

EPCAMR 2019 3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – August 15th

EPCAMR Office

11:00AM
Info.
Portion of
Meeting

Discussion and Correspondence

- Handouts: Minutes, Treasurer's Report and corresponding documents
- Update on [RECLAIM Act](#) (HR 2156) – 61 cosponsors (12 from PA, attempting to get all PA Representatives on board)
- Update on [SMCRA Reauthorization](#), Explained the difference between Cartwright's House Draft Vs. Senate 1193 Manchin's language (basically just the extension to 2036). The House language should be adopted by the Senate. Gaining lots of support: Conservation Districts, PA TU, Watershed Groups, etc.
- Update on Coal Refuse Energy Tax Credit for ARIPPA Co-Gens. To be proposed by Congressman Meuser. ARIPPA site tour yesterday with Meuser. EPCAMR talking to Congressman Cartwright staff to be a cosponsor and help with language. Conversations with PennFuture, Sierra Club (Johnstown) and Clean Air Council (Philly) to win their support or at least not fight against bill. Way to prioritize which banks should be reclaimed first? \$500M for Comprehensive Study was suggested. ~50 years of Anthracite Waste Coal left... ARIPPA is a great ally in reclamation.
- [ARIPPA Report on Coal Refuse Reclamation Industry](#) is available

Robert

Cristy

12:00PM

Call to Order Business Meeting: Attendance - Bernie McGurl, Joe Simons, Christine Haldeman, Cheryl Brobst, Christy Sweeney, Eric Naguski, Ed Wytovich (Quorum), Tim Ference, John Levitsky, Pete Haentjens, Mike Korb, Gary Leander, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Shawnese Taylor, Laura Rinehimer, Steve Cornia, & Denise Hernandez

President

Begin
Business
Portion of
Meeting

Minutes from Last Mgt. (May 16th): [File for Audit](#) (Mike, Cheryl & All)

Secretary

Treasurer's Report

- See Balance Sheet, Open Sales Orders, Jobs List and Grant Prospects
- File for Audit: Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (Ed, Tim & All)

Treasurer

AMR Program Reports (3 minutes each; Anticipated work on opposite side)

Staff

Committee Reports

- Nominating Committee: Motion to Nominate and Election of Officers: Joe Simons – President, Christine Haldeman – Secretary and interim Vice President, Cristy Sweeney – Treasurer (Bernie, Ed & All)
- Personnel Committee: Need to review Personnel Policy and Discussion; doodle poll
- AdHoc Communications: Update on Reclaiming PA Trailer (Postponed)
- Strategic Planning: Schedule board retreat to Nescopeck State Park February 2020?

Respective
Comm. Chairs

Old Business

- none

President

Hotlinks in
this
document
will take
you to
more info.

New Business

- Moved to approve committee decisions (recorded above)
- Moved to approve 319 Contract Amendment for \$129,310 thru 6/2021 (John, Ed & All)
- Moved to adjourn business portion of the meeting

President

1:00PM

Next Meeting: *Tentatively November 21st, 2019 11:00AM (with lunch, bring \$5)*

Tentative for 2020: February 20th, May 21st, August 20th, November 19th, 2020

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- [PA DEP 319 NPS Grant](#) Round- August 9th Deadline
- [NAAMLPA/PA AMR/NASLR Joint Conf.](#), Pittsburgh, PA Sept. 8-11, 2019
- 6th Annual Centralia Cleanup-October 19th, 2019; 9-3PM
- [PA DCNR Grants](#)

