

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Minutes, Meeting of October 21, 2003

The meeting was **called to order** by President John Strittmatter at 6:33 PM in the St Thomas Church in Ashville, PA, followed by the pledge to the flag. Fifteen members were in attendance.

Approval of Minutes. On a motion by Larry Sutton, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report. Treasurer Larry Sutton presented the following report: During the month of September, the following activity took place in the bank accounts:

Regular Account

Beginning Balance, September 1 st	\$3,144.67
<u>Expenses:</u>	
none	
<u>Deposits:</u>	
Dues	10.00
Bank interest	0.14
Ending Balance, September 30 th	\$3,154.81

Dues for Deposit at 9/30/03: \$0

<u>Grant Account</u>	<u>WPCAMR</u>	<u>FISH</u>	<u>HEINZ</u>	<u>Accrued</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>GRANT</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>GRANT</u>	<u>Interest</u>	
Beg Balance, Sep 1 st	\$ 616.90	\$1,000	\$ 577.00	\$33.13	\$2,227.03
<u>Expenses:</u>					
None	_____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>Deposits:</u>					
Bank interest	_____	_____	_____	0.10	.10
End Balance, Sep 30 th	\$ 616.90	\$1,000	\$ 577.00	\$33.23	\$2,227.13

Note 1 - On 8/31/03, the reported balance in the Heinz Fund was \$610.13, which included accrued bank interest for 18 months of \$33.13. In September, interest was separated for accuracy, since those earnings are unrestricted and not part of the Heinz Fund.

Note 2 – On 9/30/03 the WPCAMR Fund had invoices of \$620.48 to be paid in October, which will close out this Fund. The excess expense of \$3.58 (\$620.48 minus \$616.90) will be paid from accrued interest earnings in the Grant Account.

Secretary's report. The secretary reported that he was unable to satisfactorily print the CCWA brochure on our printer, but that the Cambria County Conservation District had printed a large number of brochures. Also, the Secretary mentioned that he will bring an inventory of stamps and other valuable property to the next meeting so that we may have a record of this property. The Secretary's report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Ray Hollen.

Membership Committee. The new members joining at the Skeet Shoot were briefly discussed.

Public Relations and Historical Committees. An article on the Skeet Shoot appeared in the Mainline paper and has been added to our scrapbook by Alene Smithmyer.

Finance Committee. The **skeet shoot** went very well and about \$160 was cleared in addition to the expenses of the meet. Jeff Holtz donated 12 trophies and is largely responsible for the success of the event. The meeting voted its thanks to Jeff Holtz and directed that a letter of thanks be sent to Jeff Holtz.

Tech Committee. Committee chair Arthur Rose announced that we have been awarded a Growing Greener Grant by the State of Pennsylvania for \$12,855 for the **Klondike Mine project** on Little Laurel Run. A formal contract will be signed after a meeting with the DEP Watershed Manager (expected to be Joe Allison) and a Project Advisor. It was moved by Earl Smithmyer and seconded by Ray Hollen that the officers be empowered to sign the contract when an acceptable version is available. Unanimously approved. Treasurer Larry Sutton and Arthur Rose attended a training session for this grant on Oct. 21.

A list of tasks to be accomplished on the Klondike Grant was discussed. An early task will be installation of a gate on the access road. Ray Stoy indicated he might be able to find a used gate. On a motion by Arthur Rose, seconded by Stephanie Wharton, Earl Smithmyer was authorized to work with Ray Stoy and others to get the gate installed. Actual installation may have to await a more formal agreement with Cooney Bros. Coal Co. Rose will prepare this agreement for John Strattmatter to present to Cooney. Another project is to install 3 weirs along Little Laurel Run and sample monthly to identify any additional significant sources. Several members indicated they will help on this task. Surveying of the property has been discussed with Clark Cree of Cree Surveyors, and a progress report is awaited (At a field meeting with Rose and Smithmyer on 10/25, Cree showed a map of property ownership and areas for detailed topographic mapping were outlined. Cost will be on a time and materials basis and is expected to be within the budgeted amount.).

