

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

The meeting was called to order by President Earl Smithmyer with the pledge to the flag. There were 23 members present and one visitor, Kelly Williams, who is the new watershed specialist for Clearfield County Conservation District. A **motion** by Ray Hollen and seconded by Ed McMullen was then passed accepting the February minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Larry did not present a monthly treasurer's report. Rather he had the annual financial statements to present and explain to the members. These consisted of the Comparative Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2008 between 2007 and 2008, two pages of the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending December 31, 2008- explaining each Grant Account, and two pages of Notes to the Financial Statements. This may be found on our web site listed above.

John Strittmatter commented on the "one h... of a good job" Larry had done on these statements. A big round of applause was given to Larry at this time.

Due to Larry's upcoming surgery Dane Kalwanaski will be in charge of the check book and all deposits. Dane presented the following treasurer's report:

Deposits:

\$10.00 in dues-deposited in general account

\$2,000 from Dominion Grant-deposited in the new Dominion II Grant account

Invoices Paid:

\$46.24 to Earl Smithmyer for supplies for weirs-Muddy Run 1 account

\$532.00 to Mahaffey Labs for MUR1 water testing- Muddy Run Account

\$252.00 to Mahaffey Labs for MUR1 water testing-Muddy Run Account

\$200.00 to Mahaffey Labs for Klondike water testing-Western Pa Watershed Program Fund

\$50.00 to Mahaffey Labs for West Ferris Wheel water testing-West Ferris Wheel Account

\$4002.00 to Hedin Environmental for work on C& K treatment system in Glasgow-C & K Passive Account

\$325.00 to POWR for yearly Liability Insurance- General Fund

Larry noted that all project files and quarterly reports are up to date, at this time. A **motion** by Shawn Simmers and seconded by Dave McMullen was passed to accept the Treasurer's Report and the Annual Financial Statements and to pay all invoices.

Secretary's Report:

Jerry reported that he had e-mailed Justin Edger and invited him to the fishing derby in May. He stated that he had not picked up the additional stamps approved at last month's meeting but will soon do so. Jerry was asked to write a letter of support to Deacon Ann Staples of the Coal Country Hangout Youth Center. Ann is applying for a

grant to get the young people of Northern Cambria involved in the environment through water sampling and stream analysis.

Membership Committee:

Bob mentioned that he continues to work on new members. Only one new membership card was received this past month. Please return your membership, if you have not already done so.

Public Relations:

The date for the media day, tabled from last month, was chosen. Media day will be on Friday July 10th between 11 AM and 1 PM. We will be showing both the Klondike and the Ferris Wheel Revegetation projects. A special meeting will be held in the future to finalize plans for media day.

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:

Larry introduced a new form-Volunteer Log of Activities. He asked the CCWA volunteers to note the date and keep track of the project name, description of activity, hours and miles. Larry stated that three projects-Muddy Run, Ferris Wheel Revegetation and C& K Passive Treatment project require matching funds. These volunteer hours, miles, etc. can be used for this match.

Grant Committee:

Dan reported that CCWA has received the check for the \$2,000.00 Dominion grant. Earl and Alene will represent CCWA at the luncheon on April 14th. Dan also mentioned that he and Shawn are looking at another grant due in May.

Shawn stated that he has been in contact with Ben Watt about training for the Trout in the Classroom Program. Shawn also stated that he had contacted Dave Hamilton from OSM and they are not able to help with securing any American Chestnut trees for the Ferris Wheel Revegetation site, at this time. Discussed was the possibility to secure these trees through the PA Game Commission. Jerry offered to call Barry Zaffuto from the PA Game Commission.

Cleanup Committee:

The first cleanup of the season is Sunday, April 6th, 9 AM, Laurel Run Sportsman in Dysart. A lunch will be provided. Dave McMullen stated that the committee would be getting fliers out. Dane mentioned that he will be bringing sorority students from St. Francis to assist with the cleanup. Ben Watt may also be bringing some students from Penn Cambria.

Tech Committee:

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

Klondike Project Sampling in February shows that the KL1 system continues to remove about 75% of the acidity and iron. The inflow channel was repaired by John Foreman so that water is now flowing into the 2 new ponds. A straw filter was added to the inflow to the VFP by Foreman, Smithmyer and Rose on 3/5, but does not appear to be very effective. A conceptual design for a steel slag bed to add alkalinity was prepared by John Foreman, and the alignment of the pipeline from the Krug tributary to KL1 was surveyed on 3/5.

West Ferris Wheel Project No activity.

