



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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June 2022 Progress Report

Project Coordination

Swoyersville Harry E. Reclamation and Community Athletic Area AMLER Project

- Received a sub-recipient notification letter from the PA DEP BAMR and provided our UEI Number to *Susan Arcuri*, Administrative Assistant to provide us with an updated document; A sub-recipient TIPs sheet was also provided with the letter; EPCAMR has already taken the steps necessary to update our SAM.gov registration and renewal that has been approved; Corrected some invoices for *Gerard Schmidt*-PA DEP BAMR Project Developer and resubmitted them

Bear Creek AMD Treatment Survey, Design, O & M Plan and Permitting Package Project

- Subcontract agreement with SRBC was signed and executed and provided to EPCAMR

Mine Subsidence Mine Mapping Project

- Assisted *Mike* with compiling timesheets and hours of the Staff working on the project for reimbursement to the PA DEP MSI Program by sending out a request for copies of them for all of the first quarter 2022 with the anticipated need for the remainder of them at the end of June, early July for the second quarter; Worked with *Mike* and *Shawnese* to have a georeferenced file corrected and resubmitted since it lacked the proper coordinates, or they were lost during the editing process

NFWF Southern Wyoming Valley Watershed Assessment of American Black Duck Habitat and Trout Stream Habitat for Aquatic Passage

- Reviewed several culvert assessments on Spring Run tributary to Solomon Creek before approving them completed by *Jacob Smith*, EPCAMR volunteer, and a few other volunteers who are certified in Aquatic Organism Protocol training of culverts; Provided comments back to have resubmitted before EPCAMR can approve them in the NAACC database since some crossings are not geographically located where they were anticipated to be located on the mapping system online; Provided *Cheryl Hennessy* and *Nicole Wallace-Cardno*, with our revised QAPP after incorporating all comments and suggestions following our conference call with *Cheryl* to address any deficiencies in the plan since it was our first QAPP; *Tori Sullens*, NFWF requested that EPCAMR make a minor revision to our previously submitted reimbursement request on the online drop down menu and resubmit it for approval; Provided *Levi-Sunday Lefkowitz*, EPCAMR Watershed Intern with a copy of the outline for the grant and directed him to perform a literature search and reference review for documents, plans, assessments, reports for each of the watersheds that we are working in

Just Transition Fund Cycle 2 Planning Grant for Capacity Building Expansion of EPCAMR Solar Project Development

