

EPCAMR 2023 4th Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes – December 14th

EPCAMR Office / EC Conference Room / [Zoom](#)

11:00AM	Discussion and Correspondence	
Info. Portion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commonwealth of PA DEP Contractor Operator Approval License Renewal (in good standing until 8/31/2024) related to Swoyersville ProjectWCRA recent dissolution and concern for future O&M of limestone dosing.PA DEP Section 319 Growing Greener Grant for EPCAMR Awarded a 2-year grant in the amount of \$260,000 on October 20, 2023. NeedEPCAMR to receive \$4000 from Columbia University to participate in a Rare Earth Elements AMD Sampling and Pressure Transducer Installation Project in the Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley starting this Fall 2023. Demonstrated stilling well.HR Resolution 185 Geothermal Energy Projects Feasibility Study using AML	Executive Director
12:00PM	Call to Order Business Meeting: Attendance: Dr. Joe Simons III, Christine Haldeman, Cristy Sweeney, Bernie McGurl, Ed Wytovich, Cheryl Brobst, Tim Ference (quorum), Dr. Ken Klemow, Leigh Ann Henry, Mike Sauers, Brenna Schneider, Chelsea Tarbell, Bobby Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Denise Hernandez, Shawnese Taylor, Frank Sindaco, and Laura Rinehimer	President
Begin Business Portion of Meeting	<p>Minutes from Last Mgt. (August 17th): <u>Filed for Audit</u> (Cheryl, Bernie, & All)</p> Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">See Balance Sheet, Open Sales Orders, Jobs List and Grant Prospects; Questions on CCRA Stream Access Fund and staff will get that to into a PennVest account.<u>Filed for Audit:</u> Checking & PA Invest Account Balances (Bernie, Ed & All)Kohanski & Co. CP-CPA working on completing 2022 Audit and 2022 990s AMR Program Reports (3 minutes each; PowerPoint ; Staff Reports on website) <ul style="list-style-type: none">New MSI grant work migration to QA/QC other grantee's work starting with Southern field and georeferencing remaining scanned maps for the first year, Western Middle for the second year, Eastern Middle field and some 3D modeling for Northern Field for the third year.Reviewed new EPCAMR Environmental Education Website education.epcamr.org, first Keep PA Beautiful Activity Book and Iron Oxide Art Calendar. Committee Reports (a Zoom Pro link can be setup for committee meetings) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Education and Science Committee- met on Sept. 17th, Oct. 7th, & Dec. 13th Minutes and List of opportunities where EPCAMR can get involved in colleges and schools. Exciting opportunities for 3D printing.Strategic Planning Committee- met on Sept. 21st completed review of goalsPersonnel Committee- Met prior to this meeting. Expressed happiness with staff and will provide raise recommendations to Executive Director. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">PA Dept. of Revenue Approved EPCAMR Sales Tax Exemption thru 2028 New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Moved to</u> approve PA DEP Section 319 Program 2-year grant in the amount of \$260,000; e-signatures (Ed, Cheryl, & All)<u>Moved to</u> approve the 2024 Budget (Ed, Cristy, & All)<u>Moved to</u> adjourn the business portion of the meeting (John, Ed, & All)	Secretary Treasurer Staff Respective Comm. Chairs
Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.	Next Meeting: Tentative for 2024: Feb. 15th, May 16th, Aug. 15th & Nov. 21st	President
Info. Portion of Meeting	Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hexagon Project-Theme for 2023 is Environmental Justice; Call for EntriesFull Committee Hearing to Examine the Implementation of Federal AML & AMLER Programs; Nov. 9th @ 10AMGilberton Co-Gen Tour with Wilkes University Dr. Murthy's Class Dec. 1st Noon	Executive Director

- [2023 AML Grants Application Round 3 – Oct. 3rd thru Dec. 2nd, 2023](#)
- [NEPADOC Documentary](#) by Dr. Dave Heineman; Sign up online to be notified of future screenings; See the [Trailer](#)

Watershed Reports

All

Dauphin Co. – WCRA dedicated their remaining funding to dosing for a few months. Dauphin Conservation District may have a role to play. Group discussed getting schools biology club or scout troupes involved. Williams Valley or Upper Dauphin School Districts are there. Do other groups have a “dissolution solution”? For example, Schuylkill Headwaters Association falls back to the Schuylkill Conservation District.

Luzerne Co. – Limestoning of DCNR State Forest Land is recently reported permissible on land (trails) just not streams. Game Commission as well, but sometimes it is a hard sell. Make sure you tie the ecological benefits to species they are concerned about (ex. limestoning for bats - improves macro habitat which grow into the flies that bats eat). Discussed transducers being added to Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley AMD Discharges with Columbia University monitoring project. Consider adding an “air tag” to the transducer in case it is lost downstream (do they work in water?). Design for AML Reclamation work on SGL 260 (Stackhouse Colliery) went in for through Larson Design Group and Luzerne Conservation District will be the sponsor. EPCAMR to submit a Coldwater Heritage Plan (CHP) to pre-assess Little Shickshinny and Paddy Run watersheds. New Jeddo Tunnel USGS Gauge Station up and producing data available online. BAMR taking lab samples (or a coal company with a permit from DMO) but the location of chemical sampling is unknown (above bridge upstream to discharge?). Dr. Klemow working on Avondale ARRI project report and expects completion soon. Conservation district will be planting 1,000 native water willows into river this summer. Looked into Kings and Wilkes to sample and model nutrient, sediment, and/or metals absorption of the study area. Potential for AMD (polishing ponds) and wetland style sewage treatment.

Sullivan Co. – EPCAMR completed the Loyalsock Headwaters Investigation report to sort out acid and thermal pollution sources. Discussion on naturally acidic (bogs) vs. acidified by AMD vs. acidified by precipitation watersheds. All can benefit from land liming to restore/preserve the trout fishery.

Schuylkill Co. – Question about GPR to find near surface mine voids. HDR has used a few different contractors and can provide contacts. Maps are good, but not perfect or georeferenced perfectly. Stream channel restoration designs need more detail of on-the-ground conditions that GPR may provide.

Other Watershed Reports forgone due to time...