

**CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2005**

The meeting was **called to order** by President Earl Smithmyer with the pledge to the flag. There were twelve members present. There were no guests present.

There were several corrections to the tech report in the March minutes. Secretary McMullen read each correction to the members present. On a **motion** by Ray Hollen and seconded by Larry Sutton the **corrected minutes** of the meeting of March 15, 2005 were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Larry Sutton presented the March Treasurer's Report listed below: during the month of March, 2005 the following activity took place in the bank accounts. Bills paid totaled \$334.69 (regular account) and \$593.83 (grant account). There were deposits of \$90.00 in the regular account and \$100.00 in the grant account. On a **motion** by Alene Smithmyer and seconded by Dan McMullen the treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

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Regular Account

Beginning Balance, Mar 1 st , 2005		\$4,029.70
<u>Expenses:</u>		
File cabinet		(100.69)
Liability Insurance		(234.00)
<u>Deposits:</u>		
Dues		80.00
Donation		10.00
Bank interest		0.17
Ending Balance, Mar 31 st , 2005		<u>\$3,785.18</u>

Dues Held for Deposit at 3/31/05: none

Grant Account

Beginning Balance, Mar 1 st , 2005		\$4,828.53
<u>Expenses:</u>		
<u>Project costs:</u>		
Brubaker '04	0.00	
Klondike '04	428.83	
Klondike '03	165.00	
Fish Fund	0.00	
Heinz Grant	<u>0.00</u>	(593.83)
<u>Deposits:</u>		
New Grant Awards		0.0
Grant Expense Reimbursement		0.00
Donation for Fish Derby		100.00
Bank interest		.20
Ending Balance, Mar 31 st , 2005		<u>\$4,334.90</u>

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Jerry McMullen reported that he had received 7 membership cards in the past month. He had contacted PennDOT concerning the stream signage program. Mr. Gary Davidson from the Hollidaysburg office informed him that we should contact our local municipalities who should be familiar with this program. After a brief discussion Earl Smithmyer said that he would contact Ted Fudalski in Dean Township.

Jerry had also contacted both Wal-Mart and the Coca Cola plant in Ebensburg for a donation to the fishing derby. He is waiting for a response on these request. Ed McMullen stated that he will contact Vale Wood Farms and ask for a donation for the fishing derby.

Jerry had received an e-mail from the ECRR (Eastern Coal Region Roundtable) stating that the Abandoned Mine Land Fund has been extended by the U.S. Senate until September 30, 2005. A second e-mail requested a thank you letter or e-mails be sent to Senator Byrd at http://byrd.senate.gov/byrd_email.html and Senator Specter at arlen_specter@specter.senate.gov . All members are encouraged to send a thank you.

Membership Committee:

President Smithmyer had received 2 membership cards in the mail. These were given to secretary McMullen for recording.

Public Relations and Historical Committees:

CCWA had sent out a press release on March 30, 2005 titled Watershed Association To Study Major Acid Discharge. This was written by Art Rose and covered the grant totaling \$211,620.00 and the work that is to be done on the Brubaker Project. Public relation chairman Pat McNulty had sent this to both the Altoona Mirror and the Tribune Democrat. Secretary McMullen had e-mailed this article to The Progress. Alene Smithmyer reported that an article was in both the Tribune Democrat and Altoona Mirror. An announcement for the cleanup that was held on April 10th was in the Mainliner. We are very thankful for this news coverage.

Finance Report:

Larry presented bills for Mahaffey Lab-\$165.00 and Earl Smithmyer-reimbursement of expenses for roadway/stream cleanup-\$77.07. On a **motion** by Dan McMullen and seconded by Pat McNulty these bills were unanimously approved for payment. Deposits included Regular Account: \$20.00-dues, Grant Account: \$712.00-raffle chances sold, donations of - Knight of Columbus-\$25.00, Standing Stone Bass Club-\$5.00, Allegheny Mountain Safari Club-\$500.00, and Ashville VFW-\$500.00.

Tech Committee:

Art Rose was unable to attend the April 19th meeting. Below is the tech report that he submitted:

Tech Committee

April 16, 2005

Klondike Project

The signed contract for construction was received just before the last meeting. A Compliance Review Form was completed and sent back to DEP.

During the month, four days were spent by John Foreman and Art Rose on finalizing details of design, specifications, contract documents and permitting. The design and contract information should be finished with a couple more days work. On a field visit, the construction area was evaluated for wetland possibilities, in anticipation of an inspection by a representative from DEP in the next month. The location for a highway entrance was studied, and the more easterly location on Cooney land is considered preferable, though the uncertain property boundary is still a potential problem. A simple application will be made to PENNDOT in the next couple of weeks for this location, in hopes that a detailed survey will not be needed. Erosion and sediment control requirements were discussed and tentatively agreed on in a meeting with Robb Piper and staff. Cree Surveying will mark the construction locations and install survey reference points in the next week or so. Cree is also working on the Highway Occupancy permit.

The final signed agreement for construction and permanent access was received from Blair County Solid Waste Authority, and signed by President Smithmyer for the Association. Blair County Solid Waste also signed the Good Samaritan agreement. Gloria Bender reported that her mother, Alyce Hite, signed the revised access agreement and it was forwarded to the Dodson heirs for their signature. Presumably the Good Samaritan agreement is also being signed by them.

