

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
MEETING OF October 21, 2008
www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org

The meeting was called to order by President Ed McMullen with the pledge to the flag. There were 13 members present. A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was passed accepting the September minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Due to the recent surgery of Treasurer Larry Sutton, there was no Treasurer's report for this month. Secretary Jerry McMullen gave the following report from Larry's notes:

The check for \$43,905.60, OSM Funds, was received by bank transfer and deposited in CCWA bank account on October 16th- the MR Frog Project. The check was mailed on October 20th to Earth Movers, Unlimited.

The following invoices were received: Dan McMullen-\$152.95-final expenses for the display board (Dominion Peoples Grant account). Note: this grant will be closed after Larry sends a "final report" to Western PA Conservancy. A nice photo of the display board will be included with this report; Earl Smithmyer-\$133.75- food supplies for the road and stream cleanup, regular account; Neonexus Corporation-\$59.95- web host fees for the fourth quarter, regular account; Mahaffey Labs-\$50.00- water samples for the Ace Drilling Site, regular account; Mahaffey Labs-\$110.00-water samples for the Klondike site-Klondike Account.

Larry also received a \$1,162.00 reimbursement from Trout Unlimited for the samples we took on the West Branch. This will be deposited back into the Working Capital Fund. The third quarter report for the Ace Drilling site was mailed to DEP for payment of services. Art made the request to DEP for 20% advance on the grant (as allowed by the grant contract) or \$34,800.00 for the Glasgow project. A reimbursement check totaling \$4,961.93 was received from DEP for the West Ferris Wheel project, to be deposited into the West Ferris Wheel Account.

A **motion** by Shawn Simmers and seconded by Dan McMullen was passed accepting the Treasurer's report and authorizing payment of the invoices.

Secretary's Report:

Jerry stated that he had ordered the plaque and it is ready to be picked up. He also shared with the members present a copy of the Certificate of Liability Insurance for CCWA and a copy of an Indemnification & Waiver to Landowner form. This form may be signed by any officer of the CCWA. Both were given to him by Larry. Lastly, Jerry showed the members a copy of an article that appeared last week in the Tribune Democrat. The article stated that one natural gas company requested use of 20 million gallons of water per day from the two-state Susquehanna River Basin.

Membership Committee:

Bob stated that he had no new members at this time.

Public Relations:

Dan reported that we may want to consider a Press Release for the Ferris Wheel Revegetation Project. It was suggested that we hold off until the spring when the grass at this site has had a chance to take root. We should also have the additional ponds constructed at the Klondike site by then. We will then be able to “show off” both projects at this time.

Historical Committee:

Ray reported that he had received two articles. One of these was an article that appeared in The Progress on CCWA. We want to thank Jane Elling for her great coverage. The other article was on the planned project on November 7th for the placement of fish habitat improvement devices on Kratzer Run, a tributary to Anderson Creek and one of the few that supports fish. Rachel Kester further explained that they are looking for volunteers to help build these structures who don't mind working in the water and getting dirty. The project site is located just west of Curwensville along SR 879 across from Aletta's Farm Market. Folks who want to volunteer or need more info can call Rachel at 814-765-8130.

Pictures from Dan McMullen on the Klondike project are pending.

Finance Report:

There was nothing new under Finances.

Grant Committee:

Shawn reported that he had drafted a letter for the potential grant from Rep. Gary Haluska's office that was delivered by Earl. Dan & Shawn mentioned that we can apply for another grant from Dominion Peoples. A brief discussion was held on the potential needs for this grant.

Cleanup Committee:

The last cleanup of the year held on October 12th was an apparent success thanks to the 12 sorority students from Saint Francis University and the 13 regular volunteers. We want to thank Dane Kalwanaski for his support from Saint Francis University. We also want to thank Alene and the ladies for the delicious luncheon.