Rose and Smithmyer attended a meeting with the Blair County Solid Waste Committee on Oct. 14, and discussed the Klondike Project, which is partly on their land.

On the **Brubaker Run Project** with the Corps of Engineers, several members participated in a field meeting with consultant Andy Stern on Sept. 30, to discuss and examine details of the field site. A progress report on the project was sought for the meeting, but was not available.

Rose attended a meeting of the DEP **Upper West Branch Watershed Group** meeting in Clearfield on Oct. 20. The DEP presented its list of priority streams in the region. Of about 12 streams heading the list, Little Laurel Run, Brubaker Run and Blain Run were on the priority list. Also, a lawyer is retained by the Blairsville Office of the Western PA Conservancy, according to Dr. Blakeny, a director of this organization. Rose understood that this lawyer could be available to the CCWA at no cost.

On a field examination of Phil Schreyer's land at the headwaters of Muddy Run with Donna Carnahan's group from Clearfield Co., three water samples were collected, but she has funds left for only two analyses. Rose recommended that we pay for the remaining analysis from the Heintz grant, which is designated for lab costs and has about \$500 left. On a motion by Earl Smithmyer seconded by Stephanie Wharton, this funding was unanimously approved.

Arthur Rose presented information on **passive treatment systems**. After illustrations of the types of passive systems and criteria for choosing the type, he showed a list of successful and unsuccessful vertical flow ponds, the major method for water like Brubaker Run. Of 39 sites, 32 were successful with no significant problems. Of the remainder, several had designs now recognized to be flawed, and several lacked monitoring and maintenance. Rose suggested that properly designed and maintained vertical flow systems are expected to be successful, in contrast to previous indications by P.J. Shah.

Old Business. The Dysart Dam cleanout is completed and the dam is refilled. A **Fishing Derby** is planned for the spring. A committee of Earl Smithmyer (Chair), Bob

Funicelli, Dave Wharton, Ed McMullen, Max Scheeler, Bryan Rabish and Stephanie Wharton was appointed to formulate plans for this derby.

The **WPCAMR grant** was closed out on Sept. 30. Major expenses were \$600 for rent of the two meeting spaces, \$598.60 for analysis of 12 samples of coal refuse, \$156.88 for purchase of 2 pH meters, and \$48.10 for postage stamps. A report on the coal refuse piles is in preparation by Rose.

At the **Cider Festival**, we had a display of our activities, and we sold a few shirts and caps, as well as meeting several potential members. Thanks are due to the Conservation District for major help on this exhibit.

At the **road and stream cleanup** on Oct. 19, we successfully cleaned 5 miles of stream and road between Ashville and Dean, plus a new 3 miles of road from Ashville to Syberton. About 200 bags of trash and many tires, a refrigerator and other junk were collected on the new section. A group of 36 members and friends helped with the cleanup. The group discussed signing a contract for the new miles. On a motion by Ray Hollen seconded by Ed McMullen, it was unanimously voted to seek a contract for this section with the state.

New Business.

Bryan Rabish reported that the **printing of the brochure** by the Conservation Dist. cost \$75 for 250 copies. Payment of this amount was unanimously approved on a motion by Jerry McMullen seconded by Bob Funicelli.

Bryan also pointed out that a **sign for the Klondike Project** might be obtained through the Parks system. He will check on this.

Bryan knows Ken Rowe of the **Bennetts Branch Watershed (Dent's Run)** area, where the Corps of Engineers has an ongoing project. He will investigate a visit to the site for several members who indicated an interest.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be at the St. Thomas Church on November 18.

On a motion by Stephanie Wharton seconded by Alene Smithmyer, the meeting was **adjourned** for beverages and Alene's delicious cookies.