



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

**Robert E. Hughes, *Executive Director***

101 South Main Street

Ashley, PA 18706

Phone: (570) 371-3523

E-mail: [rhughes@epcamr.org](mailto:rhughes@epcamr.org)

Website: [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org)

### May 2019 Progress Report

#### **Project Coordination**

##### ***Upper Toby Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan Project***

- Conducted 2 days of field assessment in the Toby Creek watershed with Tom Mayka, DAMA, his intern from PSU W-B, and EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Specialist Intern Lauren Perry; Tom provided EPCAMR with the GPS coordinates of all the locations visited in a KMZ file; Forwarded all previous KMZ files from Tom to Lauren to incorporate into a Google Locations Map where she was matching up photos to the actual locations in the field, including the DAMA Stormwater Projects Locations list; Worked with Laura to begin identifying all points of interest in the watershed on a map

##### ***Huntsville Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan Project***

- Met with Sean Banul to review his photo inventory of the culverts in the Huntsville Creek watershed

##### ***Solomon Creek Dam Removal and Trout Habitat Improvement Project***

- Obtained permission from the Borough Manager of Ashley, Greg Gulick to install the interpretive signage for the project near the entrance to the park alongside two of the other dedication markers adjacent to the location of the former dam up along the hill; EPCAMR Staff set the position of the interpretive panel display in the same orientation as the final design graphic that is shown on the panel describing the project, the partners, and what work was completed; Measured the width between the posts and proceeded to begin the digging of the two holes to set the posts in cones with poured concrete at the base

##### ***Abraham Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan Project***

- Submitted the Final revised Excel Budget Report to Ashley Wilmot, PA Council of Trout Unlimited in their new format for submission; Worked with Denise to prepare the Final Budget Report; EPCAMR is still coordinating with Kathleen Lavelle to get back into the watershed for some additional electroshocking and were hesitant to include her draft report; EPCAMR will submit it as an addendum to the CHP once they are complete with the final report. She has been in touch with Gavin to coordinate getting back out into the watershed

##### ***Mocanaqua AMD Mine Pool Consumptive Use Feasibility Study Project***

- Submitted to Pierre MaCoy-SRBC the narrative reports and Invoices for Phase 1 & 2 Updates for the project along with our EPCAMR Invoices from January 1, 2019 through March 31st, 2019

### ***Harry E. Breaker Swoyersville Bank Reclamation PA AML Pilot Project***

- Submitted revised EPCAMR Invoice 2 and related documentation to Gerard Schmidt, PA DEP BAMR for review and approval for submission for reimbursement; Informed Keystone Reclamation of the submission; Gerard suggested that Keystone submit their invoices at least a week following their monthly hauling reports to the Co-Gen Plants to make some of the accounting more simplified and EPCAMR informed Keystone of that suggestion; Requested a copy of the April PA DEP Pottsville DMO Inspection Report to send along to PA DEP BAMR, if it was provided to Keystone Reclamation already and was informed that it had not been received yet; Joe McCarthy-PA DEP Pottsville DMO provided EPCAMR with an electronic copy of the Inspection on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 and it will be forwarded to Gerard with the next reimbursement in June for May's culm waste hauling from the site

### ***Rare Earth Elements PA AML Pilot Project Proposal with Tetra-Tech (proposed)***

- EPCAMR was an original partner with WPCAMR on this proposal and was going to collect 25 samples of AMD throughout the Anthracite Region; WPCAMR decided not to pursue the grant application, so EPCAMR was asked to take the lead and a presentation was made by Tetra-Tech at our Quarterly Board Meeting to approve moving forward with developing the proposal further for submission and determining EPCAMR's role and budget for the overall project; Reviewed the presentation prior to the Board Meeting presented by Tetra-Tech; Penn-State University is even opening a [Center](#) to focus on the REEs and EPCAMR will be following up with them

### ***Alternative Fuels Plant Reuse of Decommissioned Coal and Co-Gen Plants Proposal (proposed)***

- Reviewed Ed Wytovich's comments on an initial idea to take a closer look at decommissioned coal and co-gen plants for alternative energy production facilities such as wind or solar power farms; Ed has forwarded his comments to Senator Dave Argall for his review and consideration; Received comments from Cristy Sweeney at ARIPPA who will be presenting the idea at the June 13<sup>th</sup> ARIPPA Board Meeting for discussion since 2 Co-Gen plants have recently closed down; EPCAMR may be able to assist with some GIS services to interested private partners; Here's a link to an article on transforming former coal-fired plant sites: <https://www.npr.org/2019/05/23/724454774/finding-new-opportunity-for-old-coal-fired-power-plant-sites>; Cristy suggested reaching out to PA DCED and Denise Brinley, Executive Director at the PA Governor's Office of Energy to discuss the recent Co-Gen plants that have retired

### ***Keep PA Beautiful Camera Surveillance Loan Program***

- Travelled to Centralia to pull the SD cards from the 3 surveillance cameras set up by EPCAMR and Rob Dubas- KPB to see if there has been any illegal dumping activities going on around the Borough; Reported back to Rob on information and footage that was gathered and completed a Summary Progress Report and submission for his review as well as sent along image files through a Dropbox Folder that has been dedicated to this effort; Informed Tom Hynoski and some of our supporters with the Wicked Jeeps Off-Road ATV Coal Region club who help out at our annual cleanups of the placement of the cameras; Made a second trip two weeks later to download the images and replace the batteries again with fully charged batteries

### ***Growboxx Food by Youth, Reclaiming Our Backyards in the Coalfields Project***

- ISI and John Welsh completed a final edit of our collective short film introduction to the Growboxx Reclaiming Our Backyards project and sent it along to EPCAMR for our use with the schools and program partners in the community; Denise, Laura, and EPCAMR Executive Director led several curriculum lesson plans in Mr. Grant's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class (**28**) at Greater Nanticoke Area Elementary Center to kickoff the Growboxx project and provided ISI with an update following the program and some pictures of the active participation of the students with the EPCAMR Staff; ISI informed EPCAMR that 400 WaterBoxxes that were shipped to Ethiopia finally arrived in Mekelle, in the northern portion of the country; 2 schools there will have them in 3 classrooms; EPCAMR hopes to be able to interact with the students internationally through a live feed through iPads as a part of the program with our classrooms here in the Wyoming Valley; Participated in a conference call with ISI to provide Claudia and Pam with an update

### ***Plainsville AMD EE Project***

- Provided Kathleen Banksi-PA DEP EE with a previously submitted copy of our Final Report and our Final Expenditure Report for the grant since it was misplaced as the State migrated to their new online e-Grants system; EPCAMR provided her with a video of the fly-over of the [Plainsville AMD Borehole](#) that was completed by one of our former interns Scott Cimakosky

### **Technical Assistance**

- Provided Kent Jackson-Hazleton Standard Speaker with a link to an article that EPCAMR had researched about cadmium and its effects on trees and plants; There is a lot of research on it out there; <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00380768.2011.608196>
- Provided a Letter of Support to Liz Hughes-Earth Conservancy for their submission of another round of Environmental Workforce Training funding from the US EPA Region III
- Followed up with Mike Dunn-OSMRE, Pittsburgh to discuss dates for a Summer/early Fall EarthVision Training at the EPCAMR Office; Will work with Mike to gather special topics and potential dates with the Staff to hold the 2 day training
- Offered some technical assistance to Dana Kuhnline-Appalachian Voices to pull together some e-AMLIS statistics for several Central Appalachian states if she provided EPCAMR which ones that she was targeting
- Gabby Zawacki-DHL Supply Chain, requested the use of some EPCAMR Fishing Poles for some of her associates to learn how to fish through our Loaner Tackle Program with the PA Fish & Boat Commission; Conal Herron, Watershed Outreach Specialist Intern re-lined 5 dozen poles and had them prepared for public use within a day's time
- Talked with Kenneth Pantuck-Senior Environmental Scientist with the US EPA Region III Water Division-State Assistance and Partnerships Branch, who is interested in looking at biochar to promote its production and use as a means to deal with the excessive manure buildup at poultry and dairy cow operations in the Chesapeake Bay watershed on abandoned mine lands; Biochar has shown to be beneficial in a variety of ways: stormwater management, as an ag soil amendment to increase crop

yields, and to remediate abandoned mine lands and brownfields; Biochar has similar properties of biosolids and some that are even better; He informed EPCAMR that there is some interest in the use of biochar in our region; Suggested that he come for a visit and we sit down further and discuss over the Summer to make some connections in the region and see if there are any sites available and some funding to support such an effort moving forward; He's currently working on a 300 acre site in West Virginia with the USDA and other partners

