

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Minutes of meeting, February 18, 2003

The meeting was called to order at the St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Ashville by President John Strittmatter at 6:30 PM.

Minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2003 were read. Two errors were noted (Blue Run instead of Pine Run, John Strittmatter, not John Smithmyer in Errors and Omission Insurance), and the minutes were approved with these corrections.

Secretary's Report The Secretary reported that the Association had 106 members at the end of 2002. Dues notices for 2003 and a short listing of activities are being mailed to members. After discussion, it was decided that the Secretary will send minutes to all members who attend a meeting, all those requesting minutes, and all those with an e-mail address. An occasional "newsletter" will be sent to all members. Based on discussion with Treasurer Larry Sutton and Membership Chair Bob Funicelli, dues payments will go first to the Treasurer and then information will be forwarded to the Secretary for the Membership list.

Treasurer's Report The Treasurer reported income of \$100 from dues and \$0.35 interest to the General Fund for a balance of \$4244.49. In the Grant Fund, a payment of \$950.00 to Mahaffey labs and \$1.11 interest leaves a balance of \$3806.69. The \$1000 Fish Fund will be transferred from the General Fund to the Grant Fund in the near future. A grant of \$1300 was received from WPCAMR for hall rental, analysis of coal refuse and office supplies (a correction from the rejection indicated in January minutes). The credit card will soon be obtained, and signature cards for the bank account are ready to give to the bank.

Grant Funds The purchase of items from the Growing Greener Grant to the Conservation District was discussed. Bryan Rabish has purchased a FAX-copier-printer-scanner, paper, ink, envelopes, two GPS units, the corporate seal, and paid expenses from the former Secretary, leaving about \$700 in the grant. It was suggested that this be used to purchase a 4 drawer and a 2 drawer file cabinet for the Secretary and Treasurer, topo maps, additional copies of the John Foreman map, stamps, and possibly a computer map program.

From the new WPCAMR Grant, it was moved by Earl Smithmyer and seconded by Stephanie Wharton that \$300 should be paid to the St. Thomas Aquinas Church and \$300 to the Laurel Run Sportsman Club for use of their halls. This motion was approved unanimously. The remaining funds will be used mainly for analyses of coal refuse samples. Earl Smithmyer was appointed Chair of a committee to investigate Coal Refuse Piles. Members include Bryan Rabish, Arthur Rose and Max Scheeler. Robb Piper suggested contacting Jim Panero at Robindale Energy for information needed and sites already known to them.

Membership Committee. Chair Bob Funicelli reported 9 membership renewals this month.

Public Relations. Robb Piper said he was arranging a visit by John Dawes (Director of Heinz Foundation funding) for fishing and acquaintance with the Association and area.

Historical. Alene Smithmyer showed the newspaper article about the visit by John Strittmatter, Earl Smithmyer and Alene Smithmyer with Congressman Shuster, to discuss funding of the Brubaker Run Project and Abandoned Mineland Fund. They had a personal discussion with Shuster, and will send him a copy of the Corps of Engineers proposal.

Killam Associates Growing Greener Proposal. A Growing Greener proposal for \$193,245 was submitted to the state by Hatch Mott McDonald on behalf of Clearfield Creek Watershed Association. This proposal had been submitted in previous years but not funded. The project will restore stream conditions in a flood-prone section of Clearfield Creek near Ashville and in an eroded section near Porter Run in Clearfield Co.

Tech Committee. Arthur Rose reported that the Klondike Proposal for Little Laurel Run was submitted for Growing Greener Funding of \$12,855 plus in-kind support of about \$16,000. The proposal covers design and permitting of two acid discharges. A meeting to evaluate

priority for stream funding at Hawk Run was attended by Bryan Rabish, Stephanie Wharton and Arthur Rose. Of the approximately 20 streams discussed, we made presentations on Little Laurel Run, Brubaker Run, Powell Run, Turner Run, Blain Run and Pine Run. These seemed to be received favorably, but decisions will be made at a meeting in March when the remaining streams will be discussed.

Dysart Dam. No activity.

Constitution amendment. It was moved by Bryan Rabish and seconded by Denny Storm that we approve the proposed change in Article IV, as introduced in the January meeting, to read " The Board shall consist of all four (4) officers, the immediate Past-President and one (1) member elected at large each year on a rotating basis to a three (3) year term, for a total of eight (8) Board members". This motion was unanimously approved.

Insurance for Officers and Directors. Larry Sutton reported a quotation of a minimum premium of \$1000 for \$1,000,000 coverage. Because of the high cost relative to our income, he recommended against such insurance. Officers agreed we will rely on the State coverage as invoked by the revised bylaws.

Finance Committee and Accountant Larry Sutton reported that Paul Vrabel is willing to give occasional advice on accounting matters. He suggested that Vrabel be added to the Finance Committee, consisting of Earl Smithmyer and Larry Sutton. This Committee will examine the 2002 accounts.

Committee membership. Members of the Tech Committee will be Ed McMullan, Jennifer Demchak, Bryan Rabish, Max Scheeler and Arthur Rose (Chair).

Membership Cards One hundred membership cards were printed in February for about \$37.00 but are largely used. Arthur Rose and John Strittmantter will check on less expensive cards. Arthur Rose will send some cards to Jennifer Demchak.

Election of Director at Large. Nominations were opened for director at large, for a 3-year term. Earl Smithmyer nominated Jerry McMullen. No other nominations were made. It was moved and unanimously approved that the nominations be closed. Congratulations to Jerry McMullen as the new Director!

Letter of Appreciation Arthur Rose observed that previous Secretary Bobbie Peltzer was a key person in the organization of the Association, and kept very complete and helpful records. It was unanimously approved that John Strittmatter send her a letter of appreciation for her efforts.

April Stream and Road Cleanup. Earl Smithmyer reminded that we need to do a stream and road cleanup before the start of fishing season. The date of Sunday April 6 was selected, to meet at 9 AM at the Laurel Run Sportsman's Club in Dysart.

Susquehanna River Basin Funding Earl received an announcement of up to \$2000 being available for cleanup of dumpsites along streams. He and others will look for sites and report next month.

Next meeting. The next meeting will be 6:30 on March 18 at the Ashville Church.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned.