

EPCAMR 2024 2nd Quarter Board Meeting

Minutes– May 16th

EPCAMR Office: EC Conference Room & [Zoom](#)

11:00AM	Discussion and Correspondence	
Info. Portion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank You Letter from Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. the EC Press Conf. 4/1• PA Clean Water Legislative Briefing Book 2024-2025 3rd Edition available• Mine Water and the Environment Journal of the International Mine Water Association-Volume 42, No. 4, December 2023 available• Elke Mugova, has online course on mine pools. In German, but translated to English.	Executive Director
12:00PM	Call to Order Business Meeting: Attendance: Cristy Sweeney, Christine Haldeman, Bernie McGurl, Ed Wytovich. Cheryl Brobst, Dr. Ken Klemow, Tara Jones(quorum), Tim Ference, Gary Leander, Leigh Ann Henry, Angela Meck, Brenna Schneider, Jolie Coates, Alan Belles, Duane Feagley, Bobby Hughes, Michael Hewitt, Steve Cornia, Shawnese Taylor, and Frank Sindaco	Vice Pres.
Begin Business Portion of Meeting	Minutes from Last Mgt. (February 15th): File for Audit (Cheryl, Ed, & All)	Secretary
	Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Financial Position Statement, Estimates, Jobs List and Grant Prospects• File for Audit: Checking & PA Invest Account Balances. Questions on discrepancies between QuickBooks Desktop and Online. (Bernie, Christine, & All)• Engagement w/ Kohanski & Co. CPA for 2023 990s & 2023 Audit• Bookkeeper Services provided by Ignite Business Services, Marianne Beane	Treasurer
	AMR Program Reports (3 minutes each; PowerPoint ; Staff Reports on website) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Columbia U REE (Rare Earth Elements) Sampling of Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys discussed. Question on economic viability: what concentration levels are needed? Better to look at loadings or sludges? Columbia U is interested in unoxidized sampling in boreholes. Dr. Rose's Environmental Economics Class at Kings College working on a report with graphics on how REEs are used.	Staff
	Committee Reports (a Zoom Pro link can be setup for committee meetings) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education and Science Committee- had not met in the last quarter. Offered to review of educational or scientific materials.• Strategic Planning Committee- have not met in the last quarter	Respective Comm. Chairs
	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moved to approve contract for Community Watershed Organizations/CDs Survey Work with Stream Restoration Incorporated & WPCAMR for POWR (Ed, Cheryl, & all)	President
Hotlinks in this document will take you to more info.	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moved to approve ARIPPA AML Reclamation Mini-Grant Program Award to Earth Conservancy @ \$4.8K for O&M of Askam Maelstrom Oxidizer TS (Ed, Tim, & All)• Membership Renewals Due; Most have renewed and some new (follow up)• Tabled motion to Nominate Board Members from Membership Campaign• Moved to adjourn the business portion of the meeting (Ed, Cheryl, & all)	President
1:00PM	Next Meeting: <i>Tentative for 2024: August 15th (Annual) & Nov. 21st</i>	President
Info. Portion of Meeting	Grants, Conferences, Events, Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coldwater Heritage Partnership Planning Grant-Open Round Soon; \$7500• Catawissa Creek Restoration Association Mtg- May 16 from 6PM-7PM• USGS Drone Flights Wyoming Valley with EPCAMR & EC on May 20th• Choose Clean Water Coalition Conference-May 20-22 Turf Vly Rst, Ellicott City, MD	Executive Director

- Solomon Cr. Streamside Cleanup / United Way Day of Caring - May 23rd 8AM-Noon
- EPCAMR MWEE Teacher Training Workshop AMD/AML Tour May 28th All Day
- 319 Virtual Watershed Planning & Implementation Meeting-Zoom May 29th 9-Noon
- [ARIPPA 35th Anniversary Conference](#) June 11th [Crowne Plaza, Harrisburg-Hershey](#)
- Penn Anthracite SME exhibit at PA Anthracite Museum June 13th
- [2024 AML Grants Applications: R1 due Apr 15th, R2 due July 19th, & R3 due Nov 8th](#)
- [PROP Recycling Conference](#) on July 24th-26th at the [Wind Creek](#), Bethlehem, PA
- [PA Am. Water/LRCA Wonderful World of Water Camp](#) Aug. 7th @ Valley Library
- [PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference](#)-Oct 24-26 Ramada Inn, State College
- More on Bobby's PowerPoint...

Watershed Reports

All

Shamokin Cr. – Shamokin Creek CREM (Critical and Rare Earth Metals) will also be sampled in culm (PSU and Bucknell U) and water by EPA. SCRA to host a press conference soon, but EPA does not have their press release together yet (may be postponed).

Lackawanna – Pagnotti offered to have a stilling well fabricated and installed on the Old Forge Borehole. EPCAMR to sample with Columbia University. Sediment spill to Roaring Brook from Dunmore #7 reservoir. Pa American Water was working on the dam. PA American Water got their dozer stuck in the Curtis Reservoir shortly after. A lot of sediment flushed into Roaring Brook and Lackawanna River. Pa American Water looking at specific places excavate misplaced sediment. BAMR completed the Yucca Flats in Forest City after about 20 years. Added fishing access. Working on AML Grants to reclaim Popple Colliery site.

Schuylkill – Dr. Laura Schwab at Kutztown U resistivity survey to find voids in West Creek. Looking at Kaska Project for the next resistivity survey (319 Grant). DEP to use a different type technology and compare on West Creek. Areas along 61 need this as well. Interest in presenting to the American Society of Mining Engineers?

Sullivan – Letter out of the blue from DEP that they are going to begin a survey on the Loyalsock Creek and headwaters to designate it as high quality. EPCAMR just studied the headwaters and found them to be impaired with acidity and thermal pollution.

Catawissa Cr. – Oneida #1 may have been the last project funded by Rural Abandoned Mineland Program (RAMP). Tomhicken Creek fish kill a month ago traced back to Humboldt treatment plant. A connected industry was discharging Ammonia. Access Road Audenreid Tunnel and treatment system to be built from Humboldt past the Catawissa Tunnel.

Wyoming Valley - Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA) on Avondale Hill. Working on report soon.

Nescopeck Cr. – Ebensburg BAMR Phase 1 TIP Scope of Work for Jeddo Tunnel. Tetra Tech to apply Internal invite for 3 firms. Jeddo water quality on eMap PA since 1996 Blaschak Coal samples down the road. Samples are held at the Pottsville DMO.