- Provided Mike Dziak-Earth Conservancy with a map of the Harveys Creek watershed at his request
- Printed and provided a set of OSM Folios for areas of Solomon Creek and West Wyoming to Andrea Nerozzi from Wyoming Seminary Upper School for her educational curriculum she is developing around AMD in partnership with EPCAMR
- Met with Greg Firely, [AMO Environmental Services](#) to discuss future Brownfields Grant Opportunities in Luzerne County; Introduced Greg to Andy Reilly and Dave Pedri in Luzerne County via e-mail to see if they are interested in meeting Greg who has been working for many years on Brownfields Redevelopment in Lackawanna County; EPCAMR is trying to build a partnership with AMO and Luzerne County
- Reviewed and studied the L1 Coordinator Training materials online before taking several tests to become certified as an L1 Coordinator for the NAACC; The expiration of the training certificate is May 28, 2039; Phil Thomas-TU informed the EPCAMR Executive Director that he would the status from Lead Observer to the L1 Coordinator level on the NAACC site; Provided the link to Gavin to consider obtaining the certification

#### **Luzerne County Railroad Corporation GIS Mapping Assistance**

- Researched with Mike to determine if there was a way to place the Luzerne County Railroad Corporation data on to ArcGIS Online

#### **Loyalsock Creek Water AMD Water Monitoring Assistance**

- Discussed with Gavin about some recommendations to put into the Final Report to the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association and the Sullivan County Conservation District now that the year of monitoring has been completed at the various sites in the watershed

#### **Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority MS4 Efforts**

- Forwarded to John Levitsky, Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist and EPCAMR Board member comments on the proposed Scope of Work for EPCAMR from the WVSA that the Executive Director had provided to them for additional review and answers to many questions and clarifications that we had with the vagueness of the Scope and the need for further clarifications of items, language, and monitoring expectations for considering doing some of the workload, in addition to what HRG would be doing under a separate Scope of Work; Requested a review of the comments and any suggestions that he might have prior to continuing to move forward with further program on the draft scope of work before developing a full-blown budget of EPCAMR's professional services that we can offer and our limitations; Communicated with Karl Kerr-US ACE to determine if EPCAMR would need to work with them directly on some future watershed restoration projects or work more directly through the WVSA

- Provided the WVSA with a list of 24 recommended cleanups that EPCAMR have put together and have been seeking funding over the years to support the cleanup and restoration of the land and water polluted by illegal dumping in the region, particularly around the Wyoming Valley; WVSA is interested in partnering with EPCAMR to fund and support the cleanups; EPCAMR Executive Director facilitated discussions at a meeting with WVSA, along with Steve Cornia-EPCAMR GIS Watershed Outreach Specialist, and other regional partners including PEC NE Office, W-B Riverfront Parks, PSU Extension Master Watershed Stewards hosted at the WVSA Kingston Office to discuss prioritizing a few cleanups, one on the East side and one on the West side of the Wyoming Valley initially; WVSA is looking to involve the schools and non-profit organizations and will assist in recruiting volunteers throughout their MS4 permit area in the cleanups; WVSA and all partners were looking at a Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Cleanup schedule to begin planning this Summer

## **Education & Outreach**

- RECLAIM Act (HR2156) passed 26-10 in the House; Sent along a Sign-On Letter with a number of regional groups from EPCAMR that are in support of RECLAIM from EPCAMR to Jeremy Marcus-Congressman Cartwright's Deputy Chief of Staff, John Busovsky, and Emily Ackerman; Discussed developing an Op-Ed piece with Melvin Felix from Congressman Cartwright's Office on the importance of RECLAIM; Provided Melvin with a copy of EPCAMR's testimony before the House Natural Resources Committee; Reviewed the National Mining Association's letter that opposes RECLAIM and forwarded it to the RECLAIM Listserve set up by EPCAMR; Reached out to Selina Winchester, Legislative Director for Congresswoman Susan Wild to provide her with AML/AMD statistics for her District and to thank her for co-sponsoring the RECLAIM Act; Sent her down a brief paragraph of the connection to the limestone quarry industry and economic development potential and hauling jobs that are generated in the Anthracite Coal Region when AMD treatment systems are in need of high calcium carbonate limestone supplies to build the treatment systems to remove the acidity in the water and generate alkalinity to improve the overall water quality of our impacted waterways
- Participated in a RECLAIM Working Group conference call to get an update from the IMCC on May 10<sup>th</sup>; Registered for the RECLAIM Fly-In to DC on June 17-19<sup>th</sup> online and provided Dana Kuhnline-Appalachian Voices with bios for the Executive Director and Program Manager; Here are some RECLAIM articles that have run recently nation-wide.

