

**Spring Creek Watershed Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2023 at 7:30 PM
Hybrid Meeting: Zoom and in-person at
College Township Municipal Building
— DRAFT MINUTES —**

CALL TO ORDER

Dustin Best called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

VOTING MEMBERS:

Dustin Best - Chair (in person) College Township
Randy Brachbill - Vice Chair (in person) - Bellefonte Borough
Jim Lanning - Secretary (in person) - Benner Township Alt
Jasmine Fields (in person) - State College Borough Alt
Bob Igo (in person) - Harris Township Alt
Corey Gracie-Griffon (zoom) - Ferguson Township
Doug Mason (zoom) - Patton Township Alt
Michael Denneker (zoom) - Spring Township Alt
Don Franson (in person) - Walker Township Alt

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Izen Lingenfelter (in person) - Communication Coordinator SCWC
Kevin Abbey - Treasurer (zoom) - Ferguson Township Alt
Bob Carline (in person) - Atlas
Richard Novak (in person) - Presenter
Adam Smith (in person) - Presenter
Robert Vierck (in person) - Presenter
Ford Stryker (zoom) - Spring Creek Trout Unlimited
Jon Eaton (zoom) - Member of Atlas
Josh Clark (zoom) - HRG
Alan Wiser (zoom)
Julie Prudhoe (zoom)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments at this time

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

Randy Brachbill made the motion to amend the agenda to include the following items:

Add to new business: Renaming of Phase III

Add to Matters of Record: Review note from Cindy at CNET in regards to 2024 meeting structure and location

Second by Jim Lanning

All in favor. Passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the July 2023 and September 2023 meeting minutes by Bob Igo, second by Randy Brachbill.

All in favor. Passed unanimously.

EDUCATIONAL TOPIC

Introduction by Doug Mason, Education Committee

Presenter: Adam Smith (US Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist), Bob Vierck (USFWS volunteer) and Richard Novak (US Fish and Wildlife Service)

Topic: Stream Restoration Projects within Spring Creek Watershed

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

A) Executive Committee: Dustin Best: Chair

Nothing to report and deferring notes of meetings attended to vice chair

B) Officer reports: (Treasurer will give report during financial section of agenda)

Vice Chair: Randy Brachbill

Executive meeting on September 25th: discussed the 2024 budget implementation and sending invoices in October, approved the brochure printing for Atlas, discussed future executive meeting schedules, discussed the note from CNet.

Executive meeting on November 1st: Discussed strategy and value.

Secretary: Jim Lanning

Still working on fundraising

C) Standing Committee Reports

Atlas: Bob Carline

Several committee members composed a list of questions that we will ask Dr. Parizek during the filming of a C-Net educational program on water resources. Filming is scheduled for January 12, 2024. The League of Women Voters of Centre County granted us permission to publish on the Atlas website four articles dealing with the importance of local government. These articles were originally published in the Centre Daily Times. Next Atlas committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 7th at 1pm at the Patton Township Library.

Phase 3 Coordinating Committee: Bob Igo

Produced an annual plan for 2024 for the Authorities Committee and the Governments Committee and will be meeting quarterly starting in January. Topics will be mapping, coordination in the various groups, and planning. Other topics that they are working on are supporting the State of the Watershed Meeting, Re-branding effort with PSU, support development of additional funding streams, develop 2025 Committee Plans¹, and consider developing longer term plans.

OLD BUSINESS

A) 2024 Budget Update: Presenter: Kevin Abbey (Discussion/Action)

Reviewed budget document ([click here for document](#))

B) Standing Committee Guidelines (Action), Presenter: Randy Brachbill

Reviewed guideline document ([click here for document](#))

Motion to accept the standing committee guidelines by Randy Brachbill, second by Bob Igo. All in favor. Passed unanimously.

C) Milesburg Borough Membership withdrawal (Informational)

Discussed status of Milesburg Borough. Was agreed upon to speak with them since they have new elected officials in Milesburg Borough.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Renaming Phase III to Operating Committee
Brief discussion took place on the name change. Phase III will now be called the Operating Committee.
- B) Operating Committee 2024 Workplan, Presenter: Bob Igo
Nothing further to discuss since talking about it during the committee report.
- C) Annual Fiscal Report "State of the Watershed" (Discussion/Informational),
Presenters: Kevin Abbey, Bob Igo
Discussion took place on what the State of the Watershed would look like and who would be invited. Looking at hosting tentatively the third Wednesday of February 2024. Will discuss and announce once decided.

FINANCIALS

Presented by Kevin Abbey - Treasurer
Reviewed Financial document ([click here for document](#))
Would like to adjust the name of the Phase III account to reflect the new name of Operating Committee.

Motion to accept all officers report by Bob Igo, second by Kevin Abbey.
All in favor. Passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

No bills for approval at this time.

ONCE AROUND THE WATERSHED

Bellefonte Borough - Nothing to report at this time
Benner Township - Continuing to keep contact open to all elected officials to keep projects moving forward.
College Township - Nothing to report at this time
Ferguson Township - Nothing to report at this time
Harris Township - Mark Beckle is the new Township Manager
Patton Township - Master Watershed Steward Training will be held December 12, 2023.
Spring Township - Nothing to report at this time
State College Borough - Nothing to report at this time
Walker Township - Nothing to report at this time

MATTERS OF RECORD

Letter from C-Net ([you can view the letter here](#))
Next Commission meeting is January 17, 2024, Reorganization

ADJOURNMENT

Bob Igo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Randy Brachbill.
All in favor. Passed unanimously.
Meeting ended at 9:22 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

The November 15th Spring Creek Watershed Commission is being sponsored for C-NET by the Centre Region COG. It will air on CGTV (Comcast Channel 7):

Friday, November 24 - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 25 - 5:00 a.m.
Sunday, November 26 - 12:00 a.m.
Monday, November 27 - 10:00 a.m.

As always, it will also be available to watch online within 72 hours at www.cnet1.org.