- Worked with *Levi Sunday-Lefkowitz*, EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Intern to provide a photo of a solar array on a slope on abandoned mine lands to fulfill a request from *Paul Golias*, Citizens' Voice, who is preparing to run an article on EPCAMR's outreach efforts on advocating for solar on abandoned mine lands and our efforts to reach landowners state-wide; EPCAMR was asked to participate and send two Staff to the Just Transition Convening Event in Washington DC on September 20-22, 2022; Worked with *Steve Cornia* and *Levi* to create and gather images for a retractable banner poster to highlight our work and outreach to our coalfield communities and partners and followed up with a local printing company to produce the banner; *Steve* and the Executive Director will participate and highlight our work on the Planning Grant and the Solar Suitability Model GIS Tool on Abandoned Mine Lands should we be provided the opportunity to speak as the agenda unfolds in the Fall; Worked with *Linda Smith* to confirm our registration and overnight accommodations that will be covered under a scholarship grant being provided to EPCAMR; Travelled to Hazleton to the PSU Campus with *Kristen Schneider*-Technical Advisor-[PennTAP](#) who invited EPCAMR to talk with some economic developers and municipal folks about the potential for solar on abandoned mine lands as they develop a strategic comprehensive development plan for the Hazleton Area; Downloaded [RMI's](#) "Ensuring an Inclusive Clean Energy Transition" report for review; Added *Kristen Locy*, Outreach Coordinator, for the [Center for Coalfield Justice](#) to EPCAMR's contact database since she offered to put out some information on our work on solar on abandoned mine lands through their organization and social media in southwestern PA; *Duane Feagley*-Executive Director for the [PA Anthracite Council](#) will be putting information in his July newsletter to Anthracite Operators in the NE Region to see if there is any interest in solar development on lands they may own that are still qualified as abandoned mine lands; *Peter T. Wulforst*, AICP, Economic & Community Development Extension Educator and member of the Energy, Business & Community Vitality Programs Extension Team followed up with EPCAMR and was very interested in our efforts on solar on abandoned mine lands and provided EPCAMR with a Fall Training Event that is being put on by the NE Section of the PA American Planning Association, in collaboration with the Luzerne County Planning Commission on September 7, 14, and 21st at King's College on updates to Subdivisions and Land Development Ordinances (SALDO) through a PMPEI Course; Worked with *Levi* to develop a database that centers around reaching out to Chambers of Commerce, County Redevelopment Authorities, and Economic Development Authorities in PA coalfield impacted counties; EPCAMR then followed up with each of them to inform them of our outreach efforts and interest in developing future partnerships focused on their abandoned mine lands in their respective counties for a variety of economic development opportunities; Sent the message that was sent to the Chambers to the EPCAMR Staff doing some outreach at the PA AMR Conference so that they had additional background information available to them; Created a solar on abandoned mine land infographic for social media with *Levi*, EPCAMR Intern with referenced citations and current statistics; EPCAMR Executive Director was asked to once again be a part of a panel for a luncheon webinar on a "*Watts & Learn*" series on [solar development potential on abandoned mine lands](#) with members of a previous panel that got an overwhelming positive response from an Energy Summit earlier in the year; EPCAMR Executive Director provided a presentation for the [PA Solar Center](#) on June 10th; EPCAMR was also able to promote our PA AMR Conference and encourage all the attendees to come out and or sponsor or exhibit in State College on June 22-23rd, 2022; Communicated with *Frankie Hockenbrocht*, MPA and Economic Development Program Analyst for the [SEDA-COG](#) in Northumberland County about our outreach in the County to COGs, EDAs, and Chambers on the subject of solar development on abandoned mine lands to promote local economic development; Introductory conference call with *Michael Biggins*-[Chaberton Energy](#); *Rachel Young*, Just Transition Fund, provided EPCAMR with an

update on the Fall Convening Summit and their new approach to future grant rounds and cycles that they will be announcing in the Fall 2022; She provided a link to the Federal Access RFP; Informed her that we would review the RFP; Began reaching out to County GIS departments for shape files of parcel layers to be able to identify private landowners that might be within areas and own lands that are designed as abandoned mines

ARIPPA EPCAMR Mini-Grant AMD/AML Award for 2022

- EPCAMR reached out to Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance volunteers to obtain a few photos to use for a brief presentation being created by *Anne Daymut*, WPCAMR, that we will use at the ARIPPA Technical Convention in Harrisburg in June to announce that they will become the recipient of the **\$4300** grant to install and construct a leaping weir at Site 48 in the watershed to prevent further sedimentation from stormwater flows from entering the AMD treatment system and will serve as a bypass and a way to measure flow

Healing the Scars with ISI: Year 2 Iron Oxide Short Educational Outreach Video Production

- Submitted a 6-month invoice from January 2022 through June 2022 to ISI after working with *Denise* to prepare the paperwork; EPCAMR signed and received a fully executed copy of the re-grant agreement from ISI for the second year in the amount of **\$29,500**; EPCAMR and ISI will be working with [Reiner Productions](#) for the second video production; *Laura* provided EPCAMR Staff with an outline of the locations and plans for the second video and brief talking points about what highlights we will hit with the video during the last week of September and on October 1st, 2022; Reached out to Underground Miners organization to see if they would allow EPCAMR to utilize some underground mine footage as a potential backdrop for a greenscreen for our video production

AMLER Program- Hollywood Rare Earth Elements/Critical Minerals Pilot Plant (proposed)

- Tetra Tech completed a presentation followed by an open discussion of the potential AMLER project

