

# EPCAMR 2019 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – November 20<sup>th</sup>

## EPCAMR Office

11:00AM Info. Portion of Meeting	<b>Discussion and Correspondence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Handouts</u>: Minutes, Treasurer’s Report and corresponding documents</li><li>• Update on <u>SMCRA Reauthorization</u> (HR 4248) <u>Testimony</u> to HNRC</li><li>• Update on <u>RECLAIM Act</u> (HR 2156) &amp; several other “coal” bills (handout)</li><li>• Update on <u>Coal Refuse Energy Tax Credit</u> (HR 4735) Letters of Support</li></ul>	Robert   Cristy
12:00PM	<b>Call to Order Business Meeting:</b> Attendance - Joe Simons, Christine Haldeman, Cheryl Brobst, Christy Sweeney, Ed Wytovich, Tim Ference, John Levitsky (Quorum), Corey Richmond, Leigh Ann Henry, Mike Korb, Gary Leander, Kendra Craig, John Welsh, Alana Mauer, Robert Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Shawnese Taylor, Laura Rinehimer, Steve Cornia, & Denise Hernandez	President
Begin Business Portion of Meeting	<b>Minutes from Last Mgt. (August 15<sup>th</sup>):</b> <u>File for Audit</u> (Cristy, Mike & All)	Secretary
	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See Balance Sheet, Open Sales Orders, Jobs List and Grant Prospects</li><li>• <u>File for Audit</u>: Checking &amp; PA Invest Account Balances (Ed, Tim &amp; All)</li><li>• Review EPCAMR 2018 990 Tax Return Filed</li></ul>	Treasurer
	<b>AMR Program Reports</b> (3 minutes each; Anticipated work on opposite side)	Staff
	<b>Committee Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Budget and Finance Committee: Review Draft EPCAMR Budget for 2020</li><li>• Personnel Committee: Meeting Outcome, Personnel Policy &amp; Staff Eval.</li><li>• AdHoc Communications: Update on Reclaiming PA Trailer (Tabled, but John and Alana mentioned that “Scorched” is ready, “Beyond the Breaker” is almost done...finishing up for Mining History Month, Growboxx trailer is in the works. Place on EPCAMR’s Daily Motion &amp; Website? “Centralia” DVD is for sale.)</li><li>• Strategic Planning: Schedule retreat to Nescopeck State Park February 2020</li><li>• Nominating Committee: consider Dr. Andrea Nerozzi, Associate Director of the Wyoming Seminary STEM School</li></ul>	Respective Comm. Chairs
	<b>Old Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>	President
Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.	<b>New Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Motion to</u> approve committee decision(s): current staff raised to \$15/hour (Cheryl, John &amp; All) and new hire(s) to \$15/hour (Cheryl, Ed &amp; All); Andrea Nerozzi elected to board (Ed, Mike &amp; All)</li><li>• <u>Motion to</u> approve EPCAMR Budget for 2020 (Mike, Ed &amp; All)</li><li>• <u>Motion to</u> recognize Bernie for his years of service as EPCAMR President (John W., John L. &amp; All)</li><li>• <u>Motion to</u> adjourn business portion of the meeting</li></ul>	President
1:00PM	<b>Next Meeting:</b> <i>Tentatively</i> <b>February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 11:00AM (with lunch, bring \$5)</b> Tentative for 2020: May 21 <sup>st</sup> , August 20 <sup>th</sup> , November 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	

## Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

- [Growing Greener Plus Grants](#) Program Applications Due December 20
- [2019 AML Economic and Community Development Pilot](#) (AML Pilot) Program Open Application Period November 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020
- PA DEP [Environmental Education Grant](#) program webinar Nov. 18 @ 1PM
- [Temper of the Times Foundation Inc.](#) due by December 15th
- [PA DCNR Grants](#) Application Period Jan 1, 2020 – April 22, 2020
- [Keystone Coldwater Conference](#) Feb. 28-29, Ramada Inn State College
- [2020 PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference: A Clear Future for Reclamation](#), June 24-25<sup>th</sup> 2020, Ramada Inn in State College, PA

## Watershed Reports

- Asked the board to help us recommend sites to test low pH AMD sludge for the Rare Earth Elements AML Pilot Project with Tetra Tech: recommendations were 3 Loyalsock treatment systems, Ed's swamp, and the Otto and/or Pine Knot discharge (Leigh Ann has a google point).
- Schuylkill – Reevesdale project complete. Otto AMD rehabilitation designed and took out nonfunctional limestone. West Branch River Corridor project to be restored into a park and functioning floodplain now that coal silt removal (16+ ft. thick in places) is almost complete. Firth Dock (near Rollers Roost 2) was the last stop on the Schuylkill Canal (Christine).
- ARIPPA – approved the \$5K award for next year. Their symposium will be June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza (Cristy)
- Sullivan – Loyalsock Creek treatment systems are working well, let's keep them that way (Corey).
- Nescopeck – Produced their annual newsletter and 2019 stream monitoring results. Would like another plotter print of their results to display at festivals. Recommended macroinvertebrates.org to identify common freshwater macros of Eastern North America (Tim & Gary).
- Luzerne – Nescopeck Report finished. Looking forward to working with Terry O. (formerly with Borton Lawson) at the Earth Conservancy (John L.).
- Catawissa – PennDOT recently removed "entering watershed" signs stating a highway beautification law. They were in the viewscape. The signs were put there by a grant from the state, seems silly. Watershed tour was a success with the help of Christine. QHUP by SRBC will recommend an active treatment plant near Audenreid. Pioneer Tunnel announced a \$400K grant for a "lokie" shed at the "meet the press" event. New mine pump at Blaschak Breaker (Ed).

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

**General Staff**

- Scanned & cataloged 764, georeferenced 62, & 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**
- 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 remainder of 2019 funding & \$38K **Inquiring Systems Inc.** Develop a curriculum & work with schools to implement.
- 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. Writing report which is due by the end of the year.
- Begin “Keeping Communities Flowing” cleanups using \$20K from **American Water Charitable Foundation**
- Continue education program with disadvantaged youth with remainder of \$10K from **Luzerne Foundation**.
- Continue **Huntsville Creek** Cold Water Heritage Plan \$4.75K funding from **PA TU**.
- Finish **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**.
- Continue **RECLAIM** Act outreach and make maps w/ \$3K **Appalachian Voices** grant.
- Plan for the 2020 AMR Conference in June 24-25<sup>th</sup> 2020, Ramada Inn in State College, PA with **AMR Conference Committee**. Maintain [treatminewater.com](http://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](http://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.
- Create monthly progress reports, post them to the EPCAMR website and send to **PA DEP BCR Section 319 Program** along with an invoice of time and resources spent for reimbursement.
- Harvest, dry, process, package, and inventory Iron Oxide products to sell online.

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