

West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition Meeting Report Tuesday, March 10, 2009

River Hill Coal Company Tour: WBSRC members met with Harry Hanchar and staff for an informative tour of River Hill Coal Company mining activities. An optional dinner was held at Besty's Restaurant in Karthaus where discussions ensued regarding the River Hill power plant.

Opening This meeting of the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Becky Dunlap. The meeting was held at the Clearfield County Conservation District.

Present The meeting was attended by: Art, Rose, Mark Killar, Shirley Sholtis, Malcolm Barnes, Lee Hebel, Edith Hebel, Scott Koser, Terry O'Connor, John Way, Kelly Williams, Jamie Walker, Ann Donovan, Carl Undercofler, Mario Carrello, Kim Lanich, Ken Undercoffer, Jen Demchak, Roger Thomas, Buddy Thomas, Brianna Hutchison, Rachel Kester, and Becky Dunlap

Information and Discussion Items

- Item 1: Introductions: All meeting participants identified themselves and the group they were representing.
- Item 2: The minutes of the December 9, 2009 meeting were distributed. No corrections to these minutes were needed.
- Item 3: Use of AMD for Frac Water

Tim Keister from ProChemTech updated WBRSC members about the possibility of using AMD-water as frac water in Marcellus well drilling sites.

Item 4: DEP Growing Greener

Mario Carrello announced that 14 growing greener awards were awarded to West Branch projects: 2, 319 grants, 3 GGI grants, 4 GGII grants, 1 Energy Harvest grant, and 4 County Environmental Initiative grants.

Item 5: Economic Stimulus

The list of economic stimulus potential projects generated at the December meeting was briefly discussed. It was announced that It is unlikely that these projects will receive stimulus funds.

Item 6: West Branch Recovery Benchmark Project

The itinerary for the West Branch Recovery Benchmark project was discussed and a project description was handed out. Several WBSRC members volunteered to help with the program and were assigned to sampling teams. It was announced that biological sampling would begin in March and conclude in May and that chemistry sampling would occur first in May and then again in July.

Item 7: Newsletter

WBSRC's latest newsletter was distributed.

Item 8: Cora Brooks grant / calendar

It was announced that Trout Unlimited had applied for funding to provide educational material for the upcoming environmental education grants.

Item 9: West Branch Environmental Education Tours

Trout Unlimited staff discussed the scope of work and focus areas for the West Branch Environmental Education Tours. Dates for the six sessions will be announced at the next WBSRC meeting.

Item 10: Watershed Updates

Members gave updates on important projects in their respective areas

The next meeting of the WBSRC was scheduled for June 9th in Lock Haven