Technical Assistance

- Rescheduled a meeting with the Scranton Chamber of Commerce and PureGreen BioAg that are interested in looking at abandoned mine lands in the Lackawanna Valley that could potentially become economic development areas for agricultural hemp biopellets production; Provided PureGreen BioAg and Penn-State University a letter of support and budget estimate in a USDA Climate Smart Commodity Grant that has been proposed; Provided PureGreen BioAg with comments and suggestions that were passed along to Dr. R. V. Sairam Rudrabhatla, PhD, PSU Director of Central PA Laboratory for Biofuels; for consideration in the proposal; Passed along a [link](#) to a study from WVU of miscanthus on reclaimed mine lands to PureGreen BioAg; Todd Eachus provided EPCAMR with an update on their meeting at Eckley Miner Village as they consider sites for selection of their mine-land to hemp energy farm project, launching in the Fall of 2022; Their interest in visiting Eckley was to identify a farm location to place our climate smart greenhouse gas emission technologies which will measure carbon capture on a degraded mine site, serving as a national test location for growing industrial hemp and lowering greenhouse gases; Eckley was willing to host a future convening of community stakeholders
- Provided *Kitty Davis*, BEG Group, with some information on the Askam AMD Maelstrom Oxidizer Treatment System on EC land in Hanover Township, Luzerne County, PA with permission from *Terry Ostrowski*, EC

- Reached out to *Jacob Tomlinson*, Manager of the PA Coldwater Habitat Program, Trout Unlimited to see who filled *Shawn McAdams* position in the Habitat Restoration Division that designs culvert replacements; *Tim Williams*, ARM Group was interested in connecting up with the new staff position and EPCAMR was unsure of who the new person was that filled Shawn's role
- Followed up with *Nick Lylo*, PA DCNR following a request for the final report and the State Forest Research Agreement results that was provided to SRBC under a separate Consumptive Use Feasibility Study in the Black Creek Watershed for the Mocanaqua AMD Tunnel Mne Pool; PA DCNR is working with PA DEP BAMR in the Teasdale area on a potential reclamation project proposal and was interested in our final results and report; Coordinated with *Tom Clark*, AMD Basin Coordinator for SRBC to release the report to PA DCNR
- Provided *Tom Mayka*, Stormwater GIS Coordinator for Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) with an EPCAMR Letter of Support for their Growing Greener grant to fund the implementation of some stormwater projects in the Toby Creek Watershed; They've cited EPCAMR's completion of the Coldwater Conservation Plan through the Coldwater Heritage Partnership in their grant and were partners with EPCAMR during the completion of the Upper Toby Creek and Lower Toby Creek/Huntsville Creek CHPs
- *Cristy Sweeney*, ARIPPA talked with *Sam Lamport* from Knouse Foods regarding the limestone bricks; Each bag weighs 50 pounds; She will pick up a few bags and drop them off for EPCAMR to test out and see if there are interested watershed groups that would like to place them in an acid discharge or seep to see if they will help to increase the pH of the discharge; They can keep bags onsite and can be picked up as needed if we determine they are beneficial
- *Judy Jordan*, [Parsons](#), requested any contacts within the PA DEP to see if they would be interested or are familiar with methane biofilters that treat methane emissions; Parsons would like to pilot them and are interested in locating some areas, possibly a mine fire, for a demonstration project; Directed her to Jon Smoyer, PA DEP BAMR
- Talked with *Dr. Ken Klemow*, Wilkes University and EPCAMR Board Member about getting together over the Summer to figure out how EPCAMR can mash up and integrate a lot of historic water quality data files that he has archived for several watersheds in the lower Wyoming Valley, particularly the Nanticoke and Newport Creeks from his past work with Earth Conservancy; He will also be looking at empirical data from the Avondale Hill Tree Reforestation Project in Plymouth Township, Luzerne County as well and compiling student research

Datashed

After reviewing the website for *Cliff Denholm*, SRI, EPCAMR suggested that the floating stickies at least let you refer to the parameters in the database; Otherwise, scrolling back to the top is kind of a nuisance and it's easy to forget the column you are looking at when you are looking across all the numbers; It would be nice to still know the column that the numbers are referring to at the top of the page if there was a freeze pane or the floating sticky labels