From Virginia's @AugFreePress: #RECLAIMAct reintroduced to revitalize #coal country by giving communities the funds they need to clean up abandoned mine lands. Read more: <https://augustafreepress.com/house-delegation-introduces-bill-to-invest-in-coal-country> and urge your members of Congress to pass RECLAIM!

It's time to reinvest in #coal communities with the #RECLAIMAct. Thanks to local advocates and @RepCartwright for being champions for Pennsylvania: <https://www.wayneindependent.com/news/20190409/bill-introduced-to-invest-in-coal-country> via @TWI\_Newsroom

From Kentucky's @PNS\_News: #RECLAIMAct is back! The bill has gained traction thanks to hardworking advocates and @RepHalRogers' commitment to invest in #coal communities: <https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2019-04-18/budget-policy-and-priorities/reclaim-act-to-invest-in-coal-communities-gains-traction-after-lull/a66177-1> Urge your members of Congress to pass RECLAIM!

From @NKTribune: The #RECLAIMAct could be a 1st step toward a more diverse, sustainable economy in the mountains. Thanks to @RepHalRogers for championing this important work and the steadfast support of local advocates: <https://www.nkytribune.com/2019/04/1b-reclaim-act-gains-momentum-is-reintroduced-in-u-s-congress-at-coal-communities-urging/> It's time to pass RECLAIM!

- Received a call from Congressman Cartwright's Office in DC and was informed that MSNBC was coming to Wilkes-Barre, PA and the Congressman asked if the Executive Director would be able to conduct an interview with Cal Perry and Anthony Terrell, on the RECLAIM Act benefits and examples of jobs or projects related to future abandoned mine land reclamation or AMD remediation in the area and to talk about our support for RECLAIM; Conducted the interviews came to our office and toured a few locations for field examples of what's going on or can occur on these abandoned mine lands; The piece aired on MSNBC; Chris Matthews, HARDBALL held a town meeting that was attended by 150 Luzerne County residents and the Executive Director and Program Manager were able to attend in Hanover Township, PA; Provided a follow-up update to the RECLAIM Listserve and Congressman Cartwright's Staff
- Filled out the W9 Form for the Blue Green Alliance in order to receive the **\$3000** grant to continue doing outreach on RECLAIM; Had a conference call with Thom Kay from Appalachian Voices to discuss how EPCAMR can assist other Central Appalachian community groups in creating e-AMLIS inventories for their watersheds or Congressional Districts and or inventories of proposed RECLAIM-like economic development projects in their respective jurisdictions or coverage areas
- Conducted an AMD Environmental Education Program at Lake-Noxen Elementary School for the 3<sup>RD</sup> Grade; Discussed watersheds, macros, the river continuum concept, the work of EPCAMR, and AMD
- Attended the Coal Refuse Energy Tax Credit public announcement at the Panther Creek Co-Gen Plant in Nesquehoning, PA with area legislators and Senator's John Yudichak and Dave Argall; <https://wnep.com/2019/04/26/proposal-to-help-threatened-coal-refuse-industry> ; Met with Katie Hetherington-Cunfer-Deputy Director for Congressman Dan Meuser's Office and sent along to her the PA AML e-AMLIS Inventory of reclaimed and unreclaimed AML site and AMD stream miles impacted within his District
- Sent Cayle Spencer, Senior at King's College, a Conservation Board link of new jobs available across the country; She had introduced herself to EPCAMR at a speaking engagement that the Executive Director was a Panel Speaker at on Campus in Wilkes-Barre
- Coordinated several of the EPCAMR Staff attending a short kayaking trip at Frances Slocum State Park with the PA DCNR Community Connections to Our Watershed Program as an end of the year celebration of their educational programming and experiences
- Participated in a Choose Clean Water Coalition Stormwater Working Group Conference Call and discussed efforts that are ongoing in the Wyoming Valley with the WVSA and the technical support that EPCAMR is working on trying to provide to the Authority
- Participated in an AML Reauthorization Conference call with the PA AML Campaign

