

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
MEETING OF AUGUST 19, 2008
www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org

The meeting was called to order by President Ed McMullen with the pledge to the flag. There were 21 members present. There was a change to be made to the July minutes. Under Tech Report, the line stating “the following report was submitted by Art and presented by Earl Smithmyer” was to be removed from the official minutes (left over from the June minutes). A **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Ray Hollen was then passed accepting the July minutes.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

During the month of July, the following activity took place in the bank accounts:

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Regular Account

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2008		\$6,367.45
<u>Deposits:</u>		
Bank interest		0.54
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Water samples – ACE Drilling		100.00
Web host fees - 3 rd quarter		59.85
Ending Balance, July 31, 2008		\$6,208.14

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Grant Account

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2008		\$32,595.19	
<u>Deposits:</u>			
Norfolk donation	500.00		[Working Capital]
Bank interest	2.76		[Working Capital]
Total Deposits	502.76		

ENDING FUND BALANCES

<u>Expenses:</u>			
Working Capital	0.00	→	\$ 5,300.99
Dominion (display board)	320.00	→	180.00
Amsbry	0.00	→	10,809.49
Ferris Wheel	0.00	→	(192.30)
KL2 - EPA (water samples, work supplies)	502.52	→	10,298.99
KL-Rose	0.00	→	2,500.00
Fish Fund	0.00	→	3,343.26
Heinz Grant	0.00	→	35.00
Total Expenses	822.52		

Ending Balance, July 31, 2008		\$32,275.43	\$32,275.43
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Respectfully submitted by Larry Sutton, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report (Continued):

Larry reported the following invoices:
\$1,187.00- Amsbry Control Survey- Land and Mapping Services-for the survey control on this project- Amsbry Fund.
\$1,351.00-Alder Run Engineering- West Ferris Wheel Project- development and work for March through June- West Ferris Wheel Grant.
\$125.00- Alder Run Engineering- GPS Rental- West Ferris Wheel Project- West Ferris Wheel Grant.
\$1,118.93- Alder Run Engineering-West Ferris Wheel project development- July activities- West Ferris Wheel grant.
\$75.00-Mahaffey Labs- Blandburg Project- water testing. Larry will be setting up a new fund called Blandburg Fund for this project.
\$699.37-John Foreman- reimburse John for the stone purchased from New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.- Klondike Project- Klondike Grant.
\$1,162.00-Art Rose- reimburse Art for 7 lab analysis from Mahaffey Lab- water testing on the West Branch of the Susquehanna. Larry will be sending a copy of this invoice to Trout Unlimited for reimbursement to CCWA.

Larry had also received a \$9,800.00 advanced check from DEP for the Muddy Run Project to be deposited into a new fund for the Muddy Run project. The two invoices listed under the July Treasurer's report (\$2,953.88- New Miles of Clean Stream and \$716.40- Clearfield County Conservation District) will be paid from this check. Larry will also be sending a copy of these 2 invoices along with the quarterly report on the project to DEP.

Lastly, Larry will be sending the 3 invoices listed above from Alder Run Engineering to DEP for reimbursement. Upon reimbursement from DEP, these three invoices will then be paid.

A **motion** by Art Rose and seconded by Shawn Simmers was passed accepting the Treasurer's report and authorizing Larry to pay all invoices.

It was noted that \$7,400.00 is still owed to Ligonier Construction from the Klondike Project. However, we are waiting the final as-built drawings before this is paid.

Secretary's Report:

Jerry reported that he had drafted a letter to be sent out to Norfolk Southern thanking them for the \$500.00 donation. He had also received an e-mail from Rob Piper, Cambria County Conservation District, inviting CCWA to the annual Cider Festival at Prince Gallitzin State Park. It was agreed that we will accept this invitation.

Membership Committee:

There were no new memberships this past month.

Public Relations:

It was mentioned that an article on the Swank 13 project by Bender Coal Co. appeared in the August Pennsylvania Game News.

Historical Committee:

Ray mentioned that a picture of Ed receiving the Conservation award at the annual Cambria County Conservation District's dinner appeared in the Altoona Mirror paper today-August 19th.

Finance Report:

Larry stated that he had nothing new under Finances.

Grant Committee:

Shawn stated that he had nothing, at this time.