Loyalsock Creek Watershed AMD Treatment System Monitoring

- Coordinated with Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association and Lycoming College Professor, *Dr. Leslie Rieck*, about coming out and monitoring with EPCAMR during the month of July since June's schedule doesn't work for them; Talked with *Frank Sindaco*, EPCAMR about the possibility of pulling together a video of the 3 treatment systems in time for the PA AMR Conference after taking some rough footage while sampling in May, however, there just wasn't

enough time and there was audio issues with the GoPro we were using that would have made it difficult to hear the narration and we needed more hands to video and get good angles; Reviewed the footage and decided there was much more editing work than was worth it the first time around; We're going to table the idea and think about a future video production effort when we have more time to plan and implement and secure some additional funding

Education & Outreach

- Provided a quote to *Renee Reber*, Campaign Manager for Watershed Advocacy, for PennFuture to use in a press release on EPCAMR's support on why we need clean water funding, the importance of Growing Greener III, and the Clean Streams Fund
- Provided *Paul Golias*, Citizens' Voice with a contact for one our EPCAMR volunteers, Jeff Crum, that checks on the apple trees in Centralia, every now and then; Paul looked to contact him to see how they were growing and fruiting after a little over a year after being planted
- Provided additional background documentation and clarification to *Michael Mehrazar*, PennFuture, for the draft Common Environmental Agenda document related to the updating of the Environmental Education Standards by the PA Department of Education and a large working committee state-wide that has been broken down into various groups by education level being taught, public school teachers, outdoor environmental education centers, non-traditional environmental non-profit organizations, and others; Provided some EPCAMR photos to *Cecily Harwitt*, in case she wanted to include them in the Common Environmental Agenda document
- Provided *Justin Dula*, Executive Director, PA DEP Office of Environmental Justice with a notice about an event for the [National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee](#) that will be taking place on the 22nd and 23rd of June, 2022, the same time as our PA AMR Conference in State College; The primary purpose of this meeting is for the NEJAC to finalize advice and recommendations on EPA's investments to address environmental justice through the Justice40 Initiative; EPCAMR doesn't think that the PA EJAB has typically provided comments in the past on NEJAC and not sure if there is a role for us to play, however, EPCAMR has already submitted public to the White House EJAC related to abandoned mines and AMD and EJ in our coalfield communities; EPCAMR isn't sure of the overlap between the WHEJAC and the NEJAC; Forwarded an update from the Council on Environmental Quality on the [Justice40 Initiative](#) to the PA AML Campaign that lists covered program areas, including those agencies within USDOJ
- *Katie Dunbar*, Bucks County, PA reached out to find out more about EPCAMR and requested an interview with the Executive Director to find out more on our mission and projects; She was exploring a career in grant writing and was interested in learning how EPCAMR funds our programs; She loved our creative ideas, projects, and programs on our website; Provided her with a Zoom Interview in late May and she followed up in June with a note to EPCAMR thanking the Executive Director for his candor and insight; She also provided EPCAMR with some ideas of where else to find some funding sources that are more for organizational capacity to try and secure multi-year funding streams to be able to bring on Staff to full-time for multi-year projects
- The passage of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977 had the intent of ensuring adequate funds for reclaiming coal mines forfeited by coal companies but, some states enacted unreliable bonding programs leaving extremely inadequate funds for reclamation; EPCAMR signed on to an RECLAIM Coalition support letter and House Natural Resources Committee letter, for the passage of the RENEW Act introduced by PA Representative *Conor Lamb*; The RENEW Act would appropriate \$386 million per year to the

Office of Surface Mining & Reclamation Enforcement (OSMRE) allowing states to cover their reclamation bond shortfalls ([Read more about the bill here](#))

