**Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2021

1. The regular board meeting was called to order by Tom Kakabar at 8:05AM at the Young People’s Community Center (YPCC), 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**

**Members Present:**Richard Bloom Ray Gorman Lorraine Donahue Tom Kakabar
Chuck Gironda Jim McCann Chris Koren Vicki Vasile
Tom Fritz John Hurley Dennis Ritko Eugene Kupchella
Renee Daly

**Members Absent:**Rob McCombie Brad Clemenson

**Others in Attendance:**Cliff Kitner, Executive Director Caytlin Lusk, Program Coordinator
Bruce Eash, Maintenance Specialist Attorney Chris Gvozdich
Commissioner Thomas Chernisky Katie Smolen, Tribune Democrat
Amanda Datsko, Mainline Newspapers

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. **Correspondences:**
	1. Mr. Kakabar shared a letter from Governor Tom Wolf appointing Clifford Kitner as a member of the Pedalcycle Advisory Committee.
	2. Mr. Kakabar shared a letter from First Energy regarding vegetation management on powerlines on Rock Run property in Clearfield.
4. **Approval of November 19, 2021 Regular Board Minutes
Action:** Motion by Vicki Vasile, seconded by Renee Daly, to approve the November 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.
	1. Corrections or Changes: None.
5. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Report and Bills to be paid for the month of December 2021
Action:** Motion by Tom Fritz, seconded by John Hurley, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills. Motion carried.
6. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
	1. Maintenance Specialist Report
		1. Mr. Eash reported that some ditches along the trails may need cleaned out in the spring. Mr. Eash reported there is a large boulder along the Ghost Town Trail in the Twin Rocks section. He reported that an off-road trail has been made by an ATV or small vehicle by the gate at Moxham Lumber on the Jim Mayer Trail. Garbage is being dumped in this area.
	2. Program Coordinator Report
		1. Ms. Lusk reported that the current balance for the 2021 Friends of the Trails Program for memberships, memorial benches, the Trails series and other miscellaneous donations is $45,413.14. She reported that this is lower than last month’s update, due to not factoring in the cost of benches for the bench program.
		2. Ms. Lusk reported that the cross-country ski equipment for the rental program at the YPCC should be ready to pick up soon. The program will be implemented once all equipment is received and snow is on the ground. Ms. Lusk reported that the 2022 Cambria County Trails Series is in planning mode now.
	3. Rock Run
		1. Mr. Kakabar reported that First Energy wants to do vegetation management on the upper portion of the Rock Run Property. Mr. Kakabar consulted with Mike Macnamara about monitoring the activity with our best interests in mind.
		2. Mr. Bloom reported that he has been investigating forest management programs to be utilized at the Rock Run Property. He has been working with Penn State Extension Forester, Calvin Norman, to learn about different options. Mr. Bloom stated that a carbon credit program could provide an additional source of income.
		3. Mr. Kakabar reported that John Hurley was one of three liaisons for CCCRA with Rock Run. There is an opening and Rick Bloom was nominated to fill this position. Action will be taken at the next regular board meeting.
	4. Ghost Town Trail Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that we will need to utilize a portion of the Pristine property in order to grade down the section by Beulah Road. He has reached out to Pristine regarding this.
		2. Mr. Kitner reported that he is waiting on some numbers to come back regarding salvaging the rail lines from Ebensburg to Loretto.
		3. Mr. Kitner shared that the sidewalk under 422 is complete. Danchanko Inc. is donating the paint and their time to paint the curb yellow.
	5. Path of the Flood Trail Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that we are waiting until spring to finish the projects with the remaining money from the DEP grant. He stated that we are releasing the bond back to Robindale.
		2. No update on the status of garbage at Mineral Point at this time.
	6. Jim Mayer Riverswalk Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that a meeting will be arranged in January to work with Johnstown High and the Jim Mayer Family to create a rest space on the property at Cleveland Street along the Jim Mayer Trail.
		2. Mr. McCann reported that the MOA has been signed and they will next be moving forward with purchasing the Dynacom property. Mr. McCann stated that the Sheesley property was mentioned as a possible location for a future fire station.
	7. Duman Lake Trail Report
		1. Mr. Kitner reported that he submitted a grant for the final $7,500 to build the bridge. The Center for Metal Arts is actively working on building the bridge now at their facility.
		2. Mr. Kitner reported that he has not heard from the Colonial Hardwoods property owner since he last left a message. He plans to order signage to be placed along this section of trail for wayfinding.
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
	1. 2022 Budget **Action:** Motion by Vicki Vasile, seconded by John Hurley, to implement the 2022 Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority budget. Motion carried.
	2. Wayfinding Signs
	**Action:** Motion by Tom Fritz, seconded by John Hurley, to approve the purchase of 17 wayfinding signs from the Department of Corrections Correctional Industries Manufacturing to be placed along the Ghost Town Trail extension and Duman Lake County Park connection, not to exceed $610.81. Motion carried.
8. **Any further public comment**
	1. Commissioner Chernisky provided an update on Cambria County.
9. **ANNOUNCEMNT(S)**
	1. The next regularly scheduled meeting and reorganizational meeting of the Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority will take place on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. All meetings will be held at the Young People’s Community Center (YPCC), 300 Prave Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931. <https://join.skype.com/CMBFrahlr87d/>; Telephone No.: (425) 436-6317; Access Code: 298266
10. **MOTION TO ADJOURN
Action:** Motion by John Hurley, seconded by Eugene Kupchella, to adjourn the meeting at 9:04AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Caytlin Lusk
Program Coordinator, CCCRA