

SCRIP Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2022

After a tour of the Puritan AMD treatment system in Portage, a SCRIP meeting was held on September 15, 2022 at the Old Country Inn in Sidman. The meeting was attended by SCRIP Board Members Tom Clark, Len Lichvar, Joe Gorden, James Eckenrode, Jr., Melissa Reckner, Karlice Makuchan, Robb Piper, and Larry Hutchinson.

The meeting was also attended by Jeff Sarver of Shade Creek Watershed Association and John Wenzel and Thad Pajak of Conemaugh Valley Conservancy.

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 PM by Clark. Introductions were made.

Makuchan/Piper made a **MOTION** to accept the previous meeting's minutes as submitted. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Eckenrode reported that SCRIP has \$2,848 in its checking account, \$6,693 in its PA Invest account held by SAC, and \$13,289 in its Community Foundation fund. Reckner/Sarver made a **MOTION** to accept the treasurer's report. All in favor. Motion carried.

Pajak gave a background of himself. He is an AmeriCorps with CVC.

Partner Organization Reports

CWRS

Eckenrode recapped the work they are doing outside the watershed. He is working on a report about Shingle Run, in which they had a sonde for a year. SFU is done with their part of the Incline Plane project and turned data over to TetraTech. They are updating Datashed and will need assistance with local systems. **Action item:** Eckenrode will follow up with Piper and Gorden about Bear Rocks, an old SCRIP project.

Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team

Wenzel said Pajak will be dedicated to bringing Stream Team back to its former glory.

CSA

Lichvar said they rededicated the Family Recreation Area.

WPC

Eckenrode said SFU is working with American Rivers and WPC to remove a dam in Potter Creek, Bedford County.

Stonycreek River

Trust Fund

The "Concert for Conservation" proceeds will go to the Oven Run Trust Fund. Lichvar reported that the trust was over \$50K, but CFA funds have taken a hit, and now it's at \$42K.

Quemahoning Creek

Lichvar said the tailwater habitat project is 90% complete. The contractor has until October 31 to finish it.

Oven Run Re-dedication Ceremony

The event went well. Senator Casey was present and spoke about the importance of the STREAM act. The event had good publicity and was videotaped. Lichvar thanked SCRIP's Board Members who were present.

Lichvar said the Higgins Run woody stream addition is complete, as is the habitat work on the South Fork Bens Creek. The Rock Tunnel AMD system was rehabilitated; InnoH2O Solutions, LLC will manage the sludge. BioMost staff provided a tour of the Oven Run B system.

Paint Creek

Clark said the bid went out for the Babcock project and that he and Reckner met with Vinny Paczek of the EADS group to discuss other projects. Windber Borough needs to reduce sediment loading to the flood control structure in town.

Shade Creek

Hutchinson said the group shocked some fish with Cotchen on Panther, Shingle and Berkebile Runs. Panther had no fish; Shingle had some trout; and Berkebile had about a dozen, including YOY.

Little Conemaugh River

Someone thought there was a new water wheel on the Little Conemaugh by the old dam site. No one was aware of it.

Public Relations

Makuchan received accolades for the really nice newsletter she created. Makuchan reminded about the Concert for Conservation this weekend. **Action items:** Makuchan said December 1 is the deadline for the next newsletter. Send items to her at karlice@atlanticbb.net. Pictures are great to include. Eckenrode will prepare an article about the tour, and Clark will do one on how to apply for infrastructure funds.

Old Business

Action item: Reckner will write a letter to Toomey asking for his support of the STREAM act on behalf of SCRIP.

Eckenrode wants to find another way to get the newsletter out to more people. It was decided to ask partners to send it to their members. SCD shares it with their list. **Action items:** Eckenrode will ask BCC and CVC. Reckner will ask MLTU.

New Business

Clark said the first infrastructure RFP will be out October 3. They will likely be due in December and then will open immediately back up. DEP has \$500 million that they should spend in one year. **Action item:** Clark will email his proposal template.

Reckner had distributed a request from PennEnvironment asking SCRIP to sign on to a letter supporting wildlife crossings in Pennsylvania. Lichvar noted that there is HR74, which would lay the groundwork for this. PennEnvironment's letter doesn't reference it, but it was put out before the Forest Coalition email Lichvar received.

Makuchan/Reckner made and modified a **MOTION** to write letters on behalf of SCRIP to Pennsylvania senators and representatives asking them to support HR74. The letter should emphasize the importance of waterway conservation, connectivity, and riparian buffers. All in favor. Motion passed. **Action item:** Reckner will write and send the letters.

Next Meeting Date

November 10, 4 PM Windber Hotel.

Reckner/Sarver made a **MOTION** to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment: 5:50 PM