Watershed Reports

- Lackawanna – LVC purchased a superfund site for \$1 along the river former Lehigh Electric. Gravel bar for road access. Hoping to purchase a junkyard too. LRCA Dine-out Night at Calruso's tonight (Bernie).
- Luzerne – Friends of the Nescopeck are adding macroinvertebrates to their sampling with training from DEP. Biochem students interested. Found trout in Black Creek (Tim and Gary). Founder of Stanley Cooper Chapter of Trout Unlimited passed away last month (Joe). Woman who owns storage sheds in Hazle Twp. wants to create Black Creek Conservancy and trail from 309 to Lake Irene (John).
- Carbon – Tetra Tech working on Quakeake Tunnel Treatment (Mike).
- Schuylkill – River Corridor project 90% complete with hauling coal silt out of the floodplain and development for the Bartram Trail (Hamburg to Auburn). Otto AMD rehabilitation designed and applied for construction (Christine). Catawissa QHUP with SRBC to be finished in October-November. Oneida #1 blockage from roots from plants clogging treatment system cells like a hydroponic garden. Oneida #3 Treatment System is working well. Catching trout just below Tomhicken. Pioneer Day this Saturday. Working on a history tour on September 21st.

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

General Staff

- Scanned & cataloged 269, georeferenced 90, & started Nanticoke and Mocanaqua quad. mosaics from **PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) Wilkes-Barre Office** and **Pottsville District Mining Office (DMO)** collections to continue the 2018-2020 Mine Subsidence Insurance (MSI) Mine Map Processing Grant coordinated by the **California DMO**. Maintain a backup on 14TB local server.
- Submitted a 2019-2020 proposal to monitor **Loyalsock Creek & AMD Treatment Systems** in **Sullivan County** to the **Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association**.
- Evaluate **Plainsville** AMD pond sludge depth with **Luzerne Conservation District**
- Submitted a GG/319 grant to study the mine pool and develop a treatment system with **SRBC** in the **Bear Creek Watershed** for the **Wiconisco Creek Restoration Association, Dauphin CD & Doc Fritchey TU**.
- Coordinating the removal of waste coal piles at the former Harry E. Colliery with **Keystone Reclamation** for the **Swoyersville AML Pilot** project.
- Waiting for the **Luzerne County Rail Corp** to get GIS to deliver the scanned, georeferenced and digitized railroad maps in **Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties**.
- Continue to work on the GrowBoxx project with **\$25K Inquiring Systems Inc**. Develop a curriculum and work with schools to implement program.
- Continue an aquatic organism passage (AOP) study on creeks in the **Anthracite Region** with a **\$15K** grant from **Patagonia**.
- 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 monitor boreholes / discharges. Need to catch one low precipitation event by fall, hopefully.
- Begin “Keeping Communities Flowing” education program with disadvantaged youth using **\$20K** from **American Water Charitable Foundation** and remainder of **\$10K** from **Luzerne Foundation**.
- Begin on **Huntsville Creek** Cold Water Heritage Plan **\$4.75K funding from PA TU**.
- Continue **Toby’s Creek** Coldwater Heritage Plan with **\$5K** funding from **PA TU**.
- Continue to monitor chemistry/flow at **Askam** Treatment System in the **Nanticoke Creek Watershed** as needed by **Earth Conservancy**.
- Administer the **\$2.5K ARIPPA** AMD/AML Reclamation Awards for **EPCAMR Region**.
- Continue **RECLAIM** Act outreach and make maps w/ **\$3K Appalachian Voices** grant.
- Plan for the joint **NAAML/PA AMR** joint via conference call with **PA DEP** and the **AMR Conference Committee**. The conference will be September 8-11, 2019 in Pittsburgh. Maintain www.NAAML2019.com and treatminewater.com
- 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**.
- Work on hosting **RAMLIS** for 2020 on an interactive website with updated information from the **Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA) Server**.
- Waiting on **WVSA** to determine discharges to monitor with PA DEP to develop a professional services agreement for AMD portion of their **MS4 Permit**.
- Coordinate a QHUP for the **Lackawanna River** with **\$5K LRCA** and **SMS, LLC**.
- Contract with **Tetra-Tech** to conduct Rare Earth Metals in AMD sludge research with AML Pilot funds or potentially Department of Defense funding.
- Continue to provide technical & outreach assistance to **EPCAMR partners** dealing with AML issues, as requested.
- Continue to provide AMD Field Tours and participate Environmental Outreach events.
- Bill-down and reimburse for projects and services (quarterly) to maintain cash-flow
- 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.

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