Cleanup Committee:

Dave McMullen reported that the cleanup was very light with only 12 people attending. Fortunately the County prisoners had cleaned up a large section of Route 53 earlier in the week. We were able to pickup from Dysart to Dean and a couple of side roads in this area. Next cleanup is Sunday, October 12th. Please mark this date on your calendar as this is both a stream and roadway cleanup.

Tech Committee:

The following tech report was submitted and discussed by Art Rose, chairman of the tech committee:

Tech Committee Report- August 19, 2008

Klondike Project During the month, many members under the leadership of Earl Smithmyer spent several days and evenings removing the layer of iron precipitate from the KL-1 treatment pond, spreading new compost and limestone over the surface and rototilling the compost to restore permeability. The inflow to the system was diverted into the bypass channel. Based on research studies of iron precipitation, the cost and design of an added series of shallow ponds is being investigated by John Foreman. The installation of fabric curtains in several ponds to improve circulation and retention time is also being investigated, as is the installation of a "filter" to remove suspended iron from the inflow to the treatment pond. Also, a Penn State research study involving chitin may provide a small supplementary treatment reactor.

Brubaker Project A set of 10 samples of the Clay Mine discharge and along Brubaker Run was collected on 7/29 and submitted to DEP. The samples show that the acidity of the Clay Mine discharge remains much lower than in 2003 and before. A reconnaissance down valley from the discharge shows considerable gently sloping ground for potential treatment area. The possibility of obtaining bond forfeiture money for Brubaker was investigated with DEP, but it appears that the discharge and permitting at the site is too old to qualify for this.

West Ferris Wheel Project A detailed topographic map was received for the area. A reconnaissance of the area was conducted with Alder Run Engineering personnel on 7/22 to evaluate wetlands and road access. Access from Klondike is possible, though a road from the composting facility or Blacksnake Pike is also being investigated. On 8/14, the discharges were sampled, and measurements made of the amount of ferric iron in the water. The results indicate no ferric iron or dissolved oxygen and very little aluminum in the seeps flowing to weir 32R3, and that an anoxic limestone drain is feasible here.

Glasgow Project We still await final signoff by DEP on this contract. The contract is now to be funded by the DEP bond forfeiture fund. An application for Good Samaritan coverage was submitted to DEP, but awaits a formal access agreement by Philip Schreyer.

Muddy Run Project Walking the streams was mostly completed during the month, and a map of discharges is in preparation. Some follow-up investigation will be needed for part of the area, to attain complete coverage.

Amsbry Project A bill and information for the ground survey of control points was received during the month. Map preparation is underway.

Swank 13 project An evaluation of the limestone requirement for this channel was examined but needs further discussion before a funding proposal can be submitted.

Blandburg Project Weirs were installed and samples collected on the main discharge at the plant (SBG32) and a discharge just uphill from the plant (CKW12A), along with sampling site 51-9 of the Assessment. Samples were submitted to Mahaffey Labs.

Weirs at several other discharges will be installed and sampled in the near future. Requests for proposals for construction of treatment ponds at the site are being prepared by DEP. The possibility of CCWA contracting to operate treatment here was suggested by Malcolm Crittenden. This possibility should be discussed.

West Branch project Field work for this project investigating the influx of acid constituents into the West Branch from Clearfield and Moshannon Creeks was completed in July and a report is being prepared for Trout Unlimited, the sponsor. A bill for analytical costs is being submitted by Art Rose to CCWA for transmission to Trout Unlimited. The study shows that Clearfield Creek is nearly always slightly net alkaline but Moshannon Creek is very acid, probably the worst source of acid into the West Branch.

Other Items Discussed Under the Tech Report:

Ace Drilling Site- Earl stated that he will be taking a sample next month at this site.

Klondike Project: A lengthy discussion was held concerning this project. John Foreman estimated that 2 additional ponds measuring 150 feet X 40 feet and 1.5 feet deep are needed. Estimated cost is \$8,500. Are additional permits needed? Brian Rabish was to check on this. The contract with DEP for the construction of this project expires on September 30, 2008. Do we need to file for an extension? Funding for the 2 additional ponds: after further discussion the following **motion** by Dick Dotts and seconded by Earl Smithmyer was proposed "let John Foreman and Art Rose continue along design line of shallow ponds and continue to pursue the request for Quick Response Program Funding. They are to report to the Board of Directors to finalize funding in order to initiate construction for the project". Motion passed unanimously.

Ferris Wheel Revegetation Project-A pre-bid meeting was held in late July with 7 potential contractors present and bids were due tonight. They will be opened at a meeting of the Board of Directors following this regular meeting. The grant for this project expires on September 30th. It was agreed that a letter should be sent asking for a one year extension on this project. Michelle and Shawn will be working on the necessary

paperwork. Shawn wanted to thank Art, Dan and Michelle for all of their assistance in this project.

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

After the fact notes: 2 bids were received from Meadville Land Service and Borex, Inc. The Board decided to open discussions with Meadville Land Service. Shawn Simmers and Dan McMullen received electronic copies of the bids from ARE for their review and comment. A meeting with Meadville Land Service is scheduled for Wed, Sept. 3, 2008, at 6:00 pm at the Laurel Run Sportsmen.

West Ferris Wheel AMD—Art Rose, Earl Smithmeyer, and Michelle and Brian Merrow from ARE visited the site to try to tie down access issues and get a better handle on site hydrology. Detailed mapping of the wetlands is ongoing, and the project is progressing.

Amsbry—Survey control is complete. Michelle gave a bill from Land and Mapping Services to CCWA for the survey control, and it will be paid directly to Land and Mapping Services. Michelle gave a copy of the survey control report to Art Rose, and one copy is in our files. The next text is generation of topography, and it should be done soon.

MR 7 and MR 8—Michelle asked if CCWA would act as the applicant for Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative Funding for these two projects. The OSM funding is needed to act as 15% matching funding for PA Growing Greener funds requested for construction. Morgan Run Watershed Group is unable to do this since they don't have their 501c3 status. CCWA agreed to do this, and Michelle presented the grant application paperwork to Ed McMullen to sign after the meeting.

MR Tuff Wetland Mitigation--Construction is ongoing and progressing well. Site A has been excavated to the final grade excavation. The site is to be over excavated to allow for substrate placement, and the over excavation will happen just before the substrate is placed or the site would fill with water. The coal refuse at Site B has been removed, and the wetland area is under construction. Construction is on schedule for completion on Sept. 30.

MR Frog--Construction is ongoing. The limestone cells have had the underdrain installed and limestone placed. Remaining work includes installation of outlet structures, seeding, and final grading of the soil disposal area.

The Office of Surface Mines awarded \$82500 for this project, but CCWA never received the award paperwork. OSM will send the paperwork again.

MR Tuff AMD Treatment System Construction—Construction is ongoing. Contractor has been laying underdrain for the limestone cells this week. A significant amount of work remains to be done at this site.

Old Business:

Klondike Project: much about this project was discussed earlier. However, it was mentioned again, to thank the many members present for all their hard manual labor in the removal of the iron and the spreading of the compost.

New Business:

Haluska Funding- Earl mentioned that he had received a call from State Representative Gary Haluka's office stating that CCWA may qualify for State funding of up to \$10,000.00 for a project. Necessary paper work will be filled out, signed and returned to Haluska's office.

Glendale Year Round- CCWA had received an anonymous letter stating that a construction project at this site was discharging a great deal of mud and sediment into Kibler Run that dumps into Clearfield Creek. Art is continuing to investigate this. Phone calls will be made to DEP, the Conservation District and PA Fish Commission, etc.

Rachel Kester's Report-West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition meeting, Tuesday, September 9th, 5:30 pm meet at Emigh Run headwaters relocation project for tour, 6:30 pm regular meeting begins at Clearfield County Conservation District. All are welcome, find out more about ongoing efforts all along the West Branch For more information: www.wbsrc.com or call Rachel 765-8130

Clearfield County Conservation District "Conservation Celebration"
Saturday, September 13, 11am-3pm, Curwensville Lake. Fly-fishing and tying demos, canoe and kayak demos, live reptiles and amphibians, craft projects, stream dynamics, watershed displays. Fun and free for kids of all ages. For more information: Call Rachel- same number as above

Next Meeting:

September 16, 2008, Laurel Run Sportsman, Dysart, 6:30 PM.

Adjournment:

On a **motion** by Ray Hollen and seconded by Dave McMullen the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.