

**CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
MEETING OF
JULY 16, 2013
www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org**

The meeting was called to order by President Ray Hollen with the pledge to the flag. There were 14 members present for the meeting plus Jackie Williams from Alder Run Engineering and Amanda Conrad, a SFU student who does water testing at the Swank Project under Dr. Strosneider. Ray welcomed them to the meeting. A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was then passed accepting the June 18, 2013 minutes. Ray reminded all present that we were taping the minutes.

Secretary's Report:

Jerry reported that, in the past month, he had mailed the gift certificate with a card to Rebecca Holler. He also mailed out 12 thank you letters to fishing derby sponsors. He also had met Ray and both signed and Jerry mailed the paperwork for the Gibson-Halstock project to DEP, Harrisburg.

Membership Committee:

There were no new memberships received this past month.

Public Relations/Historical Committee:

Ray reported that he had received two articles from Dick Dotts that were recently in The Progress. One article was on the fishing derby and the other showed Rebecca Holler working with some kids at Moshannon Valley High School. We want to thank The Progress for this coverage.

Finance Report:

Earl reported that the dam cleanout ticket sales are going very poorly. Ray stated that he has only a few hundred tickets given out for sales. Discussion was held on how we can increase sales of these tickets. Suggested was an e-mail to all members with a scanned copy of the ticket. Once again, I am asking anyone to consider buying a few tickets or to help sell a few tickets.

The members present also discussed the solicitation letter to be sent to some of the local organizations who are obligated by law to give away a percentage of their earning from their small games of chance. Ray had a list of several local clubs. This list and the solicitation letter will be further discussed at the August meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Dane Kalwanaski

Description	Amount	Account
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Deposits:

NONE

Expenses:

Mahaffey Labs	\$ 140.00	General Fund-Ace Drilling
Mahaffey Labs	\$ 75.00	Dominion 2013 Grant
Alder Run Engineering	\$16,720.00	Amsbry
Art Rose	\$ 335.34	Amsbry
Servinsky Jewelers	\$ 84.00	General Fund

Listed above are the deposits and expenditures for the past month. A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Larry Sutton was passed authorizing the payment of all invoices and to accept the Treasurer's Report. Please see attached Treasurer's report for the General and Grant Accounts.

Art reported that the equipment purchase totaling \$778.09 for water testing/sampling and the office equipment had been approved by Malcolm. Money is to be taken out of the Amsbry grant account.

A very lengthy discussion was then held on the Amsbry project. Jackie presented to the members a few copies of the design of this project, a one page Project Summary Report and the Growing Greener Goals and Accomplishments Worksheets. Further discussion was held on the need for a cost sheet including the technical related data, permits as part of the design, stone size and whether we need to build a larger system vs. a smaller system. Afterwards a **motion** by Larry Sutton and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was passed to pay the outstanding \$16,720.00 invoice to ARE for the design work on the Amsbry Acid Mine Drainage Treatment System. Pending are a few remaining items as part of the contract with ARE.

A meeting was scheduled with Michelle Merrow, ARE, and the Board of Directors to discuss the Amsbry, WFW project and the Gibson-Halstock project. Tentative date is July 23rd, 6:15 PM at Laurel Run Sportsman's.

Grant Committee:

Dan was unable to attend the meeting due to his work schedule.

Dam Cleanout Committee:

Earl mentioned that he had recently talked to John Slovikosky about the replacement of the stone that had washed out in the coffer dam. Work is pending in the next few weeks.

Cleanup Committee:

Earl reported that we only had 13 volunteers for the cleanup on Sunday, July 14th. Despite the low number of volunteers we did get all of our designated section of highway done, although some members had a pretty long section. Ed reported that PennDOT picked up the garbage bags the following day.

We only have one more cleanup remaining: Sunday, September, 29th. Please put this date on your calendar as this is both a stream and roadway cleanup.

Tech Committee: The following tech report was presented by Art Rose, Chairman of the Tech Committee Art Rose: **Tech Committee Report-July 16, 2013**

Klondike Project Sampling on 6/18 showed continuing partial treatment with lower acidity than recent months. The slag bed is probably contributing to treatment. A visit on 7/16 showed similar field results. Paperwork for the OSM funds to replace the compost continues. Rachel Brennan suggested that the remaining Crab Shell funds be used to add crab shell material to the new compost layer. This is probably a good idea.

West Ferris Wheel Project We await the paperwork verifying that W. Ferris is an authorized site for the OSM funds. We should consider starting Phase I of the project with the funds currently available, if a satisfactory contract modification can be negotiated with Krieger.

Gibson Project The land transfer between Bender and the Game Commission has been finalized, and the land at Gibson now belongs to the Game Commission, so we can go ahead with construction. A Good Samaritan agreement has been prepared and sent to Alder Run Engineering for their approval and signature. In view of possible timber of value in the area, it was suggested that we need to outline the project area for the Game Commission and allow them to evaluate the timber.

Old Beldin Project The water sample from 6/18 shows a pH of 6 and much lower acidity (23) and metals than the 2003 sampling (pH 3.5, acidity 80). A sample on 7/16 has a pH near 8. The discharge has apparently improved considerably, but further sampling will be done to confirm this. The site was visited again on 7/16. A second small discharge near the main one has recently appeared and will require consideration in system design.

Note: a **motion** by Earl Smithmyer and seconded by Dick Dotts was passed authorizing Art to send in a proposal for EPA 319 money for design and permitting on the Beldin Mine Site.

Little Laurel Run Recovery study Trout Unlimited has suggested Little Laurel Run for a study of biological recovery after installation of treatment. Members present agreed to sign a letter to Trout Unlimited verifying our support. A letter to express our support for this project is drafted and should be submitted.

Amsbry Project Supplies worth \$788.09 were purchased from some remaining funds of this project. These include pH meters, and a computer scanner and printer. A one-page final report was submitted by Alder Run to Malcolm Crittenden, but we await a larger report and design specifications.

Brubaker Project A report on the project has been received from the Corps of Engineers and reviewed. Five alternatives are evaluated but no specific recommendation is made.

Swank Project Sampling by Amanda Conrad continues, and another St. Francis student also conducted a study at the site. Unfortunately, he was accosted by a Game Commission person and threatened with citation, but was able to explain his presence. A letter has been prepared describing our collaboration with St. Francis, and an explanation has been sent to Dan Yahner of the Game Commission to avoid future problems of this type.

The Following Is Michelle Merrow's Report, Presented By Jackie Williams, Alder Run Engineering:

Ferris Wheel Revegetation Phase 2—An application for reimbursement and status report through 6/30/13 is presented to CCWA for signature and submission tonight for the soil sample and fertilizer application. The Penn Cambria receipt was received, so the reporting to DEP was submitted through March 31, 2013, last month. There are several applications for payment to DEP that were submitted but will not be paid until DEP receives the final report.

There is roughly \$1050 left in the fertilizer supplement, to be spent by 9/30/13. The closing date was verified on the contract and with DEP (it is not June 30, 2013). We have that little bit of money left over because we saved money using John Slovokosky instead of Meadville Land Service to do the fertilizing. We need to spend it by 9/30/13, and report it by 10/30/13. A suggestion was made to purchase fertilizer and have John Slovokosky apply it next spring. If CCWA does that, we need to keep a record of the reason why he was used as a sole source and quotes/bids were not obtained.

We need a receipt from Earl or Dane for the soil sample analysis, as Earl discussed with Jackie today.

Art helped ARE by adding some additional detail to a short paragraph about what was done with the \$1000 education/monitoring supplement. It was submitted to Donna Carnahan at DEP via email.

West Ferris Wheel Construction Phases 1 and 2—The amendments to revise the scope of work for the EPA 319 grants that were signed last month were approved, and Donna Carnahan passed this information on. The amendments were forwarded to David Hamilton at OSM. CCWA should receive paper copies of these if they have not already.

