

EPCAMR 2021 3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – August 18th

Zoom Conference Call

11:00AM Discussion and Correspondence

Info.
Portion

- None worthy of mentioning

Robert

12:00PM

Call to Order Business Meeting: (virtual roll call) Dr. Joe Simons, Cristine Haldeman, Cristy Sweeny, Bernie McGurl, Alana Mauger, Mike Korb, Angela Meck (quorum), Ed Wytovich, Dr Andrea Nerozzi, Dr. Ken Klemow, Eric Naguski, Gary Leander, Quinn Hartung, Nathan Brophy, Ben Paul, Michael Hewitt, Robert Hughes, Steve Cornia, Laura Rinehimer, Denise Hernandez, and Shawnese Taylor

President

Begin
Business
Portion of
Meeting

Minutes from Last Mgt. (May 20th): File for Audit (Joe, Cristy & All)

Secretary

Treasurer's Report

- See Balance Sheet, Open Sales Orders, Jobs List and Grant Prospects
- File for Audit: Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (Bernie, Ken & All)
- Question on grants that were denied. Remind our representatives (Meuser and Cartwright) that ARC funding was denied and is needed in the region. Little Leaf may just fund it on their own. Will follow up with Techios and WWSA.

Treasurer

AMR Program Reports (3 minutes each; [PowerPoint Presentation](#))

Staff

Questions/suggestions on AMR reports:

- Dr. Simons asked about Lycoming Creek visit. Staff suggested that existing limestone diversion well needs a refill on Rock Run in Lycoming County.
- Regarding temperature monitoring, testing to see if the study will help determine flow losses without having to deploy transducers which could be expensive. Many uses in the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys. Bernie mentioned many examples of flow losses (ex. Eddy Creek) and gains to the Lackawanna River (multiple discharges).
- Dr. Klemow asked about current technology for stream sealing? USGS grout and foam which did not work well in Nanticoke Watershed. Christine used bentonite clay on Wheeler Run seems to work the best but tends to be expensive, geotextile liner put it in deep or it will peel up if the water gets under it and rock seems to slip and slide. Suggested a geomat like they used on the I99 project so the soil and rock will bind to it. Eric mentioned that fabric filled with concrete is semi-permeable worked Bear Creek AMD discharge and Reservoir Creek Project in Nanticoke.
- Regarding video production, Bernie suggested we bring Brook and Rainbow to LCRA Riverfest in September.
- Dr. Klemow asked Are there studies that show how AMD is assimilated into the river? Portions are orange then it fades. Does iron re-reduce or re-dissolve to disappear again? Contact John Clune about a study on the Susquehanna to see impacts of AMD on different sections and if metals are redissolving or potential sediment transport studies. Dr Mangan from Kings College has long term data on the Susquehanna showing AMD attenuation over the years. Also Jennifer Elich (sp?) professor from Susquehanna University is another data source.
- Encouraged sign up for PA AMR Conference and free exhibits for nonprofits (schools and colleges). Can the virtual tours be captured later for K-12 or college viewing? Yes, after the conference these will be posted to YouTube.
- Regarding EE, AMD outfalls are very memorable for tours even decades later (sights, smells..). SHA has 2 teachers involved on board: Tamaqua teacher takes her students to Mary D Treatment System every year. Blue Mountain has

Respective Comm.
Chairs

been state and national Envirothon champions for years and they have also been involved in AMD treatment. Angela Meck is a Blue Mountain Envirothon alum.

Committee Reports (a Zoom Pro link can be setup for committee meetings)

- AdHoc Communications: Report by Chair; Alana could not stay as she was dealing with flooding issues with the Red Cross.
- Strategic Planning Committee: met to finish Action Plan Items; [Strategic Plan Updates 2020-2025](#) draft document completed
- Education & Science Committee: newly formed; needs to set a date to meet. Made up a mission statement for the committee and potentially objectives and tasks to help support the staff. Add science back into the name. Look at a data repository for sampling data and publish to the scientific community.

Old Business

- None

President

Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.

New Business

- Moved to approve committee decision(s)
- Nominating Committee: Moved to Nominate and Reelect Current Officers (Bernie, Ken & All) Reach out to nominating committee (board members and member organizations) to suggest other officers and board members.
- Motion to adjourn business portion of the meeting (Cristy, Bernie & All)

President

1:00PM

Next Meeting: *Tentatively November 18th, 2021 11:00AM (possibly virtual)*

President

Info. Portion of Meeting

Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops

Robert

- Educational Video Filming with ISI & Centone Prod. August 20 & 21st
- Catawissa Creek Tour with CCRA, August 26
- [Environmental Workforce Training: Intro to Brownfields Workshop](#), on August 27, 9AM-4PM at the Earth Conservancy
- Chesapeake Watershed AMD Tour for the Gunston School, August 30th, 12-4PM led by EPCAMR
- PA DEP Section 319 Program/US EPA Region III, September 7th, Virtual
- [PennFuture's 2021 Celebrating Women in Conservation Awards](#), September 9th, 6-8PM (Virtually and in-person in Scranton, PA)
- [PA Council of Trout Unlimited Annual Meeting](#), September 18th at Kinton's Knob, Bedford, PA,
- Luzerne/Lackawana PSU Master Watershed Stewards Tour, Sept. 25
- Lackawanna River Fest is September 25th
- [2021 Schuylkill Watershed Congress](#), September 20th-24th, Virtual
- Middle Susquehanna RiverKeeper Board Retreat, Sept. 26, Laporte, PA
- [2021 PA AMR Virtual Conference](#) using WHOVA, October 27-28

Watershed Reports

All

Wilkes University – (Dr. Klemow) Team of students working on Avondale Reclamation site. Trees are surviving and growing especially aspen... staghorn sumac is volunteering

NEPA – (Dr. Simons) worked with a group in his wild trout man persona on the web and social media.

ARIPPA – (Cristy) Co-Gen facility in WV received [2021 Power Award from Power Magazine](#). Air emissions study vs leaving the waste coal on the ground underway by TRC. Stronghold Digital Mining starting to purchase co-gen plants.

Nescopeck Creek – (Gary) chemistry and macro testing program continues. Nutrients added. ALLARM measuring nutrients on Wapwallopen as well. The Nescopeck looks great, but only 3 macros.

Shamokin Creek - Ben Paul working with SCRA water quality probe. Tetra Tech has been involved looking at treatment systems and water quality monitoring.

Lackawanna River - There are a couple USGS Stream Gauge stations on the Lackawanna and the Lackawanna Conservation District is working on adding some Mayfly Monitoring Stations to measure continual temperature, conductivity and water level. DEP is monitoring Aylesworth Creek to potentially remove the dam that feeds the Watershed 2000 limestone drain AMD treatment system. Several great stream projects were funded by the county under Watershed 2000.

Links from the chat:

[RECLAIM ACT Link](#)

[AML Reauthorization Link](#)

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill link](#)

[App Voices Front Porch Blog Link](#)

[PA AML Campaign Link](#)

[2021 PA AMR Conference link](#)

[Swoyersville AMLER Project link](#)

[NFWF Southern Wyoming Valley American Black Duck and Trout Habitat Assessment link](#)

[Stronghold Digital Mining bitcoin to help co-gen plants with revenue](#)