

**CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2008  
www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org**

The meeting was called to order by President Ed McMullen with the pledge to the flag. There were 18 members present plus 3 visitors. President Ed McMullen welcomed the visitors and asked them to introduce themselves. A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Alene Smithmyer was passed accepting the January minutes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

During the month of January, the following activity took place in the bank accounts:

**Regular Account**

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2008	\$5,492.43
<u>Deposits:</u>	
Dues	685.00
DEP Payment – ACE Drilling Site	230.00
Bank interest	<u>0.50</u>
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Web site fees	59.85
Office supplies	<u>35.26</u>
 Ending Balance, January 31, 2008	 <b>\$6,312.82</b>

**Grant Account**

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2008	\$43,192.86
<u>Deposits:</u>	
DEP Reimbursement	6,017.50 [Ferris Wheel]
DEP Reimbursement	135,259.00 [KL2 Project]
Bank interest	<u>5.89</u> [Working Capital]
Total Deposits	141,282.39

**ENDING FUND BALANCES**

Expenses:

Working Capital – bank fee, new checks	16.76	→	\$ 4,783.25
Amsbry	0.00	→	11,884.49
Ferris Wheel – mapping & design	6,017.50	→	0.00
KL2 (EPA) - various	135,409.28	→	19,828.97
KL-Rose	0.00	→	2,500.00
Fish Fund	0.00	→	4,000.00
Heinz Grant	<u>0.00</u>	→	<u>35.00</u>
Total Expenses	141,443.54		

Ending Balance, January 31, 2008	<b>\$43,031.71</b>	<b>\$43,031.71</b>
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Respectfully submitted by Larry Sutton, Treasurer

### **Treasurer's Report (Continued):**

Larry reported that he had \$495.00 in dues to deposit in the general account. He has received a reimbursement check from DEP for the Klondike Project-\$59,107.17. This is the last request until final completion of the project. CCWA is holding \$7,400.00 in retainage for this project.

Larry had the following invoices for payment: Earl Smithmyer-\$27.53, padlocks and keys, Klondike Project: Damin Printing- \$92.00- tickets for the fish derby, fish fund. A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Dan McMullen was passed to accept the Treasurer's report and to pay the above two invoices. This **motion** by Art and seconded by Dan was later amended to include payment of an invoice for \$1,398.90 to Alder Run Engineering for work on the Ferris Wheel project. Motion was passed unanimously.

### **Secretary's Report:**

Secretary Jerry McMullen reported that he had received a few e-mails this past month. He had received ten membership cards in the mail. Jerry suggested that with the increase in the price of stamps that CCWA should consider purchasing 2 rolls of the lifetime stamps. A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Dave McMullen was passed authorizing Jerry to purchase 2 rolls, \$82.00 worth of stamps.

### **Membership Committee:**

Bob Funicelli turned in several membership cards at the meeting. This brought the total of dues received in the past month to 30- 27 individual, 1 business and 2 lifetime. Bob stated that he will be continuing his membership solicitation.

### **Public Relations:**

Dan stated that he has drafted a letter covering the election at the annual meeting in January to be sent to the local newspapers. Jerry stated that he would combine this letter with the dates for the roadway/stream cleanups and send it to Justin Edger at the Mainliner.

### **Historical Committee:**

Ray stated that he had received 2 articles from Dan. He also was given 3 articles from Dick for the historical book. It was also reported that the Slippery Rock Watershed Association had an article the site visit to the Klondike Project.

### **Finance Report:**

Larry had nothing to report at this time.

### **Grant Committee:**

Shawn Simmers reported that the grant committee has not heard from the Dominion Peoples' grant. Dan and Shawn are presently working on a grant application from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for addition funding for the Ferris Wheel Project. As discussed earlier, the \$77,000 grant that was received may not be near enough money for this project. Application is due by February 29<sup>th</sup> and the committee is confident that they will have the application submitted by then.

### **Tech Committee:**

**Thomas J. Clark Presentation**-at this time Tom Clark, AMD Project Coordinator, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, passed out handout to all present. These handouts explained the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative, a cooperative effort among several eastern states, OSM, industry, environmental organizations, academia, government agencies and local citizenry. The Forestry Reclamation Approach is a method for reclaiming coal-mined land under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act to forest.