DEP-Malcolm Crittenden passed on the Eligibility Determinations for the OSM funding to the DEP legal staff, then revised them based on their comments. We are waiting for them back from DEP legal. They were submitted to Malcolm in April, and he finished them 7/15/13.

ARE is working on project reports for DEP which will be presented to Art for review. ARE provided an application with supporting documents to David Hamilton previously, and provided him with additional requested info on Klondike costs plus a new combined budget form with KL and WFW costs. Art assisted with CCR/EIN information. A new budget form was developed to include the KL costs. After receipt of this form, OSM will have all they need from CCWA to issue the grant, and they have budgeted the \$100,000 for this project, per email correspondence with David Hamilton today. OSM can't send the paperwork for contract until they get the eligibility determination from DEP legal. We expect all this within a month.

Krieger Excavating will honor their bid as long as it takes, but are understandably wanting to get started. They provided a cost estimate to do work under the first phase grant. They did provide an estimate/scope of work if CCWA wanted to start and work under the available grant funds only. We should be careful with this partial contract as OSM can't match a project that won't fully treat the water. Also, we should be careful to word any contract if this is the way that CCWA wants to go to make sure we don't incur any extra charges such as mobilization charges by splitting the contract. Since the OSM

agreement should be forthcoming, you may wish to just wait until the site gets good and dry.

FYI—The Phase 1 grant is valid through 9/30/14.

Klondike— Documents for the Klondike were submitted to OSM, including a cost estimate for the KL work, scope change documents, and a narrative written by Art.

Gibson-Halstock – The design was finalized based on the decision to omit the rock-lined channel and based on a final field view with Art and Brian Merrow. A design report was submitted to CCWA for review. Points to note about the design:

- A topographic survey was not done for the project site, and contours are based on LIDAR data obtained from the PASDA database. They generally appear to visually be accurate, but no survey checking was done.
- There are other AMD discharges upstream and downstream of the Gibson-Halstock discharge, but Gibson-Halstock is the worst contributor of pollution. After Gibson-Halstock is treated, it *should* be enough to sufficiently improve water quality in Little Laurel Run, but these other discharges in the area may need to be addressed in the future.
- The system has two cells in parallel, and each will treat 200 gallons per minute (gpm). Of the 22 months where flow data were obtained, there was only 1 measured flow of 285 gpm that would exceed the design capacity of the stream, so the system will treat most of the water most of the time. The intake structure will allow the flows in excess of 200 gpm to bypass the treatment system, or CCWA can adjust the intake and allow the higher flows to run through the system by operating the control valves.
- The limestone cells are fairly large (3000 tons each), so they were designed with the discharge header along the long side of the rectangular cell to minimize the distance that aluminum precipitates would have to travel during flushing.
- By shifting the project west, we have reduced the cut/fill by getting the treatment cells further away from the steep slopes. However, it is still fairly steep in terms of construction, and the access over the edge of spoil will be very steep. Instead of cutting 25+ feet for limestone cell construction, we will be cutting 16 feet, which is better, but not great. Existing slopes are 5% or greater. The contour interval is 2' instead of the 1' that are drawings usually are drawn on due to using LIDAR contours, so the slope on the plans is deceptively mild at first glance.
- This type of system is not without maintenance, and CCWA should expect to have to “stir”, clean, or replace the limestone over time. The aluminum concentrations are not that high so we estimate that it might be 10 years before stirring is needed.

If this design is ok with the group, permit applications can be submitted. We believe that a GP4 for intakes and outfalls is the only permit needed as the site was designed to prevent wetland impacts. We need to verify if an NPDES permit is needed, and if so, we may need 1 more permit form signed.

A map to be used for the Good Samaritan Application and the form signed by ARE will be forwarded to Art.

ARE is working on reporting through 6/30/13 and an application for reimbursement to DEP which will be presented to Art for review.

Amsbry – The additional remaining equipment money was spent, and the financial reporting adjusted and submitted to DEP. The final report and supporting materials such as the project manual were submitted to DEP-Malcolm Crittenden, and DEP approved the disbursement to CCWA.