- EPCAMR Executive Director and Program Manager created a Sign On Letter for regional groups, Counties, and Municipal Governments to support the reauthorization of the SMCRA and provided a template and language for the passage of a resolution; SRBC informed EPCAMR that their Executive Director Drew Dehoff will be issuing a letter to Congress in support of SMRCA and will be approaching the SRBC Tri-State Commission to pass the resolution; Leigh Ann Henry provided a personal resolution as a Concerned Citizen (*she is also an EPCAMR Board Member*); Article printed by Dave Hess in the [PA Environmental Digest](#)
- Conducted an AMD Education Program and Tie-Dye Activity Workshop with the Wilkes-Barre Kistler Elementary 6<sup>th</sup> grade class of over 150 students at their Environmental Field Day
- Received several Public Service Announcements put together by King's College Mass Communications students in Dr. Catherine Donnelly's Class following a presentation made by the Executive Director to her class
- In March 2017, the Interior Department terminated an Obama-era moratorium on new coal leasing without disclosing the environmental impacts of re-starting the coal program, and without consulting with Tribes; In April, a U.S. District Court found DOI's failure to disclose environmental impacts of the re-start violated NEPA; In response, DOI hurried out a sloppy [EA](#) that failed to actually disclose the impacts of the coal program; BLM gave the public just 15 days (including 5 weekend days) to comment; A [letter](#) was drafted for sign-on asking DOI to extend the comment period; Signed EPCAMR on at the request of Shannon Anderson-Powder River Basin Resource Council
- Connected up Greg Malaska-PA Council of Trout Unlimited President with Jarret Gibbons-ARIPPA Executive Director for a teleconference call to introduce them to one another; ARIPPA is very interested in partnering with PA TU Chapters across PA and is looking for ways to gain their support and to inform them of the work of the Co-Gen Plants across PA in many of the watersheds where the Chapters are located
- Attended the Luzerne Foundation's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Dinner with Shawnese Taylor and accepted a grant award of **\$10,000** for EPCAMR to conduct Environmental Education and Outreach Programs to underserved schools throughout Luzerne County

## Community Volunteer Coordination

- BENCO Dental requested our EIN Number to make a donation to us after partnering with us on the Sugar Notch Run/Entrance to Ashley Cleanup; EPCAMR provided her with our EIN Number
- Followed up with Helene Langlamet, a PhD student in Communications at the University of PA, who is interested in visiting the region in early July 2019 to see some AMD and AML sites; Encouraged her to sign up through the EPCAMR website as a future volunteer to get on our monthly newsletter
- EPCAMR Staff assisted John Levitsky, Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist with planting nearly **300** tree seedlings along the E. Fork of Harveys Creek in Lehman Township within the HOA riparian corridor adjacent to the Conyngham Farm

## Conferences, Training, Tours, Exhibits, & Workshops

- Assisted Tom Clark-SRBC with obtaining his conference registration coupon code as a Sponsor for the **Fall 2019 NAAML P Conference**; Asked Mark Chuck to see if he can incorporate some of our iron oxide in to the two Mayfly Awards for 2019 that we commissioned him to create for the Fall Conference; Conference Registrations are beginning to roll in online; Participated in a PA AMR Conference call; Followed up with several potential speakers for the PA AMR Conference Track including Dr. Bill Bellows (*provided him with a sponsorship form at his request for his consulting firm to consider*), Kathleen Lavelle, and Laura Rinehimer to see if they would be interested in submitting an abstract for consideration; Co-authored an abstract with Dr. Bill Bellows and submitted it for consideration entitled, *Working, Learning, and Thinking Together in the 21st Century*
- Discussed with the PA AMR Conference Committee a potential weekend for the **2020 PA AMR Conference** in June 2020 in order for us to get back to the Ramada Inn, State College, PA to see if the dates that we are looking for are going to be available; It will be discussed at our next PA AMR Conference Committee call
- Provided suggestions and edits to the final Golden Tour AMD Brochure that the PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks created and put together for the 25 Seniors who participated in an AMD Tour led by EPCAMR and The Friends of the Nescopeck Creek on May 31<sup>st</sup> ; EPCAMR gave them a tour of Solomon Creek AMD Boreholes and the Askam Maelstrom Oxidizer AMD Treatment System on Earth Conservancy's property while Tim Ferrence led them on a tour to the Jeddo AMD Mine Tunnel in Drums and a few other AML impacted areas in the Hazleton Area
- Attended the **Pathways out of Poverty Conference** at Misericordia University to establish a renewed partnership with the University working with Kathy Pohlidal and John Morgan; MU is starting an Environmental Science Program in the Fall 2019

