

**CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009  
www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org**

The meeting was called to order by President Earl Smithmyer with the pledge to the flag. There were 16 members present and one visitor, Becky Dunlap, from Trout Unlimited.. A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Ed McMullen was then passed accepting the January minutes.

**Guest Speaker:**

At this time Ben Watt, a Penn Cambria middle school teacher, gave a very informative presentation on the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program. TIC is an environmental education program in which students raise brook trout from eggs to fingerlings. During the year, each teacher tailors the program to fit his or her curricular needs. Students are responsible to monitor the aquarium water quality and the care of the fish throughout the school year. Programs end the year by releasing the trout in a state approved trout stream- Clearfield Creek.

After explaining the program and answering questions from the members present, Ben asked for CCWA support. A new TIC program requires a partnership between a teacher and an organization such as a Watershed Association, a 50/50 cash match; the organization provides ½ the cost of a TIC set-up, approximately \$500.00. It also requires the teacher and an organization member to attend TIC training on June 19, 2009. Shawn Simmers volunteered to attend this training. Ben also mentioned that he would like members from CCWA to speak to his students about our many projects.

All members present felt that this is a great opportunity to educate young people and help them develop an understanding of connections between healthy watersheds, ecosystems, and communities. A **motion** by Shawn Simmers and seconded by John Strittmatter was passed to support the TIC program and to make a one-time \$500.00 donation. This money is to come from the Fish Fund.

We want to thank Ben for the nice presentation.

**Treasurer's Report:**

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

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<b><u>Regular Account</u></b>	
Beginning Balance, January1, 2009	\$6,723.01
<b><u>Deposits:</u></b>	
Donation (Jack Calandra)	100.00
Dues	385.00
Bank Interest	<u>0.48</u>
<b><u>Expenses:</u></b>	
Web Host fees	<u>57.85</u>
Ending Balance, January 31, 2009	<b><u>\$7,148.64</u></b>
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**Grant Account**

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2009 \$62,414.59

Deposits:

DEP Grant	7,400.00	[KL2]
DEP Grant	3,670.28	[MuR1]
OFM Grant	36,344.40	[MR Frog]
Bank interest	<u>4.65</u>	[0.58-MuR1 + 4.07-Working
Capital]		
Total Deposits	47,419.33	

**ENDING FUND BALANCES**

Expenses:

Working Capital	0.00	→	\$ 5,593.31
Blandburg Active	0.00	→	( 40.00)
C&K Passive	0.00	→	28,114.90
MuR1 Assess (recon & water samples)	4,046.00	→	5,738.02
MR Frog (construction)	36,344.40	→	0.00
Amsbry	0.00	→	9,622.49
Ferris Wheel Reveg	0.00	→	(875.00)
Ferris West (water sample)	44.00	→	( 94.00)
KL2 - EPA (sample + final construction)	7,598.00	→	7,748.54
KL-Rose	0.00	→	2,500.00
Fish Fund	<u>0.00</u>	→	<u>3,493.26</u>
Total Expenses	48,032.40		

Ending Balance, January 31, 2009 **\$61,801.52** **\$61,801.52**

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Respectfully submitted by Larry Sutton, Treasurer

**Treasurer's Report Continued:**

Larry reported that he had the following invoices for payment:

- \$204.58-New Pig Corporation- spaghetti booms purchased for the KL1 project, paid out of the Western PA Watershed Program grant.
- \$96.00-Damin Printing- fishing derby tickets- Fish Fund.
- \$4,618.35- Hedin Environmental- design work and mapping, C & K passive treatment project, C & K Fund.
- \$1,099.00-Land & Mapping Services- mapping on the Amsbry project, Amsbry Fund.
- \$726.00-Mahaffey Lab- water testing for Muddy Run, Muddy Run Grant.
- \$132.00-Mahafey Lab- water testing at the Klondike, Western PA Watershed Program Grant.
- \$31.79-Dan McMullen- reimbursement for the flash drive purchase, approved at the January meeting.
- \$73.80- Jerry McMullen-reimbursement for stamps and office supplies, approved last month.

Larry also reported the following deposits:

- \$385.00- dues- 1 lifetime, 16 single and 5 business memberships, deposited in general account.
- \$10.00- donation for office supplies- deposited in general account.
- \$12,145.00- WPCAMR reimbursement Klondike project, quick response money for the Klondike Project.

A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Dan McMullen was passed authorizing Larry to pay the current invoices and accepting the Treasurer's report.

Larry mentioned that he continues to work on the annual financial statements but has been delayed due to his recent surgery.

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

Jerry reported that he had ordered and picked up the fishing derby tickets. He had recently purchased the forever stamps for the monthly mailings. Jerry stated that he has enough stamps for the rest of the year. However, since stamps are going up in May he suggested that we purchase approximately 100 more stamps for the annual mailing in December. A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Dan McMullen was passed authorizing Jerry to purchase these additional stamps.

Jerry also mentioned that membership renewals continue to come in very slowly. Dick asked if Jerry could give a count as to the number of memberships received. Thus far this year we have received 42 annual individual memberships, 2 lifetime and 5 annual business memberships.

### **Membership Committee:**

Bob mentioned that he continues to work on new members. Three new cards were received just a couple of days before the meeting. As mentioned above, dues are coming in slow so please send in your membership, if you have not already done so.

### **Public Relations:**

Dan McMullen brought up the idea of having a media day. Last year's media day was cancelled due to problems with the KL1 site. There was a lengthy discussion as to whether we should have a single media day for both sites: Klondike and Ferris Wheel Revegetation or have two separate media days. No decision was made and this was tabled for next month.

Becky Dunlap and Rachel Kester from Trout Unlimited mentioned that TU received a grant through Clearfield County Conservation District for 6 educational tours. They would be happy to assist us and have our sites as part of their tours.

### **Historical Committee:**

Ray reported that he had received two articles for the historical book- one from Ed and one from Dick. Dan also gave him some pictures that were taken at the Klondike project.

### **Finance Report:**

There was nothing new under Finances.

### **Grant Committee:**

Dan reported that CCWA has received a \$2,000.00 Dominion Watershed Mini Grant Money is to be used for seeds and trees for revegetation at an abandoned mine site-Ferris Wheel Revegetation site. Two CCWA members will be required to attend the luncheon at the Chestnut Ridge in April. Earl signed the grant acceptance paperwork to be mailed by Dan.

Shawn stated that he had talked to Dave Hamilton from OSM about the American chestnut trees. Discussed was the possibility of planting some of these trees at this site.

### **Tech Committee:**

The following tech report was submitted and discussed by Art Rose, chairman of the tech committee: **Tech Committee Report-February 17, 2009**

Klondike Project Sampling in January indicated that the KL1 system continued to neutralize about 75% of the influent acidity and remove about 75% of the iron. The KL2 system was not sampled because of difficult access. During the month, a weir was installed on the outflow of the KL1 system, and indicates that some additional AMD enters the system downstream from the inflow weir. A mixture of compost and wood chips was sprinkled along the inflow channel to promote iron precipitation. The channel leading to the new ponds was found to be blocked with ice and AMD was overflowing directly into the older pond system. The overflow was temporarily blocked but needs more permanent work. Inquiries about a steel slag bed to furnish additional alkalinity indicate that the slag can be delivered for about \$15.75/T from a site near Johnstown, and that diversion of water from the "Krug" tributary to furnish water for the slag bed is probably possible. The design and permitting of such a slag bed is being investigated, and if feasible, funding will be investigated. A preliminary application to the FACTS program for funding of analyses disclosed that this program had ended.

West Ferris Wheel Project The two discharges were sampled on 2/11. Updated mapping at the site, and design of the facility was discussed on 2/12 with Michelle Merrow. An anoxic limestone drain system should be appropriate for the 32R3 discharge, and a vertical flow system for 32R4. Further field checking of stream and seepage locations is needed to proceed with design.

Ferris Wheel Project No word on funding from "Stimulus" funds has been received.

Glasgow Project A preliminary design and cost estimate was received from Hedin Environmental. Two alternatives were provided: Alternative A was concentrated on restoration of SAPS 2, and Alternative B provided work on both SAPS1 and SAPS2. The cost of Alternative A was within the existing funding of \$174,000; Alternative B exceeded it by about \$50,000. The latter alternative is judged preferable, if funding can be found. Inquiries to the WPA Watershed Program indicated that they could not fund this project, because legal responsibility at Glasgow remains with the State. However, discussions with Malcolm Crittenden indicate that additional State funding may be possible. Modifications in design were suggested and will be discussed with Hedin Env. A bill for \$4618.35 was received from Hedin Env.

Muddy Run Project The 28 discharges were sampled for the second month on January 24-26 despite difficult weather. A few weir problems were encountered, but the work acquired a good set of data. A third sampling is planned for late February.

Also discussed was the need to purchase lumber for two weirs. One weir will have to be replaced on Group B's section and an additional weir needs to be installed in the Group E section. A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Dick Dotts was passed authorizing Earl to purchase the lumber needed to build these weirs.

Blandburg Project Proposals by five consulting organizations for active treatment systems were reviewed and discussed with Malcolm Crittenden on 2/6. A test of using lime slurry in place of normal hydrated lime or caustic will be conducted on 2/26. Choice of a design and designer is expected in the next month or so.

Brubaker Project No activity.

Amsbry Project No word has been received on our 2008 design and permitting proposal for this site.

West Branch Education Program Discussions are being held with Rebecca Dunlap of Trout Unlimited on plans for this program.

Swank Mine- Earl stated that he could ask Rob Clauto for help in figuring out the stone needed at this site. Both Art and Michelle thought they could figure out the amount of stone needed based on site measurements.

Ace Drilling Site- No recent sample has been taken but this should be done in the next few weeks, weather permitting.

**The following report was given by Michelle Merrow:**

Ferris Wheel Reveg—Michelle will check with PA Game Commission regarding the available of any free trees for the project

Morgan Run 7, 8, and 1-6. No word on the Growing Greener Grant awards for these projects

Morgan Run Frog—Due to weather, there is not any progress at MR Frog, MR Tuff, and MR Tuff Mitigation. Alder Run Engineering visited all three sites on February 11 during the snowmelt-rain-high flow event in the watershed. Outlet structures were checked and adjusted for high flow conditions, and debris was removed from the system outlets (leaves, sticks, etc). All sites are stable with no obvious problems, and will need a little work come spring time.

MR Frog is online and functional. Water samples were collected, and we will bring the results to the next meeting. Michelle will bring the paperwork to close out the OSM portion of the construction grant to the next meeting.

Morgan Run Tuff—the B side of the system was brought online on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so the system is fully functional. We are still fine-tuning some of the valves and flushing operations.

Morgan Run Tuff Mitigation—the site looks good and is holding water, which is a very good sign, as it should be holding water at this time of year. This site will look really good once the grass grows and the wetland plants are planted.

Morgan Run Ross—MR Ross is the 3<sup>rd</sup> major discharge and the next to be treated. We have developed site plans for the project, and are in the process of preparing permit applications. Michelle asked CCWA if they would be the permit holder for the project on behalf on the Morgan Run Watershed Group. CCWA agreed. Michelle provided copies of the application for General NPDES Permit for Storm water Associated with Construction Activities, a General Information Form (GIF), and a Joint Permit Application which will be used to obtain a Waiver 16 of wetland mitigation requirements, and these were given to Earl to sign, along with copies of everything for CCWA's files. The NPDES application needs to be notarized, and if Earl keeps the receipt, he can be reimbursed from the grant funds.

**Old Business:**

**Gary Haluska Pending Grant-** We are confident that we will receive this grant, although still pending, at this time.

**Fishing Derby-** date is May 16th, 2009. Ray reminded everyone that he has lots of tickets to hand out to anyone who could help sell some. Please support the fishing derby by purchasing or selling tickets.

**New Business:**

**Cleanup Dates-**the following dates were established for cleanups in 2009

April 5<sup>th</sup>- Road and stream cleanup

June 14<sup>th</sup>- Road only cleanup

August 2<sup>nd</sup>- route 36 cleanup.

October 11<sup>th</sup>- road and stream cleanup.

**PA Game Commission Survey-** Art had forwarded an e-mail to Jerry explaining a survey that is being taken for Wildlife Management Unit 2E. Members of CCWA, who are familiar with this management unit, are encouraged to participate in the survey. Jerry is to attach the survey information with the monthly minutes.

**Website-** Dane Kalwanaski looked into a company in Ebensburg that could possibly set up and maintain our website for a fee. After a discussion it was decided that we would remain with our original host and not make any change at this time.

**Next Meeting:**

**March 17, 2009, Prince Gallitzin Park, Main Office 6:30 PM.**

**Adjournment:**

Prior to adjournment Earl thanked Ben Watt for his presentation and also Becky Dunlap for taking the time to attend our meeting. On a **motion** by Alene Smithmyer and seconded by Ray Hollen the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

**Final Note:** After the regular meeting the Board of Directors met to discuss the Board position that was open-Past President- since our past president, Ed McMullen, is now our President Elect. Dick Dotts filled this position for the past two years with his term expiring in January, 2009. The Board members voted unanimously to reelect Dick to this position. We wish Dick the best of luck as he continues to serve CCWA.