

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting, January 21, 2003

Call to order: President Jeff Holtz called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM in the St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Ashville, PA. Nineteen members were present.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of Dec. 17, 2002 were read by the President and were approved as read.

Election of officers:

The following nominations had been made at the December meeting:

President-Elect (Vice President): Earl Smithmyer

Secretary: Arthur Rose

Treasurer: Larry Sutton

The question of electing a director or directors was discussed but was tabled pending discussion of changes in the by-laws. Current directors are Dennis Storm for one more year and Ed McMullen for two more years.

Additional nominations were called for from the floor. Dan McMullen was nominated for Secretary by Alene Smithmyer. No other nominations were made. It was then moved, seconded and voted that the nominations be closed. Because there was only one candidate for President-Elect and Treasurer, these individuals were elected by unanimous acclamation. A secret ballot was held for Secretary. After counting the ballots, President Holtz announced that Arthur Rose was the new Secretary.

Treasurer's report: In the general fund, \$30 was deposited from memberships and \$0.36 was added from interest, for a balance of \$4144.14. In the Grant fund, \$950 was paid to Mahaffey Labs for analyses and \$1.43 of interest was paid for a balance of \$4755.58. The annual report of the Treasurer, Earl Smithmyer, was distributed to the members. This report was prepared by Larry Sutton, the incoming Treasurer.

At the recommendation of Larry Sutton, the "Fish Fund" which is restricted to purchase of fish, is to be transferred to the Restricted account containing the Heinz Grant, restricted to analytical costs. The motion to transfer these funds was approved unanimously. After discussion it was decided that the Association credit card will list Larry Sutton as the authorized user.

Secretary's report: Larry Sutton had suggested that a corporate seal and record book should be obtained for the Association. This can be obtained for \$60, and will be paid from the grant administered by the Conservation District. Unanimously approved.

Membership Committee: It was suggested that cards for sign-up of new members be included with the mailing of minutes and/or 2003 dues. The secretary agreed to do this.

Public Relations Committee: It was decided that Sean Bartlett should list the Association on the Guidestar web site, which lists organizations in search of grants. Arthur Rose agreed to submit updated material on projects and the current minutes to Sean Bartlett for the Web site. The 2002 Treasurer's report will also be posted there.

Historical Committee, Finance Committee: No activities.

Tech Committee: Monthly sampling for January is completed except Pine Run and Brubaker Run special sampling. The Corps of Engineers proposal has been submitted but no further word is available. Jeff Holtz had urged the Corps representatives to consider use of local expertise and contractors.

Arthur Rose reported on progress on submission of a Growing Greener Grant for acid drainage. The initial target was the Beldin Mine in Little Laurel Run, but the property owner, E.P. Bender Coal Co., plans to mine the area would not give permission. The revised target is 2 discharges at the Klondike Mine area in Little Laurel Run. This will remove about 30% of the known acid discharges from the stream, and decrease acid into Clearfield Creek. Jeff Holtz has obtained permission from the major propertyholder, Alice Haight, to allow us to work on the property. Two other owners, Blair County Solid Waste Auth. and Cooney Coal, will be contacted. Assistance from

John Foreman or another engineer is being sought. The proposal is due Feb. 3. It was moved and voted that the Association should support the submission of this proposal.

Old Business.

Dysart Dam. No activity.

Morgan Run Proposal. A letter from the Association supporting this Growing Greener proposal by Clearfield County Conservation District has been written and given to Jen Demchak. It was noted that owner Dennis Storm has given permission for work at the Morgan Run site.

Coal Refuse Studies. The proposal for sampling and study submitted by Bryan Rabish was not funded.

Bob Mooney, Mike Terensky and Joe Cusick attended the meeting and discussed their activities on coal refuse piles near Flinton. They own about 36,000 tons of refuse that meets specifications, but have so far not been able to have the piles removed. After discussion, it was decided that the CCWA should continue efforts to locate piles and ownership with the goal of interesting local cogen plants in using this material

Remaining Growing Greener funds. An amount of \$1269 remains in the grant administered by the Conservation District. This grant expires the end of March. After discussion, it was suggested that these funds be used for purchase of the corporate seal, two GPS units, a FAX/Copier/Printer, paper and postage. Bryan Rabish is to purchase these items. In addition, a bill for about \$250 was submitted through Jeff Holtz from the past secretary, Bobbie Peltzer.

New Business.

Change in Constitution. Based on discussion among officers and directors, Larry Sutton submitted a proposed change in Article IV, Board of Directors, of the Constitution. The proposed change is as follows (with additions underlined and deletions struck out): "The Board shall consist of all four (4) officers, the immediate Past President, and one (1) member elected at large ~~two (2) elected~~ each year on a rotating basis to a three (3) year term, for a total of eight (8) Board members." This proposed amendment will be voted on at the next meeting, in February.

Changes in Bylaws. Based on discussion among officers and directors, three changes in the Bylaws were proposed in handouts by Larry Sutton. A copy of the proposed changes is attached. These dealt with Errors and omissions insurance (Art. VI, Sect. 7), the requirement for audit by an independent accountant (Art. IV, Sect. 6) and a decrease from 2 to 1 director on committees (Art. IV, Sect. 2). After discussion it was pointed out that Bylaw changes were to be made by the directors, so this task was passed to them.

Sean Bartlett moved that directors amend the Bylaws (Article 7) so that amendment was by the members rather than the directors. After discussion, this motion was passed with one negative vote.

Committees.

Existing Committee membership was listed by Jeff Holtz. Tech Committee: John Foreman, Art Rose and Bryan Rabish; Membership committee: Bob Funicelli; Historical Committee: Alene Smithmyer; Public Relations, Pat McNulty; Finance, Earl Smithmyer. The committees will be reviewed and updated at the next meeting.

Errors and Omissions Insurance. With the revised bylaws, officers and directors will have protection from state law regarding volunteers in charitable corporations. John Smithmyer will get a quote on insurance at the next meeting. Earl Smithmyer noted a session on liability in watershed groups organized by the Susquehanna Basin Assoc. in Altoona on March 18 at 6:30 (but note that this conflicts with the CCWA meeting date).

Congressman Shuster visit. Congressman Shuster will meet the public on Jan. 23 in Gallitzen in the Boro Building. Several members discussed attending to discuss the Brubaker Run project and the Abandoned Mineland Fund.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Feb. 18 at 6:30 in the Ashville Church.

Meeting adjourned (followed by refreshments by Alene Smithmyer).

Respectfully submitted, Arthur W. Rose (Secretary)