- Followed up with *Carl Rodzewich*, Tetra Tech to update him on some recent activities that we have been involved with regionally on a number of projects and proposals with *Eric Cavazza*, *Mike Korb*, and *Heather Trexler*
- Coordinated with partners in the Catawissa Creek Watershed that will be holding a watershed festival on July 30, 2022 at Cara Park, Catawissa; EPCAMR to set up and tie dye t-shirts with AMD and have donated several dozen youth sized shirts to the effort
- EPCAMR Staff participated in a [Virtual Public Briefing Regarding Guidance on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Abandoned Mine Land Grant Implementation | Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement \(osmre.gov\)](#)
- EPCAMR received a link to a video produced by the Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist and EPCAMR Board Member, *John Levitsky* and EPCAMR President, *Dr. Joseph Simons* with funding from the PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD) that showcases the importance of clean water and how a pristine PA mountain stream is impacted by pollution as the water flows downstream to the Susquehanna River and on to the Chesapeake Bay; Shared the amazing cinematography video on our social media outlets; [We Are All A Part](#); It was shared with the PEC Clean Water Advisory Committee that is working with the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority on outreach and educational efforts
- EPCAMR made an informal virtual introduction to [Dr. Joseph Ranalli](#), PhD, Associate Professor of Engineering and Alternative Energy & Power Generation Coordinator for Penn-State Hazleton; *Krista L. Schneider*, PENNTAP, at Penn-State Hazleton introduced us in the hopes of a future student collaborative project where he leads his capstone project over a 2-semester sequence where they collect info from their client and literature in the Fall, perform the analysis, and identify possible conceptual design solutions, and then in the Spring, students work on their design solution; He thought that maybe in 2023 there could be a potential for a proposed project, should funding become available for solar development on abandoned mine lands in the Hazleton Area
- Informed *Donnas Gillis*, WVSA Public Outreach Coordinator that EPCAMR plans on a few small cleanups in the Mill and Gardner Creek watersheds later in the Summer, early Fall 2022 with some funding we received from PA American Water; They would like to partner with us
- Provided *Sarma V Pisupati* | Professor of [Energy and Mineral Engineering](#) and [Chemical Engineering](#) and Director, [Center for Critical Minerals](#) | College of Earth and Mineral Sciences | Co-Director, Coal Science and Technology Program, EMS Energy Institute| with the scheduler contact for *Laura Daniel Davis*, from USDOl, who was a keynote speaker at our PA AMR Conference on the 22nd of June
- Provided *Melissa Wade*, Co-Producer and Podcaster, for We're Here with links to information on EPCAMR and ARIPPA that she'll include in her podcast on their tour of the Anthracite Region on their website on June 24th when it posts
- Several of the EPCAMR Staff released **64** rainbow trout on June 30th in the approved trout stocked waters of Harvey's Creek in Luzerne County, along Pavlick Road, Plymouth Township after raising them from eggs to nearly 4" fingerlings as a part of the [Trout in the Classroom](#) PG

- Conference call with Staff from the Geisinger Foundation

Keep PA Beautiful Anti-Litter Campaign Update on Materials and Curriculum

- Provided *Brady Mock*, Graphic Designer/Illustrator with an update on the draft professional services agreement, W-9, and 1099-MISC, to create the new illustrations for the 5 Open Your Eyes to Litter books for KPB and EPCAMR; Prepared the draft agreement and shared it with *Laura Rinehimer*, EPCAMR Education Specialist for her review and comment

Askam in Wonderland: A Virtual Reality AMD Watershed Experience Environmental Education Project

- Requested a signed support letter from *Elizabeth Hughes*, Earth Conservancy to provide to the PA DEP EE Grant Office; *Elizabeth* provided EPCAMR with a signed copy to send along to *Kathleen Banski*; EPCAMR commitment letter was provided to *Kathleen* as well; Made a minor budget revision to the grant and resubmitted it to *Kathleen*; Copied *Laura Rinehimer* on all the changes for the grant as they continue to finalize the paperwork

Conferences, Training, Webinars, Tours, Exhibits, & Workshops

- Communicated with Climeco Staff, *Allyson Ulsh* and *Dr. Scott Subler*, PhD, who both will be attending the PA AMR Conference in the middle of this month and scheduled some time to talk with them about their company profile and type of work they do in the reclamation and AMD treatment industry; Communicated with the PA AMR Conference Committee about *Donna Wagner's* attendance at the Conference Dinner on Wednesday evening to receive her Mayfly Award based on talks with her husband, *Russ Wagner*; Provided *Anne* with the correct spelling of *Tim Ferrence's* name for the other Mayfly Award who will receive his award at the luncheon on Wednesday; [Local Drone Work To Be Featured At PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference](#); A YouTube [link](#) to the great work that will be presented by *Jeff Herb*, volunteer with the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance (SCRA) will be showcased; We'll showcase at the WPCAMR Exhibit a [video](#) from WPSU from the Moshannon Creek Watershed and on the EPCAMR Exhibit, a looped series of [videos](#) and drone footage from across PA related to AMD/AML; Requested and received a sponsorship logo from *Joe Greco*, BEG Group; Worked with *Edward Hamilton*, Reviewed the final survey questions from *Anne* for the PA AMR Conference; Scheduler for US Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary [Laura Daniel-Davis](#) to firm up her presentation slot and speaking engagement and AV connection prior to the conference; Received a solid confirmation from *Chris Casper* from the Economic Development Agency (EDA) on his virtual presentation on funding opportunities and programs within the EDA; [Earth Conservancy](#) became a **\$1000** conference sponsor; [Kleinfelder](#) became a **\$750** sponsor; [Hedin Environmental](#) became an exhibitor; [PA Chapter of the Native Fish Coalition](#) will be exhibiting; Coordinated with the Planning Committee on the second day introduction of *Cindy Adams Dunn-PA DCNR*; Dr. *Daniel Snowden*, D. Ed. PA DEP provided some interesting topics for consideration for the 2023 PA AMR Conference including using AMD to Create Pigments, potential for renewable energy development on previously mined lands, and using AMD sludge to remove phosphorus and oxyanions from wastewater; Convened the PA AMR Conference and all presentations are on the www.treatminewater.com site; **158** attendees between in-person and virtual attendees; The PA AMR Conference Committee scheduled a post conference evaluation in July
- Attended the ARIPPA Technical Convention in Harrisburg with *Anne Daymut-WPCAMR* to receive the mini-grant subaward that will be provided to the [Shamokin Creek Restoration](#)

[Alliance](#) in July 2022 for the construction and installation of a leaping weir at the Site 48 AMD Treatment system in the watershed; EPCAMR and WPCAMR highlighted our longstanding partnership and support of the ARIPP Co-Gen Industry and thanked the trade association for their continued financial support of the mini-grant program and for partnering with the both of us on education and outreach opportunities to highlight our collective successes in reclamation, AMD treatment, and partnerships across the Commonwealth in coalfield communities; Exhibited at the Convention and networked with many vendors, consultant firms, and other trade groups, in the reclamation industry

- Scheduled a tour with *Dr. Richard Crane*, Senior Lecturer in Sustainable Mining from the Camborne School of Mines & Environment & Sustainability Institute, University of Exeter, College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Penryn, Cornwall, UK; He would like to visit the Swoyersville AML Reclamation site and some AMD sites on July 21st, 2022 with EPCAMR; Coordinate a site visit with *Hank Zielinski* over at the site of our ongoing work; He's running a an EU funded research project called [MINRESCUE](#) which is examining methods for the valorization of legacy coal waste
- Shared the *2022 Appalachian Region Reforestation Initiative (ARRI) Conference*, Wyndham Hotel, Elkins, West Virginia, on August 17-18th, 2022 with *Allyson Ulsh*, ClimeCo, who EPCAMR thought might have an interested in attending since they are working on reforestation and carbon credit projects