A final project summary and minor revision to the project manual were approved by Art. Copies of the design report and plans will be emailed to CCWA as requested by Jerry.

Morgan Run Frog—Art is looking at treatment system success, and asked for additional information about one of the treatment cells that isn't performing as expected. Michelle is looking through the ARE archives for additional data to be given to Art describing how reclamation activities associated with the construction of the AMD treatment system eliminated one of the AMD discharges that the treatment cell was supposed to treat, so additional AMD from another area was routed into the system. The system now receives flows that are 2-3 times the design flow, and the treatment performance is slightly less than it should be during the times of high flow when the design flow is exceeded.

Morgan Run Ross—Treatment system is online and working well. CCCD has taken over the post-construction monitoring and sampling, and they sampled last week. The effluent from the vertical flow pond has been very dark colored, although water quality is as expected, with acidity, iron, and aluminum being removed as expected. ARE will continue to monitor the discharge, but we believe that the color is related to sulfate bacteria. CCCD has indicated that they may try to obtain a TAG grant from Trout Unlimited to look into this further, as they seem to feel that it is maybe related to oil or some other substance. ARE has no indication that the discharge is oil or other hydrocarbon material, that there is some sort of groundwater contamination coming into the system, or that anyone is dumping something on the surface. There is no odor other than the sulfate and compost odors typical at a system like this. The surface water inputs to the system don't show any signs of the coloration, and it's coming out through the effluent pipe from the VFP. ARE experienced this at a similar system the first summer after the compost was installed when temperatures and flows were high, and the system started functioning better. Again, water quality has not been affected.

The gate was installed, and locks installed to secure the gate and outlet structures. Final grant reporting is being done by CCCD.

Morgan Run 7—The system has been brought online. Water levels have been adjusted several times, and water samples collected. Some reseeded will probably be necessary in the fall. Locks are to be installed on the outlet structures this week. The site is quite far from any public roads, and the access is gated. ARE is having difficulty with someone messing with the outlet structures and affecting the water levels/flows, which is negatively affecting the sampling. Hopefully the locks will fix that problem. Also, we are not sure if we have a valve problem, or a problem with someone messing with one of the valves, and we are working to determine the issue. As soon as the site has a little better vegetative stabilization, final paperwork will be submitted.

Data Logger - Nate, Cambria Co. Conservation District, recently checked the data logger and no problems were found. Art has recently received the updated data from Bryan.

Ace Drilling Site-Art needs additional analysis data from Dane for this site. Site will be sampled again in August or September.

Old Business:

Tax Exemption Certificate: Jerry reminded Dane that we still need to check on the current status of our certificate.

New Business:

CCWA Support: Earl reported that he had received a phone call from Kelley Williams, TU, asking if CCWA would offer their support for a project that she is applying for OSM money. Project is in Clearfield Creek watershed. Kelley can come to the August meeting to explain further.

Weir Material: Earl reported that he has used up about all of the lumber used to make weirs. He needs to purchase two 2 X 12's and four 2 X 4's. We also need 8 four foot pieces of rebar. Money for the materials is to be taken out of the Dominion Grant.

Board Meeting: Earl asked if the Board Members could meet briefly after the regular meeting.

Service Plaques:

Outstanding Service Award: each year CCWA gives an outstanding service award to an individual who has worked diligently to help CCWA achieve its' goals. This years' recipient was Bryan Rabish. Bryan is admired each year for his work with the young students at our annual Penn Cambria field trip. He does an excellent job explaining the macro invertebrate study and then spending time with each group for proper identification of the aquatic life that they found. His contributions through the Cambria County Conservation District are also greatly appreciated.

Past President Service Award: a plaque was also presented to Ed thanking him for his past service as President of CCWA. We can not thank Ed enough for his dedicated leadership during his Presidency.

Next Meeting: August 20, 2013, Laurel Run Sportsman's, Dysart, 6:30 PM.

Adjournment: On a **motion** by Larry Sutton and seconded by Dane Kalwanaski the meeting was adjourned.