

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting

May 20, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by President John Strittmatter at the Laurel Run Sportsman's Club, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Fifteen members were present.

Approval of Minutes. Earl Smithmyer moved and Ray Hollen seconded that the minutes of the 4/15/03 meeting be approved as presented. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Larry Sutton presented the Treasurer's Report. Beginning with this month's report, bank account balances will be given as of the end of the last month, rather than as of the meeting date. This avoids confusion when trying to make deposits or pay bills close to the meeting date.

Grant Account	Beginning balance (4/15/03)	\$3234.44
	Add: Bank interest	0.16
	Balance 4/30/03	\$3234.60
Regular Account	Beginning balance (4/15/03)	\$3570.01
	Payment – Alene Smithmyer-Cleanup	(118.45)
	Dues deposit	170.00
	Donation deposit	15.00
	Bank interest	0.15
	Balance 4/30/03	\$3636.71

For dues, \$10 was collected since last meeting (Homer Krug)

A check for \$1300 was received from Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation for our grant application on the "2002/03 Regional Watershed Support Initiative" This will be deposited in the Grant account and will be kept track of separately for spending on 1) Hall rental, 2) Lab analysis, and 3) Office supplies. Funds must be used by October 1, 2003. A final report to WPCAMR is due Oct. 6, 2003.

The application for a credit card for CCWA was declined by FNB bank, due to lack of history by CCWA. If members choose to pay expenses with a personal credit card, simply provide the Treasurer with a receipt for reimbursement.

Following a motion for approval of the Treasurer's report by Sean Bartlett, seconded by Stephanie Wharton, the report was approved unanimously.

Membership Committee. Bob Funicelli reported we have 2 new members this month. John Strittmatter reported the printing of 1000 membership cards for \$38.16, plus \$1.84 for a perforating wheel.

Public Relations Committee. Jerry McMullen reported on publicity for Watershed Awareness Week. He had obtained prices for ads. In the Clearfield Progress, a 4x4 in. add was \$50. In the combination of the Patton, Ebensburg, Cresson, Portage and Barnesboro papers, a similar ad was \$66.40 for a single paper, or \$102 for all 5 papers. Richard Dotts moved, seconded by Stephanie Wharton, that we approve funds for ads in both sets of papers, but it was pointed out that \$200 had already been approved last month. Pat McNulty suggested that we should try to get reporters to come to the meetings and get free publicity. Sean Bartlett suggested preparing press releases, possibly covering the \$1300 grant, John Dawes visit, or other topics. A committee of Jerry McMullen, Earl Smithmyer, Pat McNulty, Stephanie Wharton and Sean Bartlett was appointed to prepare a press release after the meeting.

Historical Committee. Alene Smithmyer reported that photos were available of the fish stocking with John Dawes and of the Cleanup.

Finance Committee. On the death of the father of Past President Jeff Holtz, Earl Smithmyer sent flowers in the name of the Association at a cost of \$30. This expenditure was unanimously approved. Earl also suggested that we should have a policy on deaths of close relatives of members. After discussion, it was moved by Richard Dotts and seconded by Ray

Hollen that the CCWA should spend up to \$40 for flowers or other remembrances according to the wishes of the family for deaths of close relatives of CCWA members. Unanimously approved.

Bills for other expenses were considered: For the Website \$119.60 to June to Sean Bartlett, \$40.00 for membership cards to John Strittmatter, and rent to Sportsman Club and Catholic Church for meeting halls (receipts to be obtained). These items had been previously approved.

Technical Committee. Arthur Rose reported that sampling was complete for Areas A, B, C and all but one site in Area E, and 1 month is left for Area G. Pine Run sampling by Richard Dotts and Earl Smithmyer will also be completed next month. Data will be sent to the Conservation District, and we will discuss results and conclusions with them.

On May 5 about 7 members participated in a demonstration of aquatic sampling by Bryan Rabish and Stephanie Wharton on Beaverdam Run near Ashville. Numerous weird insects were observed. It was suggested that we might attract students from schools to help with such surveys, perhaps in the Klondike Mine area. Also, planting and other steps in the Klondike project might use students or scouts. Discussion followed. Larry Sutton reported negative results from an attempt to recruit high school biology teachers and students. Others indicated that a teacher by the name of Bishop, and environmental teachers or scouts might be a possibility. Earl will check with a Jr. High teacher. (In later discussion, it was decided that active recruitment might better wait until we had a definite project for students.) Sean suggested that the aquatic survey might be an additional event for publicity.

Joe Allison brought up the possibility that the CCWA might want to check into the Powell Run (Blandburg) AMD treatment plant of C&K Coal. If the company was unable to continue supporting the plant, we might be able to help it continue operating by periodic checks of operation, and with adding treatment of several other discharges in the immediate vicinity. Gary Dotts, related to Richard Dotts, is the current maintenance person for the plant. Also, additional sources of funding might be sought. Arthur Rose will discuss the plant with Tom Holencik of DEP.

Arthur Rose reported on a Stream Prioritization meeting at Pleasant Gap with DEP Hawk Run personnel on May 13. About a dozen additional streams were discussed, including Pine Run and Morgan Run in downstream Clearfield Creek. Final priority decisions will be made next month by DEP personnel.

Arthur Rose reported a phone call from Andrew Stern of ATS Engineers regarding preparation of a budget and scope of work for the Brubaker Run Project for the Corps of Engineers. Stern also inquired if Rose would be willing to consult for the project. Rose indicated he would like to participate, but he will donate all earnings from this consulting to CCWA for matching funds on the project. A list of ideas for consideration was submitted to Stern.

Earl Smithmyer and Arthur Rose completed another sampling of Brubaker Run sites on April 24. Several small to moderate sources are indicated above the Clay Mine discharge, in addition to the discharges being treated by Bender and Cooney.

Old Business. Pat McNulty asked if there had been any action from our request to legislators for support on the Klondike project. Joe Allison will check on this.

On the **Coal Refuse project**, Arthur Rose reported a discussion with Jim Walter of Bender Coal regarding the refuse in stream 45 just N of Dean. Bender has analyses of the piles in the stream bottom and they are low BTU, not good for cogen plants, but no data on the hillside pile. Bender and the Game Commission are discussing removal of this pile and possible treatment of the adjacent acid discharge. Walters did not encourage us to sample and map the pile, but Rose suggests we should get this data and if favorable, use the data to promote removal and use.

Stephanie Wharton brought a property map of the Frugality area to identify the owner of the trash near there.

New Business Stephanie also announced that **Earl Smithmyer was named “Conservationist of the Year”** by the Cambria County Conservation District. Congratulations to Earl for this well deserved award.

Joe Allison was asked what was the outlook for funding of Growing Greener in the Rendell administration. Joe discussed this but did not know any specifics.

Earl Smithmyer stated that we need to do a road cleanup in June. **The date of June 8 at 9 AM at the Laurel Run Sportsman’s Club was selected for the cleanup.** All are urged to attend and bring friends.

A trash cleanup is also needed in the Klondike Mine area – this was suggested for a possible future date.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be on June 17 at the Laurel Run Sportsman’s Club at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned.