



**West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition
Meeting Report
Tuesday, March 12, 2013**

Opening This meeting of the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Amy Wolfe. The meeting was held at the Clearfield County Conservation District.

Present The meeting was attended by: Amy Wolfe, Kevin McJunkin, Mick McKay, David Wood, Kevin Clark, Jack Straley, Terry O'Connor, Bill Lawhead, Joyce McKay, Eli Long, Eric Chapman, Carl Undercofler, Buddy Thomas, Kelly Williams, Doug Goodlander, Brian Eckert, Art Rose, Trish Millard, Lyle Millard, Roger Thomas, Rebecca Holler, Rachel Kester and Tom Clark.

Information and Discussion Items

- Item 1: Introductions: All meeting participants introduced themselves and the group they were representing.
- Item 2: Brian Eckert, DCED – Center for Business Financing, and Doug Goodlander, DEP – Bureau of Conservation & Restoration, gave a presentation about the new Act 13 Marcellus Legacy Fund programs that are available for watershed restoration and AMD abatement projects. The maximum grant request for watershed restoration projects is \$300,000 and the maximum for AMD abatement projects is \$1M. Both require 15% matching funds. In addition to the traditional types of AMD treatment projects that most people are familiar with through Growing Greener, 319, etc., these funds can also be used for land acquisitions or easements and up to 65% of the grant request can be for operation and maintenance funds. For more information on these and other funding available through this new program, contact the Center for Business Financing at (717) 787-6245 or visit <http://www.newpa.com/find-and-apply-for-funding/commonwealth-financing-authority>.
- Item 3: Amy Wolfe, Trout Unlimited provided a brief update on the recently announced Growing Greener grants. There were a number of projects awarded to groups working in the West Branch, as well as several grants for technical assistance programs that are available throughout the state. Amy noted that there continues to be a great need for additional funding of AMD projects. Once again this year, the amount requested for AMD projects exceeded the amount that was awarded.
- Item 4: Rachel Kester, Trout Unlimited, updated the group about upcoming grant deadlines. Anyone wishing for assistance developing a grant proposal can contact Rachel at rkester@tu.org. The group is reminded that funding opportunities are posted on the WBSRC website at www.wbsrc.com/amdtech.html.
- Item 5: Rebecca Holler, Trout Unlimited, reviewed the few responses that were received for the recent WBSRC survey. If you did not fill out a survey, please do so at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BTGGG6N> or contact Rebecca at rholler@tu.org or (570) 748-4901 to obtain a hardcopy. The survey is only a few questions and will take less than 5 minutes to complete. We would appreciate your feedback so we can help to make the WBSRC as useful as possible for its member organizations.
- Item 6: Rachel Kester and Rebecca Holler provided an update about the River Researchers Teen Camp that is scheduled for August 4-8. The deadline for students and adult team leaders is April 1. Application materials and additional information are available at <http://www.wbsrc.org/teencamp/default.html>. Thank you to those who have already agreed to assist with the planning and implementation of this camp. Anyone else who is interested to help can contact Rachel or Rebecca.
- Item 7: Watershed updates were provided by those present on behalf of the organization(s) that they represent.

The next meeting of the WBSRC will be June 11, 2013 in Clinton County.