Election Committee:

Election Committee Chairman Ray Hollen reported that nominations for the following positions will be accepted at both the November and December meetings: President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and the Board Member position presently held by Shawn Simmers. Elections will then be closed after the December meeting and elections will be held in January, 2009. Ray encouraged members to consider running for one of the above positions.

Tech Committee:

The following tech report was submitted and discussed by Art Rose, chairman of the tech committee: **Tech Committee Report-October 21, 2008**

Klondike Project The Quick Response Request for \$12,145 was approved on 9/30. John Foreman has contacted Ligonier Construction, and they indicate they will construct the additional ponds in the next few weeks. The funds must be spent by 12/31/08. "Fuzzy Filter" material has been donated by Schreiber Inc. and will be used in a test filter between the initial settling pond and the VFP. Repair of the liner was completed by Earl Smithmyer. Partial flow has been restored to the ponds, and is now flowing through the initial pond and into the VFP. A Final Report is largely completed and awaits receipt of revised "As-Built" diagrams and confirmation of the amounts of limestone and compost placed in the VFP's. The "As-Built" diagrams were discussed with the surveyor, Tim Fyock of Benchmark Engineering. He indicated he had not yet received instructions from Ligonier to revisit the site, which is required for some of the revisions. On 9/25, an environmental engineering class taught by Dr Rachel Brennan visited the site and sampled through the KL-2 system.

Brubaker Project A set of samples of the clay mine discharge and several sites on Brubaker Run was collected on 10/15 and submitted to DEP Lab. Upper Brubaker Run was observed to be completely dry and the Clay Mine discharge was lower than before. DEP BAMR reports that water levels in drillholes penetrating the mine are several feet lower than before.

Muddy Run Project A total of 25 discharges have been selected for sampling, and weirs have been installed on at least 17 of them. Three additional sites (BW01, BW03, EU01) have existing weirs that are slated for repair. Several more are ready for installation, and nearly all should be installed this month. Permission was received from the Andrews and Millers to install at site MUEA6. Liability Releases were prepared for one property owner. Carl Undercofler and Rachel Kester have walked at least half of lower Muddy Run and will complete this section in the next week or two, possibly leading to several more weirs. After discussion, it was decided that we would try to sample all sites in one weekend, possibly the 3rd weekend of each month, probably starting in November.

Glasgow project The site was visited with Clark Cree, Bob Hedin and Ted Weaver on 10/1/08. The required surveying and conceptual plans for the renovation were discussed. The priority will be on rebuilding VFP2, with significant effort to improving VFP1 and other aspects of the treatment system. A letter requesting the 20% advance of funds from the \$174,000 grant was sent to Malcolm Crittenden. A signed agreement for the project was received from Philip Schreyer, a landowner of one edge of the project.

Blandburg Project A field meeting with Malcolm Crittenden, Jon Dietz and Tim Gourley on 9/24 to discuss plans for the site. Dietz-Gourley Consulting is to prepare a report and proposal on alternative plans for treating the SBG32 discharge. A visit with surveyor Clark Cree on 10/1 established the required surveying, which has since been accomplished. A set of 4 samples was collected from discharges at the site on 10/15 and sent to the DEP Lab.

Amsbry project A detailed map of the site was received from the air photo surveyor.

Swank 13 Project No activity.

Ferris Wheel Revegetation Project: Shawn Simmers reported that Meadville Land Services began working on October 6th and will complete the project by October 22nd. All fall work will be completed, at this time. Some additional reseeded will have to be done in the spring. After a brief discussion it was agreed that we would hold the contractor's bond until final completion in the spring. We were able to add 2.5 additional acres for a total of 10.5 acres since the sign and the E & S permitting controls were removed from the contract. Shawn wanted to thank Blair County Solid Waste Authority for their great co-operation and the additional compost provided by them. A **motion** by Shawn Simmers and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was passed approving authorization of payment to Meadville Land Service for 80% of the contract or \$47,589.29 after submitting the request to DEP and pending receiving payment from them.

Ace Drilling Site- Earl stated that he will be taking water samples in early December. He also reported that some repair work is being done on the ponds at this site.

