**Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 2023

1. Reorganizational Meeting
2. The regular board meeting was called to order by Tom Kakabar at 8:41AM at the Young People’s Community Center (YPCC), 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Roll Call**

**Members Present:**Richard Bloom Tom Kakabar Chuck Gironda Joe Turano   
Randy Datsko Dennis Ritko Vicki Vasile Ray Gorman  
Renee Daly Eugene Kupchella

**Members Absent:**Rob McCombie Brad Clemenson Tom Fritz Jim McCann  
Chris Koren

**Others in Attendance:**Cliff Kitner, Executive Director Caytlin Lusk, Program Coordinator   
Bruce Eash, Maintenance Specialist Alex Cruley, Maintenance Specialist  
Attorney George Gvozdich Katie Smolen, Tribune Democrat  
Breanna Berkebile, Mainline Newspapers Eric Kuzo, public   
Cara Moyer, Gunter Leadership Program Mark Luther, Gunter Leadership Program  
Commissioner Thomas Chernisky

1. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda by Board Members**
   1. None.
2. **Floor Open to Public Comment on Agenda Items (including additions or corrections to the Agenda)**
   1. Mr. Ritko, Ms. Moyer and Mr. Luther presented information on the Gunter Leadership Program’s initiatives to create a parklet at the Bridge Street trailhead area along the Jim Mayer Trail. They plan to begin in spring 2023 and will be working with the Mayer family and Greater Johnstown School District students to complete this. The Gunter Leadership Program is actively grant writing and fundraising to procure funding for the project.
3. **Commissioner’s Representative Report**
   1. Commissioner Chernisky provided an update on the county.
4. **Correspondences:** 
   1. None.
5. **Approval of December 16, 2022 Regular Board Minutes   
   Action:** Motion by Rick Bloom, seconded by Chuck Gironda, to approve the December 16, 2022 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.
   1. Corrections or Changes: None.
6. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Report and Bills to be paid for the month of January 2023  
   Action:** Motion by Randy Datsko, seconded by Rick Bloom, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills. Motion carried.
7. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
   1. Maintenance Specialist Report
      1. Mr. Eash reported that he and Mr. Cruley worked with Mr. Kitner to remove numerous trees along the Path of the Flood Trail. He noticed a mud slide on the Mayer Trail that has been remediated by Penelec, and stated it needs new topcoat in that section, and will also need a new pipe in that location. Mr. Eash stated that a section along the Ghost Town Trail in the Twin Rocks area will also need new topcoat. Mr. Eash and Mr. Cruley spent time cleaning culverts. They also noticed much of the Path of the Flood Trail will need new top coat as well due to weather damage and age.
   2. Program Coordinator Report
      1. Ms. Lusk reported that the 2023 Friends of the Trails balance is currently $770.00. She is working with the YPCC to submit a grant to purchase e-bikes to add to the bike rental program. Planning of the 2023 Trails Series is underway.

* 1. Rock Run
     1. Mr. Kitner reported on a meeting held with DCNR and CPV on the wind farm progress. Things will soon move forward.
     2. Mr. Gironda reported that there will be a committee from Rock Run to assist with the anticipated race presented with CCCRA.
  2. Ghost Town Trail Report
     1. Mr. Kitner reported that we are working on the final payout with the DCED grant. The contractor will work on the Beulah Road section throughout the winter before finishing up. The trail is usable now.
     2. Mr. Kitner reported that the AMLER grant application has been submitted. It is a $3.6 million grant to match the $1 million we received from DCNR.
     3. Mr. Kitner reported that the First Energy powerline replacement project is complete.
     4. Mr. Kitner reported that he is working with the Nanty Glo Police Department and Carney Fence regarding the damaged fence from the traffic accident on Edwards Street.
     5. Mr. Kitner reported that he received an email from a trail user regarding the condition of the Twin Rocks bridge. The paint is peeling underneath and on the outer sides. He is continuing to investigate if anything needs done.
  3. Path of the Flood Trail Report
     1. Mr. Kitner reported that Dan Beyer is sending the contract for review regarding the extension to the breast of the dam. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring.
     2. Reported in Maintenance Specialist report.
  4. Jim Mayer Riverswalk Report
     1. Mr. Kitner reported that we are waiting on the price of the underground tank.
     2. Reported in Maintenance Specialist report.
     3. Mr. Kitner reported that the property should be demolished in February.
     4. Mr. Kitner reported that there was another fire from squatters recently at the Sheesley Property.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. Purchase of Laptop: Motion by Chuck Gironda, seconded by Randy Datsko, to approve the purchase of a laptop, not to exceed $2,000.00. Motion carried.
   2. Personnel Adjustment: Motion by Rick Bloom, seconded by Renee Daly, to approve the adjustment of employment status of probationary to full time for Mr. Cruley. Motion carried.
   3. Personnel Compensation Adjustments: Motion by Rick Bloom, seconded by Dennis Ritko, to approve adjustment of salaries for the current 4 employees, not to exceed $900 collectively per month. Motion carried.
   4. 501c3 Status: Motion by Joe Turano, seconded by Dennis Ritko, to authorize our attorneys to investigate creating a 501c3 organization for the Friends of the Trails Program. Motion carried.
2. **Any further public comment**
   1. None.
3. **ANNOUNCEMNT(S)**
   1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority will take place on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Young People’s Community Center (YPCC), 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931. Telephone No.: (425) 436-6317; Access Code: 298266
4. **MOTION TO ADJOURN  
   Action:** Motion by Randy Datsko, seconded by Dennis Ritko, to adjourn the meeting at 9:54AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caytlin Lusk  
Program Coordinator, CCCRA