Tom stated that they are looking for a site to try this method and the Ferris Wheel site was mentioned to him. He further explained that the mixture of woods would include- black locust, oaks, poplar and hybrid American chestnut (disease resistant). He wanted to know the status of the Ferris Wheel project. CCWA is hoping to get started on this project later in the spring or early summer.

Michelle stated that there is some flexibility in the site plans with the sediment basins and ponds. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that a site visit should be scheduled including all interested parties. Tom stated that he will try to coordinate this on-site visit.

The following tech report was submitted and discussed by Art Rose, chairman of the tech committee:

#### **Tech Committee Report**

Klondike Project The two systems continue to treat water very satisfactorily, based on field measurements on 2/19/08. Students from the Landscape Architecture program at Penn State visited the site January 18.

Brubaker Project. At a meeting with DEP Bur. of Abandoned Mine Reclamation on 1/17, the results of the investigation were reviewed with state personnel. They did not think that the flow into the Ridge Mining area could be stopped by grouting. If this conclusion is accepted, the main goal of further tracer studies would only serve to establish responsibility for the water, but not contribute to its treatment. As a result, no proposal for further work has been submitted to date, and the results of a DEP meeting on Brubaker Run are awaited. Visits to sample the discharge and stream, and to tour the site with DEP personnel are planned.

Glasgow Project. Forms for Budget and Scope of Work at this project were received from Malcolm Crittenden and have been completed by Rose and Hedin Environmental for return to him. A Growing Greener II grant and contract for \$174,000 is anticipated. An estimate of \$2400 for surveying a map of the site was received from Cree Surveying, and a contract for \$18,007 for design, bid preparation and partial construction supervision has been received from Hedin Environmental. A total of \$28,287 is estimated as in-kind contribution from CCWA, mainly in the form of project supervision and administration.

West Ferris Wheel Project. No word has been received on this proposal.

Muddy Run Assessment. No word has been received on this proposal.

Other Tech Items Discussed:

Hedin Environmental Contract- A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was passed to accept this contract and authorize President Ed McMullen to sign the contract from Hedin Environmental for \$18,007.00.

Amsbry Project-Art reported that he had sent a key to the gate installed at this site to the new landowner, Jim Corl.

Ace Drilling Project- Earl reported that he would be sampling at this site in March.

Michelle Merrow Report-Ferris Wheel Site and Morgan Run (MR) Projects:

Ferris Wheel—Design is complete. All potential changes suggested by Tom Clark of SRBC would fit within the framework of the existing design and permit applications for the project. Michelle is helping Shawn and Dan with an application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Chesapeake Bay Program for some additional funding.

MR 8—We received Clearfield County Conservation District approval of the E&S plan, the NPDES permit for stormwater associated with construction activities, and the Joint Permit for Stream Obstructions/Wetland Encroachments from DEP.

Funding for construction was requested through Growing Greener in 2007, and there is no word yet. The permits can sit for several years. If funding isn't awarded, we hope to resubmit this year.

Michelle asked CCWA to sign the Joint Permit acknowledging the permit. This form basically acknowledges that CCWA received the DEP Joint Permit. A separate form to assume responsibility for permit requirements, which the engineer typically signs, was placed back into the file until CCWA/ CCCD gets construction money. Ed kept a copy of the DEP permit for the CCWA files and Michelle will return the signed copy to DEP. No action needed for the CCCD approval or the NPDES permit until construction is ready to start.

MR 7—We received Federal US Army Corps of Engineer's (USACOE) Authorization (for wetland and stream impacts) for this project. All other permits are in place.

Funding for construction was requested through Growing Greener in 2007, and there is no word yet. The permits can sit for several years. If funding isn't awarded, we hope to resubmit this year.

Michelle asked CCWA to sign the acknowledgment form for the Federal authorization. Ed signed it. Since Michelle just got it tonight, she didn't have an opportunity to make a copy for CCWA, so she will bring it to the next meeting.

No further action needed until construction starts.

MR Tuff Wetland Mitigation

We received Federal Authorization from USACOE for this project combined with the MR TUFF treatment project. Construction is scheduled to start as soon as weather permits. A notice of award was issued to the contractor.

Michelle provided copies to Ed of the notification to the PA Fish and Boat Commission and the DEP that the project will be starting. The notifications are a requirement of the permit, and Alder Run Engineering has been taking care of these matters since we are acting as the engineer for the project.

#### MR Frog

A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for 2/21/08.