The following was reported by Michelle Merrow, Alder Run Engineering:

AMSBRY—Received topographic mapping from Land and Mapping Services. Have a CD copy of the AutoCAD files and a paper copy for Dr. Rose. A final bill will be coming from L&M.

FERRIS WHEEL REVEG— CCWA has 100 percent P&P bonds to cover any issues such as grass not growing until 1 year from the completion date. MLS will likely be asking for someone (CCWA or us) to sign off on substantial completion this week. To wrap up our portion of the project, ARE needs to show the new boundary of the stabilized area on the map and re-submit new drawings to Cambria County Conservation District, so the remainder of the site is permitted when CCWA is ready to work on it.

WEST FERRIS WHEEL AMD—We are waiting for some stream/wetland survey data to be plotted on the site map, and will be asking Dr. Rose to look over our stream/wetland data and our design concept in the next few weeks before Thanksgiving. We tried to tentatively set up a pre-application meeting for the stream/wetland impacts for the project, and have run into a little snag. Tom Pluto, the US Army Corps of Engineers person who would view the site is off on leave until the end of November, and DEP will not schedule a meeting until the Corps can attend. This has been problematic for several of our projects, not just West Ferris Wheel. We'll keep working to get a solution for this.

MORGAN RUN 7,8—No word. Waiting for Growing Greener Announcement which is expected in September.

MR ROSS—Michelle met with Randy and Anita Ross on the last Sat. in September to view some abandoned mine land areas on the Ross property to be used for disposal of the fill excavated from the system. Work is continuing on the site plans, and plans are scheduled to be submitted for permits in early Nov.

MR FROG—Construction is progressing in terms of installation of outlet structures and piping, final grading of the fill disposal area, and removal of the garbage. The remaining

work is mostly seeding, and substantial completion is to be done by Oct 30. Earthmovers received a check for \$43,905.60 from the watershed group for the first disbursement from the OSM money for the project. There is no application for payment for OSM for Frog this month.

MR TUFF—Construction is progressing in terms of installation of outlets structures and placement of compost in the vertical flow pond. The concrete intake structures have been installed and look nice. The contractor has been working hard on the installation of the final piping and outlet structures. Solar panels and controls should be installed this week. Grass is finally growing on the seeded areas, and it's starting to look nice. Work to be substantially complete by Oct. 30.

MR TUFF Mitigation—Except for some touch-ups, work is substantially complete. Michelle to meet with EM Brown on Wed. 10-22 to develop a final punch list for the work, including some repairs to the railroad bed access area, and seeding.

Old Business:

Gary Haluska Pending Grant- Earl stated that he had recently talked to Rep. Haluska's secretary and that she would be sending CCWA a contract for this grant.

Cider Festival Update- Ed reported that our display board at the Cider Festival received a lot of visitors that had a keen interest in our projects displayed. We received \$8.00 in donations. Special thanks to Dan Bickle, Prince Gallitzin Park Superintendent.

New Business:

Trout Unlimited Meeting-as the result of a member from TU visiting our display at the Cider Festival, CCWA was invited to attend a TU meeting. Ed and Earl attended the Blair County meeting with our display board and explained some of the many projects that we have been working on. This local TU chapter is interested in a stream cleanup project for both Sugar Run and Kittanning Run.

Clearfield County Planning Commission- Rachel Kester stated that Clearfield County has initiated a storm water management study. A meeting will be held on November 12, 2008, 7:30 PM to introduce the project and identify problems. Any questions please call Rachel at 814-795-8130.

Final Note- President Ed McMullen gave a special thank you to Shawn Simmers and Dan McMullen for all their hard work in securing our new display board. Special thanks were also given to Bryan Rabish for his work in reproducing and laminating some of the pictures on display. Nice job guys!

Next Meeting:

November 18, 2008, Prince Gallitzin Park, Main Office 6:30 PM. Please Note that this is our winter meeting site.

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