Water sampling of 5 sites on Little Laurel Run was continued by Earl Smithmyer. CCWA members cleared out downed trees on the access road, allowing much easier and safer access to the KL2 site. Also, Smithmyer and Rose conducted a tour for Beth Dillon of Susquehanna River Basin Commission to help her plan for a TMDL on Little Laurel Run.

Little Laurel Restoration Plan

A requirement of the EPA funding of the Klondike construction is that a watershed restoration plan addressing all the steps needed to clean up a watershed must be completed. The signed contract between the CCWA and DEP was received for this project. During the month, Art Rose updated water sampling data from DEP permit files in Ebensburg, and added the sampling of the Klondike area to the database. Rose and Shawn Simmers spent several hours surveying acid discharges on lower Little Laurel Run and recognized some additional acid load from this area. Another day was spent investigating discharges and strip mines in the Ferris Wheel and Cooney areas. Shawn will investigate revegetation methods and costs for the Ferris Wheel area.

Brubaker Project

A set of property maps showing details of Game Commission corners and surveys was received from the Game Commission and turned over to Cree Surveying. Several

discussion were held with Carl Underkofler concerning obtaining a detailed map of the abandoned clay mine from Sam Lansbury, who has the Harbison Walker map collection. So far this possibility has not come to fruition. John Foreman assembled some maps and drill hole records for the area from his collection and plans to search for a detailed map of the clay mine with his father in the near future. We plan to compile the geological and hydrological data on the area before finalizing the location of drill holes. Cree Surveying is scheduled to conduct initial surveys of property corners and drill sites so that the Game Commission can construct roads and drill pads, as they have agreed to do. Rose contacted Roy Greenfield, a geophysicist at Penn State University, about conducting the planned geophysical survey to help define the clay mine workings and flow paths of water in it.

DEP Watershed Group meeting

Earl and Alene Smithmyer and Arthur Rose attended a meeting in Philipsburg of Upper West Branch Watershed groups on April 11. Trout Unlimited and DEP administrators are hoping to restore the upper West Branch and tributaries as a recreational region, and have organized a Symposium on this for May 6-7 in State College. Rose will attend this meeting, and plans to have the Conservation District's exhibit on display for CCWA. This plan may help direct funding and interest to our region.

Blandburg Treatment Plant

As a result of a question last month, Joe Allison checked with DEP lawyers and reports that the C&K bankruptcy is close to being finalized, and that the plant will become the property of DEP, or of a Trust set up to hold the assets. However, the bad news is that priority for funding treatment will go to several sites where water supplies are affected, and there may not be any money to support operation of the Blandburg plant.

I suggest that CCWA should develop information on cost of running the plant, as closely as we can estimate, and examine ways that we might contribute to plant operation. We should then search for funds to operate the plant, either from the DEP Trust or elsewhere. Also, we should consider volunteering to inspect and maintain the former C&K passive treatment system on upper Muddy Run near Glasgow, and find out how to operate this facility.

Other Tech News:

John Foreman was present at the meeting to explain the finalized size and design of the construction area for the Klondke Project. There are 3 construction areas-2 passive treatment systems and 1 stream rechannelization area. John had also met with Pam Milovich from DEP for Brubaker project review status. Art and John are working on a copy of the bid documents for these projects. They will be presented at a future meeting.

Art had submitted to secretary McMullen a copy of a contractual letter for the Restoration Plan on Little Laurel Run. Two other proposals were received from Jen Demchack and John Foreman. After reviewing all proposals a **motion** by Ed McMullen and seconded by Larry Sutton was made to accept the low bid from Art Rose. This motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Service Plaques-Earl will contact Jeff Holtz as to the status of these plaques.

Fishing Derby- Earl emphasized that we still have a lot of tickets to give out and sell. As mentioned in the deposits in the Finance Report, Bob Funicelli has been very successful in getting donations for the fishing derby.

Volunteer Agreement-Larry presented an updated Volunteer Agreement for review. After a brief discussion it was agreed to accept the Volunteer Agreement. In the future all volunteers will be asked to sign this agreement.

Thank You-Earl and Alene Smithmyer presented cookies and a thank you note to the Prince Gallitzin Park to thank them for letting CCWA use their facilities during the winter months.

Roadway/stream cleanup-We had a very successful cleanup on April 10th. There were over 40 volunteers for the cleanup. Between 150 and 200 bags of garbage were picked up and several tires. A special thanks to all and especially to the ladies for the tasty luncheon.

New Business:

Brubaker Weir Work- Earl reminded all that there are approximately 12 weirs that need to be replaced on Brubaker Run. Money had been approved at an earlier meeting to purchase lumber for the weirs. Earl stated that he will be walking Brubaker Run and assessing the weirs.

Roadway signs-Ed McMullen expressed his concern over the location of the roadway signs along Rte. 53 between Ashville and Syberton. Neither set of signs is in the proper location. There is a concern for the safety of the volunteers during the cleanup. Jerry McMullen suggested that we contact the Hollidaysburg PennDOT office and see if we can get these signs moved.

The next meeting was announced for May 17, 2005, Laurel Run Sportsman, Dysart, at 6:30 PM. Please note that the next meeting is at Laurel Run Sportsman and **NOT** at the Park Office.

On a **motion** by Ray Hollen and seconded by Dan McMullen the meeting was adjourned for refreshments.