



**West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition  
Meeting Report  
Tuesday, June 14, 2016**

- Opening**      This meeting of the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition was called to order at 6:30 pm by Rachel Kester. The meeting was held at the Clinton County Resource & Education Center.
- Present**      The meeting was attended by: Rachel Kester, Amy Wolfe, Carly Dean, Kelly Williams, Lydia Whipple, Terry O'Connor, Bill Beacom, Ken Undercoffer, Alison McNett, Jennifer Twardowski, Mick McKay, Joyce McKay, Ann Donovan, Kat Midas, Olivia Magni, Jacob Fetterman, Kathleen Lavelle, Art Rose, and Delores Rose.

**Information and Discussion Items**

- Item 1: Introductions: Those present introduced themselves and stated the group(s) they represent.
- Item 2: The minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting were distributed and reviewed. No changes were noted.
- Item 3: Carly Dean of the Chesapeake Conservancy gave a presentation about the conservancy's new initiative called "Envision the Susquehanna" and invited the group to provide input. Carly has been traveling around the watershed meeting with folks and conducting interviews to learn what priorities different organizations have throughout the Susquehanna River basin. The Chesapeake Conservancy has recognized that restoration of the Susquehanna River is going to be the key to restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, so they are using the information gathered to develop a guidance document that will identify opportunities for regional collaboration and a framework for implementation. Watershed initiatives will begin in 2017.
- Item 4: Amy Wolfe, Trout Unlimited, provided an update on AMD policy and legislative happenings. There has been no movement on the RECLAIM Act. She mentioned that there will be two bills introduced this fall. HR 3843 will address funding for abandoned hard rock mine cleanup and include provisions for federal Good Samaritan coverage. HR 3844 will propose the creation of a federal foundation similar to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation that would provide grants for abandoned mine reclamation. Amy will stay up to speed on this upcoming legislation and let the group know if any action is needed.
- Item 5: Rachel Kester, Trout Unlimited, provided the group with information on upcoming grant opportunities. She reminded the group to send her any grant opportunities that they encounter and she will add them to the WBSRC website under the Funding page.
- Item 6: Rachel Kester led a discussion wrapping up the 8<sup>th</sup> West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium that was held in April at the Toftrees Resort in State College. Rachel and Amy thanked everyone who participated in or helped out with the symposium. It was another successful year. Suggestions for 2018 can be emailed to [rkester@tu.org](mailto:rkester@tu.org). All of the presentations from the symposium can be found on the website at <http://www.wbsrc.org/eighth-symposium.html>.
- Item 7: Watershed updates were provided by those present on behalf of the organization(s) that they represent.

The next meeting will be held on September 13th, 2016 in Clearfield County.