \$15K grant from **Patagonia**.
- Finish \$16K SRBC Contract to map/model mine pools in the **Rausch Creek Watershed (Schuylkill Co.)**.
- Continue \$21K SRBC Phase 1 Contract to map/model mine pools related to the **Mocanaqua Tunnel Discharge (Luzerne Co.)** and \$65K Phase 2 contract to drill and monitor boreholes / discharges with **AES**.
- Select school for a Bird Box (**PPL Donate Well**) & TIC (**PA Fish and Boat**) Programs
- Continue “City Streets to Valley Streams” education program with disadvantaged youth using \$10K from **First Federal Charitable Foundation**.
- Continue **Abraham’s Creek** Coldwater Heritage Plan with \$5K funding from **PA TU**.
- Finish up and re-apply for **Earth Conservancy** contract to monitor chemistry/flow at **Askam** Treatment System monthly in the **Nanticoke Creek Watershed**.
- Continue **SRI** will extend \$4.5K contract to work on www.Datashed.org for 2018.
- Bill-down and reimburse for projects and services (quarterly) to maintain cash-flow.
- Administer the \$2.5K **ARIPPA** AMD/AML Reclamation Awards for **EPCAMR Region**.
- Waiting on approval of 9 grants; Continue to seek funding to further our mission.
- Continue to look for stream segments in the **EPCAMR Region**, where improvements have been made to streams on the 303 (d) List of Impaired Waters, that should be reassessed and stand a good chance of being removed from the list. Gather supporting water quality monitoring or biological monitoring evidence and report to the **PA DEP Bureau of Conservation and Restoration (BCR) Section 319 Program**.
- Continue to provide technical & outreach assistance to **EPCAMR partners** dealing with AML issues, as needed.
- Plan for the **PA statewide Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference** via conference call with **WPCAMR** and the **AMR Conference Committee**. 2018 Conference will be held in State College while 2019 conference will be in Pittsburgh jointly with **NAAML**. Maintain treatminewater.com website.
- Continue to provide AMD Field Tours and participate Environmental Outreach Events.
- Harvest, dry, process, package, and inventory Iron Oxide products to sell online.
- Complete EPCAMR Annual Reports and post to GuideStar.org.
- Completed another update of **RAMLIS** for 2018 with updated information from the **Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA) Server**.
- Update EPCAMR websites, including www.epcamr.org as needed, as well as the G Suite for Nonprofit Email / App Account and Facebook Social Media outreach tools.
- Participate in AML Campaign Calls to keep up on legislative happenings.
- Still waiting on an agreement with **SMS,LLC** to install transducers and monitor water levels in several boreholes in the mine pool related to the Old Forge Borehole AMD Remediation Project on the **Lackawanna River**.
- Hope our **Community Aide, Inc.** grant is approved to coordinate cleanups in 2018 regarding our **Clean Our Anthracite Lands and Streams (COALS)** program.
- Continue to work with **EPCAMR Board** to increase Quarterly Board Mtg. efficiency.

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