Michelle asked CCWA to sign a co-permittee form for the MR FROG NPDES permit. This form will transfer responsibility for the E&S controls at the site to contractor, rather than having responsibility stay with CCWA as they are the permittee right now. We prepared this form a while ago, but didn't submit it until we were sure the Earthmovers would actually be building the project, and in the meantime the required form changed, so we brought a new one to be signed tonight. Michelle gave Ed a copy of the entire form

#### MR Tuff AMD Treatment System Construction

Construction of the MR Tuff treatment system has been progressing. Progress is slow and has been hampered by the weather. We have had some difficulties with the contractor.

We did receive USACOE Federal authorization for the project this month. MR TUFF wetland mitigation site authorization is combined with the authorization for the treatment site. Michelle asked CCWA to sign the acknowledgment form for the Federal authorization. Ed signed it. Since Michelle just got it tonight, she didn't have an opportunity to make a copy for CCWA, so she will bring it at the next meeting.

Michelle described a situation encountered during construction where the contractor received a quote for limestone from a supplier who can no longer produce material of the specified quality. The supplier (New Enterprise) can no longer produce limestone with >90% CaCO<sub>3</sub> equivalent, so it's not a matter of price but of availability. In order to get the limestone specified, it is about an \$8/ton price difference to the contractor. Since this issue really wasn't the fault of the contractor, Michelle asked CCWA to consider acting as the applicant for some supplemental funds from the Office of Surface Mines (OSM) like was done for the MR FROG project to allow the project to be finished with high-quality limestone.

A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Larry Sutton was passed to submit an application for supplemental funds from the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative through the Office of Surface Mines in the amount of not to exceed 30% of the total project cost, which is \$373,110 to cover additional limestone costs and inspection costs.

#### Old Business:

**PA Game Commission Discussion-** Earl reported that the Game Commission would give us signs to post at the Klondike site. In order for them to patrol this area the Game Commission would have to have landowner's permission from all parties involved at the site. At this time, it was decided to accept the signs to be posted at the site.

**Fishing Derby-tickets:** Ray Hollen is taking care of the distribution of the fishing derby tickets. Ray was adamant that all members present take tickets to sell to support the fishing derby. We ask for support from all members. If you would like some tickets to sell or can offer a donation for tickets to support the fishing derby, please contact Ray, myself or any Board member. Thank You!

**Meeting with Gary Haluska:** a meeting was held with State Representative Gary Haluska and several board members to discuss the status of the Grower Greener Grants that were submitted last year and other related CCWA business. Mr. Haluska had a copy of the large fishing map of the Clearfield watershed hanging in his office. He was very interested in the various streams and projects that we have been working on. No word has been heard from Mr. Haluska.

**New Business:**

**Cleanup Dates:** the following 2008 cleanup dates were set:

April 6<sup>th</sup>- roadway and stream cleanup, 9 AM, Laurel Run Sportsman, Dysart.

Lunch will be provided.

June 8<sup>th</sup>- route 36 cleanup, 9 AM, Burger Hut-Coupon road, Coffee & donuts.

August 10<sup>th</sup>- roadway cleanup-route 53, 9 AM, Laurel Run Sportsman, Dysart.

Coffee and donuts provided.

October 12<sup>th</sup>- roadway and stream cleanup, 9 AM, Laurel Run Sportsman,

Dysart. Lunch will be provided.

Please mark these dates on your calendar. Volunteers are always needed.

**Report by Rachel Kester:** Rachel passed out a very informative brochure on shoreline buffer strips that may be used to prevent shoreline erosion. Rachel reported that the Upper West Branch Triathlon is going to be held on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Curwensville Lake. Also a 5K Fun Walk is going to be held in conjunction with the triathlon. Participants and volunteers are welcome. All proceeds support conservation education in Clearfield County and surrounding areas. Other Clearfield County Conservation District Annual Banquet is scheduled for March 27 at the Masonic Lodge in Clearfield. Jane Elling will be giving a talk on W.G. "Turk" Jones. Turk was responsible for revegetating hundreds of acres of abandoned mine lands and was called the Johnny Appleseed of our time by Reader's Digest. For more information about any of the CD events, check their website at [www.clfdccd.com](http://www.clfdccd.com) or call 814-765-2629.

**Next Meeting:**

**March 18, 2007, Dean Township Municipal Building, Dysart, 6:30 PM**

**Adjournment:** On a **motion** by Dave McMullen and seconded by Bryan Rabish the meeting was adjourned.

