

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Meeting
March 16, 2004

The meeting was **called to order** by President Strittmatter followed by the pledge to the flag. Eighteen persons were present. On a motion by Earl Smithmyer seconded by Pat McNulty, the **minutes** of the meeting of February 17, 2004 were unanimously approved.

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

Regular Account

Beginning Balance, February 1 st	\$3,836.22
<u>Expenses:</u> None	
<u>Deposits:</u>	
Dues	535.00
Hat Sales	10.00
Bank interest	0.08
Ending Balance, February 29 th	\$4,381.30

Dues for Deposit at 2/29/04: \$0

<u>Grant Account</u>	<u>KLONDIKE</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, Feb 1 st	\$ 0.00	\$1,000	\$ 452.00	\$29.93	\$1,481.93
<u>Expenses:</u>					
Surveyor	2,500.00				
Derby Tickets	_____	68.90	_____	_____	2,568.90
<u>Deposits:</u>					
DEP Advance	2,571.00				
VFW donations		370.00			
Bank interest	.03			0.00	2,941.03
End Balance, Feb 29 th	\$ 71.03	\$1,301.10	\$ 452.00	\$29.93	\$1,854.06

Other Business:

1. Klondike Grant (2003 DEP Growing Greener) – \$2,500 Request for Reimbursement was submitted in February. Grant regulations only allow us to hold 20% of the full grant at one time.
2. The balance of \$2,500 on the surveying invoice will be paid as soon as the DEP reimbursement is received.

On a motion by Pat McNulty, it was unanimously voted to pay bills submitted by Earl Smithmyer and Arthur Rose.

The **Secretary reported** on a meeting of watershed organizations in Philipsburg on 2/26/04. A nice video on Scout activities by a Clearfield group led to a contact with Scoutmaster Jerry Bartee of the Coalport area. He was very interested in interacting with the CCWA.

An inquiry from Sam Kipp, who had no response from the Association after paying for a Life Membership, led to a discussion of methods for improving contact with members. The secretary suggested a periodic **newsletter** to announce Association activities and events. Pat McNulty, seconded by Earl Smithmyer, moved that a newsletter be sent out 3 times a year. The motion was unanimously approved. The secretary agreed to do the main preparation but asked for help in writing items for the newsletter. It was also pointed out that when members sign up a member, they should give them one of the two-part membership cards. Bob Funicelli indicated that he was doing this for all members he signed up.

The Secretary also suggested that any visitors should introduce themselves at the

meeting. Mr. **Jim Walters** of E.P. Bender Coal Co. was introduced and talked about their treatment plant in Brubaker Run. This is now operating well despite flows up to 800 gal/min. He estimated a total cost of \$150,000 for the plant equipment and about \$2000/week for chemicals, electricity and labor. The cost would be \$1000/wk at more normal flows of 200 gal/min.

Membership Chair Bob Funicelli announced that we now have **112 members** for 2004.

In **Public Relations**, Pat McNulty agreed to arrange for publicity in the local papers for the Road Cleanup and the Fish Derby, in collaboration with the Secretary. Arthur Rose and Jerry McMullen pointed out that the website needed to be updated, and will work with Sean Bartlett on this. The possibility of a student using the website as a project was suggested. Larry Sutton, Ray Hollen and Jerry McMullen will investigate this.

There was no activity reported by the Historical and Finance Committees.

For the Tech Committee, Arthur Rose reported that **the Klondike Mine construction proposal** was mailed to DEP on March 5 and a receipt was returned. Final design drawings are in preparation for part of the area, and permitting is being started. Rose suggested we thank John Foreman for all his work on the design.

President Strittmatter read a letter from Steve Garbarino of the Corps of Engineers saying that the Corps has to cancel all non-construction Section 206 projects, including **Brubaker Run**, because of a shortage of money. They will not be able to continue until at least October 2004, and perhaps past October 2005. After discussion, it was agreed that Max Scheeler, Arthur Rose and John Foreman will arrange a meeting with DEP and others to discuss how we can fund a feasibility study on sealing of the clay mine. We also need to obtain the report on Phase I of the Feasibility Study. Jeff Holtz will compose a letter to Congressman Shuster asking why does this cancellation had to happen. A letter should go to Congressman Murtha also, since he is the ranking Democratic member of the House Armed Services Committee, which funds the Corps of Engineers.

Rose reported that copies of the **Coal Refuse report** were sent to Cambria Cogen and the Seward plant, as well as to Robert Mooney, Dennis Harchek at the new plant in Karthaus and to Jen Demchak. John Strittmatter pointed out that with the new Seward plant starting, now was a good time to get action on the refuse piles.

Bryan Rabish was unable to make a presentation on the Clearfield Creek Assessment Report at this meeting will plan to do this at the next meeting.

Earl Smithmyer reminded that the **Road and Stream Cleanup** will be held Sunday April 4. Meet at the Laurel Run Sportsman Club at 9 AM. We will clean the stream, the 5 miles of road south of Ashville and the new section north of Ashville. On a motion by Larry Sutton seconded by Stephanie Wharton, it was unanimously agreed to authorize \$125 to Earl Smithmyer for lunch, drinks and paper plates, etc.

A conflict has developed for the second road cleanup date on June 6, so this date will have to be rescheduled.

On the **Fishing Derby**, scheduled for May 22, Smithmyer reported sale of about \$700 of raffle tickets. All raffle tickets should be sold by next meeting (April 20), when the drawing will take place. Bob Funicelli reported a donation of \$100 from the Standing Stone Bass Club in Huntingdon County for prizes. Stephanie Wharton reported discussion with a group who promotes donations for community activities, leading to her preparation and submission of a letter describing the Fish Derby in hopes of generating donations from organizations like Walmart.

Under new business, Mr. Al Coly of the PA Fish and Boat Commission described his proposal to have a **mid-season stocking of upper Clearfield Creek**. He is working with Bryan Rabish on developing the information needed to justify this stocking.

The **next meeting** will be April 20 in the St Thomas Church in Ashville.

On a motion by Larry Sutton seconded by Pat McNulty, the meeting was **adjourned** for discussion and **Alene's refreshments**.