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reconciled EPCAMR's Checking Account and PA Invest Accounts; Paid Health Care Premiums for EPCAMR Staff for June 2022 with Highmark; Paid Verizon and Internet monthly bills; Paid EC the rent; Made deposits to FNB for incoming reimbursements, checks, and accounts receivables; Provided *Denise* with a copy of the May 2022 FNB Statement
- Completed the June 2022 Monthly Report for both the 319 Program and for the Board Reporting and forwarded it to *Mike*; Worked with *Trish Attardo*, PA DEP 319 Program to resubmit our previous month's request for reimbursement as an unlocked PDF so that the Grants Center doesn't have an issue with the electronic signature
- Informed *Walt Dietz*, PA Fish & Boat Commission that EPCAMR had received the new codes from the HR department to register and renew as a volunteer with the PA Fish & Boat Commission; Looking for an open window to schedule the fingerprinting session and to complete the registration clearance process
- EPCAMR Executive Director submitted an agreement to two additional clauses that were added to the ITQ Registration Process as a Vendor/Subcontractor for the Commonwealth of PA Department of General Services
- Updated EPCAMR's renewal information in the SAM.gov system for Award Management that is tied to the procurement process and the CFR 200; Forwarded a note to *Mike Hewitt*, who is a secondary point of contact in SAM for EPCAMR
- Provided *Mike* with a copy of the revised Goals and Accomplishments [Form](#) *Trish Attardo*, from PA DEP 319 Program sent to EPCAMR that we will use for our final report on our grant

- The Just Transition Fund requested EPCAMR's participation in a survey as a grantee that is being administered through the [Center for Effective Philanthropy](#) (CEP), an independent non-profit organization, to conduct a confidential survey of its grantees; The Just Transition Fund will draw on your insights to better understand its strengths and how it can improve its work, including how it engages with grantees EPCAMR Executive Director completed the survey
- EPCAMR reached out to County Action Plan (CAP) Coordinators within the Region to inform them that we were applying for a 319 Growing Greener grant to provide continued Technical Assistance and Coordination within the EPCAMR Region on a multi-county level with AMD remediation, watershed assessments, development of watershed restoration plans, education and outreach, and related guidance to community groups and Conservation Districts and their watershed partners within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Since the Commonwealth has a new application process and form, we reached out to them to make them aware that we were applying; EPCAMR worked with many of them in the region on the development or providing comments to the CAP process; Communicated with *Trish Attardo*, 319 Program Manager and informed her that Mike and I would be preparing the grant a week before the PA AMR Conference since the deadline for submission of the grant is June 24, 2022, just a day after the Conference in State College; *John Levitsky*, Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist provided EPCAMR with a letter of support for our submission; Josh Glace, informed EPCAMR that we didn't have to have a signed document from him for the 319 Grant submission since the grant is not eligible for implementation funds under the CAP
- Coordinated with all the EPCAMR Staff and provided them with expectations while attending the PA AMR Conference on June 22-23rd in State College, so that we can all take full advantage of the networking opportunities and chance to build new partners in the region
- *Denise, Laura, and Shawnese* requested an opportunity to attend a Women's Quest Training for professional development including wilderness first aid other outdoor education skills in late July 2022 that was approved by the Executive Director
- EPCAMR Staff received a letter from the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (OIEA), on behalf of the US Secretary of the Interior, *Deb Haaland*, who valued our engagement and on the tour that EPCAMR and several board members provided a few months ago on abandoned mine lands and AMD impacted watersheds in the Wyoming Valley
- Received and reviewed the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Request For Information ([RFI](#)) to form a **\$500** million program funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to place clean energy demonstration projects on current or former mine lands across America and an [announcement](#) to go along with it; State Rep. *Aaron Kaufer* (Luzerne) and Rep. *Joe Webster* (Montgomery) will be introducing a [resolution](#) to study the usage of geothermal energy in AML
- Sent a reminder to all EPCAMR Staff about returning to work 2 days a week to check in and still remain some flexibility by working remotely the remainder of the week starting after the 4th of July weekend; Scheduled a Staff Meeting for July 6th
- Informed our CPA that EPCAMR received an approval letter from the IRS for the Form 8868, Application Extension of Time to File an Exempt Organization Return, with the new date of November 15, 2022; Provided our CPA with the December 2021 First National Bank Statement; EPCAMR Executive Director will complete the reconciliation process in Quickbooks and send over the Accountant's Copy through December 2021 for the completion of the 990