Glasgow Project At a field meeting on 3/11, the tentative plans for the renovation were reviewed with Hedin Environmental (Bob Hedin, Neil Wolfe and Ted Weaver) plus Malcolm Crittenden of DEP and Arthur Rose. Minor modifications were decided, and Hedin will complete plans and bidding specifications in the next few weeks. The passive system will be separated from the active treatment system which will handle the flow during above normal flow periods. The project is expected to be ready for bidding during April.

On 3/12, Smithmyer and Rose attended a meeting in Ebensburg to discuss proposals for treatment of numerous bond forfeiture sites including Glasgow and Stroud. CCWA is invited to submit a proposal for operation and maintenance of passive and active treatment facilities at Glasgow and Stroud. The DEP is seeking contractors to operate and maintain the site for a 5-year period. A local contractor, McClellan and Sons, has been contracted to do the daily work on the active site. A budget has been prepared for this proposal. CCWA members discussed whether we should submit this proposal and decided this was not an appropriate use of our efforts.

Stroud Project This treatment system, along Powell Run below Blandburg, is a C&K bond forfeiture site like Glasgow. It consists of a wetland and a small limestone bed to remove manganese. The only significant task at this site will be quarterly sampling and inspection. CCWA is investigating the submission of a proposal for sampling and maintenance of this site. We would receive a payment for this work, like the Ace Drilling site. The group decided that CCWA could submit a proposal for this site.

Muddy Run Project The 28 discharges were successfully sampled on the weekend of 2/27-3/2. We will conduct the monthly sampling the weekend of March 20-23.

Blandburg Project No activity.

Brubaker Project No activity.

Amsbry Project DEP announced that CCWA is approved for a \$43,000 Growing Greener I grant. The amount was cut from our proposal of \$44,821, but we can make up the cut from our balance received from Robindale Energy. The contract for the grant is being prepared for signing by CCWA. A phone call with Jim Corl, the property owner last year, indicates that he sold the land. The new owner will be contacted, and arrangements made for access through the gate, which has a new lock on it.

Note: A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Dan McMullen was passed "to continue with the Amsbry project, and sign the Growing Greener 1 grant contract for \$43,000.00 due April 10th pending satisfactory resolution with the current property owner(s)".

West Branch Restoration Coalition. At a meeting on 3/10, the group visited the site of the planned refuse-burning power plant at Karthaus, and discussed the project with local and company officials. The CCWA should discuss whether we want to write our US senators and representative in support of federal loan guarantees for this plant, which will consume coal refuse from the lower section of Clearfield Creek.

At the WBSRC meeting, we heard a talk on treatment of acid mine drainage for use in gas well fracking, using a plant near Clearfield. We also discussed the Educational Program to be conducted this spring.

Ace Drilling Site-Earl and Dick were to sample this area in the next week.

The following report was given by Michelle Merrow:

Ferris Wheel Reveg—Michelle will check with PA Game Commission regarding the availability of any free trees for the project. Michelle and Shawn Simmers are working on pricing for the additional acreage to be stabilized and possible Forest Reclamation Area (FRA) reclamation on the site. FRA is a reclamation practice that establishes hardwood forests on former mine sites.

West Ferris Wheel—Some additional site spot survey and wetland work is needed. ARE will schedule this work in the next few weeks with Art Rose as weather permits.

Morgan Run 8, and 1-6. Growing Greener Grant funding was not awarded for these projects. They will be re-submitted in 2009.

Morgan Run 7 and Morgan Run Smith. Funding was awarded for phase 1 of construction for MR7 and \$2000 for sampling at MR Smith. Construction at MR7 should start in late summer.

Morgan Run Frog, Tuff, and Tuff Mitigation—Due to weather, there is not any progress at MR Frog, MR Tuff, and MR Tuff Mitigation. Alder Run Engineering continues to conduct periodic inspections. 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.

Morgan Run Ross—MR Ross permit applications will be submitted by the end of March. ARE received the signed and notarized applications from Earl Smithmeyer.

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. Ray asked that members return their sold tickets as soon as possible and that he still has lots of tickets. Bob will take care of ordering the fish and purchasing prizes. Also discussed was the solicitation of vendors that have supported the fishing derby in the past.

New Business:

Al Colian from the PA fish Commission explained that a biologist from the Fish Commission will be assessing additional sections of the Clearfield Creek. This may be very helpful for future trout stockings in this stream. Also mentioned was that if we find any garbage along the stream either leave as found or take a picture of it and Mr. Colian will prosecute, if possible.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2009, Prince Gallitzin Park, Main Office 6:30 PM.

Adjournment: On a **motion** by Dan McMullen and seconded by Dick Dotts the meeting was adjourned.