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

1. The regular board meeting was called to order by Tom Kakabar at 8:30AM at the Young People’s Community Center, 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**

**Members Present:**Tom Kakabar Vicki Vasile Randy Datsko Ray Gorman

Rick Bloom Chuck Gironda Dennis Ritko Eugene Kupchella
Renee Daly Chris Koren

**Members Absent:**Rob McCombie Tom Fritz Brad Clemenson Joe Turano
Jim McCann

**Others in Attendance:**Cliff Kitner, Executive Director Caytlin Lusk, Program Coordinator
Bruce Eash, Maintenance Specialist Alex Cruley, Maintenance Specialist
Atty. George Gvozdich Breanna Berkebile, Mainline Newspapers
Randy Griffith, Tribune Democrat 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. None.
3. **Commissioner’s Representative Report**
	1. Commissioner Chernisky provided an update on the county.
4. **Correspondences:**
	1. Mr. Kitner shared an email correspondence from PennDOT regarding the crosswalk in Nanty Glo Borough. The request was to make improvements to the crosswalk surface.
5. **Approval of September 15, 2023 Regular Board Minutes
Action:** Motion by Vicki Vasile, seconded by Eugene Kupchella, to approve the September 15, 2023 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 October 2023
Action:** Motion by Chuck Gironda, seconded by Randy Datsko, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills. Motion carried.
7. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
	1. Maintenance Specialist Report
		1. Mr. Cruley reported that all of the trails have been mowed at least once since the last meeting. He cut a lot of brush and fallen trees. Mr. Eash reported that the gate was left open at North Street. The pin and lock on one side of the gate were hanging there, and the pin and lock on the other side are missing. Mr. Eash found a substitute pin and lock to place on the gate. He stated that they repaired a piece of fence on the Path of the Flood trail.
	2. Program Coordinator Report
		1. Ms. Lusk reported that the Friends of the Trails balance for memberships and donations is $6,049. The 2023 Cambria County Trails Series is now complete. Ms. Lusk is finishing up the financial information to determine how much was raised for the Friends of the Trails program. She shared the *Slow and Say Hello* brochures that were made by Indiana County for both counties to use. Ms. Lusk reported that the seasonal porta johns on the Ghost Town Trail will be removed at the end of the month.
	3. Rock Run
		1. Mr. Bloom reported that the wind farm is moving ahead with anticipated construction in the next year or two. Energy is expected to be produced by 2025-2026.
	4. Ghost Town Trail Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that things are moving forward with Keller Engineers for the AMLER grant. He met with them on site and is waiting for their monetary proposal for moving forward. Everything is done and sent into DEP, Mr. Kitner is waiting for the signed contract, then we can officially move forward.
		2. No update on Red Mill Property at this time.
		3. Mr. Kitner reported that he is seeking prices for the washout at Twin Rocks/Vintondale. The cost will be much higher than anticipated due to the size of the pipe needed, and Mr. Kitner has a conference call scheduled today to discuss all of this.
		4. Mr. Kitner reported that the Joseph Dushaw bequest will be used to build one rest station on the Ghost Town Trail. The rest is going to start a maintenance legacy fund at the CFA.
		5. Mr. Kitner reported that all the paperwork is done for the 3-mile close out, we are waiting for PennDOT to come back with final approval on the crossing.

* 1. Path of the Flood Trail Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that the group meeting regarding information for the signs along the 9/11 Memorial Trail went well. They have narrowed down information for the signs. The plan is to measure from mile 0 at the breast of the dam to each sign and mark different milestones along the trail. A lot of unique ideas are being proposed.
		2. Mr. Kitner reported that residents along Front Street are arguing over the property again. No letter has yet been received from the township.
	2. Jim Mayer Riverswalk Report
		1. Mr. Ritko reported that the signage is nearly complete for the Bridge Street project, this is something that the Gunter Leadership team will pay for. High school personnel will be meeting with us to determine locations for bike racks. They are also looking at picnic table options.
		2. Mr. Kitner reported that DEP is requesting an update on the Sheesley property. The redevelopment authority is planning removal of the tanks in the spring as part of the grant.

* 1. Prince Gallitzin Connectivity Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that Prince Gallitzin wants to connect onto the Northern Cambria trail to Patton through game lands property.
1. **NEW BUSINESS**
	1. Front Street Property SaleNo motion at this time.
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, November 17, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Young People’s Community Center, 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.
4. **MOTION TO ADJOURN
Action:** Motion by Randy Datsko, seconded by Dennis Ritko, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Caytlin Lusk
Program Coordinator, CCCRA