## EPCAMR Program Administration

- Forwarded the April 2019 EPCAMR Board Report to the Executive Committee and several summary reports and notes from the Executive Director's attendance at the Deming Institute Seminar in Tipp City, Ohio and requested that we have a follow up meeting on how to move forward with some management decisions and ideas suggested by Deming facilitators for EPCAMR; Followed up with Ed Wytovich directly on a recap of the Seminar and ways to move forward in small increments over time to stay the course with the Deming Method once the Board agrees to make some potential policy changes to assist with improved management decisions for the betterment of the organization; Followed up with Dr. Bill Bellows, who is interested in coming to EPCAMR to help the Executive Director work through some of the Deming processes that can be put in to place relatively easily over the Summer 2019 that wouldn't conflict with having to wait for Board decisions to implement them
- Reconciled EPCAMR's Checking Account and PA, Invest Accounts; Paid Health Care Premiums for EPCAMR Staff for May 2019 with Highmark; Completed the Highmark Small Group form and mailed it; Paid Verizon and Internet monthly bills; Paid EC the rent; Balanced EPCAMR Checking Register
- Forwarded out the tentative agenda for the May 16<sup>th</sup> EPCAMR Quarterly Board Meeting to the Board and our partner affiliates throughout the region; Confirmed the use of the EC Conference Room; Convened the Quarterly Board Meeting
- Entered the EPCAMR bi-weekly payroll into ADP online to release it
- Forwarded a copy of the PA Anthracite Council May 2019 Reports around to the EPCAMR Staff



- Forwarded a copy of the May 2019 Funding Alert online edition from the Society for Non-Profits to the EPCAMR Staff to review for potential grants and grant management and writing techniques
- Provided a Final Internship Evaluation Assessment for Jessica Britten, Senior, King's College, who interned with EPCAMR over the Winter 2019 through May 2019 to Kelly Lettieri, Office of Career Planning, King's College
- Provided a status update to Liz Hughes, Earth Conservancy, on Conal Herron's recent internship funded through the SLIP Program for **\$3500** over 8 weeks at 36 hours/week that will be fully reimbursed to EPCAMR; Liz was reporting the internship success back to the Environmental Workforce Training Program; Provided Jessica Barbose, OneSource with all of the necessary administrative paperwork to get Conal on the payroll for the seasonal internship from May 5 through July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019; Received a SLIP Orientation Powerpoint and Excel File for the reimbursements from Anthony Melf and reviewed it; Forwarded the presentation to Conal for his review and informed him of his mandatory attendance at the June 20<sup>th</sup> SLIP Training in Wilkes-Barre; Provided Conal with his orientation beginning on May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Provided Mike with a copy of the Executive Director's January through April monthly Board and 319 Reports for posting to the EPCAMR website
- Completed a Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative to allow ADP to discuss our tax information with the IRS and completed the Form 8821, Tax Information Authorization and submitted them to the IRS
- Set up and conducted an interview with Jason Zubris, Penn-State University student for a summer internship
- Lauren Perry, Wyoming, PA and University of Syracuse, NY student began her internship for the Summer 2019 with EPCAMR starting on May 17<sup>th</sup> the day after our Quarterly Board Meeting for her initial orientation; Worked with her to fill out all of her initial paperwork and volunteer clearances; Had her review the NAACC AOP [website](#) prior to having her become certified as a Lead Observer in aquatic organism passage and culvert assessments
- Reviewed a request for an internship from Ryan Bird, Drexel University, student in Architectural Engineering; Provided him feedback on his resume and direction as to where he may be better suited to look for an internship that has co-ops available with regional consulting firms; Offered to connect him up with some of those firms if he needed to learn more about who they are and where they operate in the region
- Jen Demchak, Professor at Mansfield University and colleague of EPCAMR's forwarded a link to a Sustainability Grant funder called [New Earth Foundation](#) and suggested that we take a look at it for a potential future funding opportunity
- Mike and the Executive Director provided Leigh Ann Henry, EPCAMR Board Member and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee with documents and had a discussion on how best to approach obtaining input from the full board on updating our Strategic Plan for 2019; WPCAMR's Strategic Plan was provided to her; Notes from the recent Deming Institute Seminar were provided to her; Our 319 Plan, and the responses to the previous survey questions that were collated through the SurveyMonkey; EPCAMR provided her with access to the SurveyMonkey to see the previous questions asked in case we want to draft a new set of questions or build on the older ones that still hold true