**Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2023

1. The regular board meeting was called to order by Tom Kakabar at 8:37AM at the Young People’s Community Center, 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**

**Members Present:**Tom Kakabar Randy Datsko Ray Gorman Brad Clemenson

Rick Bloom Chuck Gironda Dennis Ritko Eugene Kupchella  
Joe Turano Jim McCann Renee Daly

**Members Absent:**Rob McCombie Tom Fritz Vicki Vasile Chris Koren

**Others in Attendance:**Cliff Kitner, Executive Director Caytlin Lusk, Program Coordinator   
Bruce Eash, Maintenance Specialist Alex Cruley, Maintenance Specialist   
Atty. George Gvozdich Commissioner Thomas Chernisky

1. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda by Board Members**
   1. Mr. Kakabar added New Business item d regarding an easement with the Ebensburg Water Authority.
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. Kakabar shared a request from the Ebensburg Water Authority regarding an easement to replace a portion of their 12” water line beside the trail in Ebensburg.
5. **Approval of October 20, 2023 Regular Board Minutes   
   Action:** Motion by Rick Bloom, seconded by Randy Datsko, to approve the October 20, 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 November 2023  
   Action:** Motion by Randy Datsko, seconded by Brad Clemenson, 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 measured and took pictures of each road crossing along the trails to map and file. On the mapping system, Mr. Cruley is also noting locations of culverts, benches, picnic tables etc. to state their condition for improved future monitoring. Mr. Cruley dragged the trail along the Franklin section of the Path of the Flood. A few trees were cut over the past month. Mr. Eash reported that they had picked up lumber for the Memorial Park bridge project in Ehrenfeld, which is being stored at Croyle Township for the time being. Mr. Cruley attended 811 (PA one call) training.
   2. Program Coordinator Report
      1. Ms. Lusk reported that the Friends of the Trails balance for memberships and donations is $6,199. She shared that 2024 is the 10th anniversary of the Path of the Flood Historic Races, planning is underway. Ms. Lusk and Mr. Kitner met with the Indiana County Planning & Development Commission regarding a bicycle event on the Ghost Town Trail per their Active Transportation Plan. She and Mr. Kitner attended Career Days at Richland High School. Ms. Lusk will be doing the design work for the 9/11 Memorial Trail signs.
   3. Rock Run
      1. Mr. Bloom reported that insurance is currently an issue at Rock Run, they questioned if we have insurance on the property. The windmill construction is still ongoing. Electricity generation is anticipated in spring 2025. Mr. Bloom shared that Rock Run is now closed down for the 2023 riding season, and already have 175 campsites reserved for 2024’s Summer Blast.
   4. Ghost Town Trail Report
      1. Mr. Kitner reported that all the paperwork is completed with the AMLER grant. We have the proposal from Keller Engineers.
      2. Mr. Kitner reported that they signed the address verification form for the Red Mill Road property. They can now finish the process to turn the property over to us.
      3. Mr. Kitner reported that our engineer is working on a Chapter 105 application for the washout at Twin Rocks/Vintondale. Once the engineering is done, we will proceed with the grant request.
      4. Mr. Kitner reported that he reached out to Milkies again for a design to share with the Joseph Dushaw family.
      5. Mr. Kitner reported that another walk through was done along the 3-mile segment of the C & I Extension. He is hoping to get the letter and money soon.
      6. Mr. Kitner reported that he attended and spoke at the Red Mill bridge ribbon cutting event.
   5. Path of the Flood Trail Report
      1. Mr. Kitner reported that there will be 14 new signs along the Path of the Flood Trail for the 9/11 Memorial Trail. Every new and pre-existing sign will have a mile marker.
      2. Mr. Kitner reported that he and Ms. Lusk walked the property behind Impala Motors with the South Fork Historical Society. Mr. Kitner shared ideas on possible routes to take on this trail.
      3. Mr. Kitner shared that donations of wood and decking were received for the bridge, he is working on a donation for the railing. Mr. Kitner knows volunteers that are willing to assist with construction.
   6. Jim Mayer Riverswalk Report
      1. Mr. Ritko reported that the former Gunter group, high school, Elizabeth Mayer and Cliff met regarding the Bridge Street project. They are looking at options of picnic tables for the pavilion. JWF will be helping with rolling some metal for bike racks and benches they already have. The high school designed a gate/archway that says Jim Mayer Trail to install. Mr. Ritko requested that we create a sub-committee to keep the project going forward.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. Keller EngineersMotion by Brad Clemenson, seconded by Rick Bloom, to accept the proposal of service contract from Keller Engineers for the Ghost Town Trail Nanty Glo to Cardiff project, not to exceed $444,600. Motion carried.
   2. 2024 Budget **tabled**No motion made at this time.
   3. Water Line EasementMotion by Jim McCann, seconded by Dennis Ritko, to approve the continuation of an existing easement with the Ebensburg Water Authority for the replacement of a 12” water line between S. West Street and Ann Street. 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, December 15, 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 9:49AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caytlin Lusk  
Program Coordinator, CCCRA