

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Annville Town Hall and Remotely Via Zoom (Hybrid Meeting)
Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Present: Michael Schroeder (President), Alexis Biondi, Bob Connell, Kent Crawford, Bryan Hoffman, Katie Hollen (LCCD), Kara Lubold (LCCD)

The meeting opened at 7:01 p.m.

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes of the Jan. 21, 2025 meeting were circulated electronically before the meeting and approved by consensus.

- 2. Monitoring Program**
 - A. Fieldwork updates.** Mike reported that Katie Hollen organized two fieldwork days on Monday, Feb. 24 (at Q1, Q2 & K1) and on Thursday, Feb 27 (at S1, BK1, and BM1). Fieldworkers on the 24th were Katie, Bob, and Gary Zelinske, and on the 27th, Katie, Bob, Lydia Mohn of the LCCD, and Mike. Next fieldwork will be in April.
 - B. Equipment updates.**
 - 1) Solinst Sensors.** Discussion was held on the draft proposal to the Lebanon Co. Stormwater Consortium requesting financial assistance for the purchase of five sets of Solinst sensors and ancillary equipment & services for five of our six monitoring sites (the sixth, Q2 on Palmyra-Bellegrove Rd & Syner Rd, is the site of a USGS gage and sensor). It was agreed that Mike would finalize the draft and send it to the Consortium, c/o Bryan Hoffman. The 3-page quote sent by Solinst dated Jan. 23, 2025 in the amount of \$8,899.00 is included below in these minutes in Appendix 1.
 - 2) ISCO auto-samplers.** Kara reported that a group will test the two auto-samplers starting at 12 noon on Friday, Fe. 28 in her garage, where they are being stored.
 - C. Data management & Water Quality Portal updates.** Bob reported that all field data and lab data have been uploaded into the portal. He further reported that he has created a template for a Quittapahilla Watershed storymap to accompany our Water Quality Portal, at <http://147.185.239.141/StoryMap/> Bob was commended for his excellent work. Mike noted that a useful model for our storymap-in-progress is the “Monitoring Efforts in Lancaster County Watersheds” at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d4b19f251e984d5a9a10bbb6fce6f4ed>

Another is that of the Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance, at

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/670c2a0363f74862abbb14d52b0f31fa>

In an email in Nov. 2024, Kara had noted the very fine presentation in the “Water Quality” tab of the Little Falls Watershed Alliance in Maryland and the District of Columbia, at <https://www.lfwa.org/> It was suggested that we have a separate meeting to discuss how we want to design and build our storymap and the story we want to tell about the Quittie watershed. On a related but separate topic, Bob suggested that we make and post on our QWA website a series of instructional videos on using QGIS for our Water Quality Portal. Consensus was reached that this would be a very good idea, and that it could dovetail with the work to be undertaken by the LVC students in prof. Pettice’s digital communications course (see below).

D. Biological monitoring. No update.

- 3. National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grant.** Bob kindly submitted notes on the meeting of Feb. 3 hosted by Tali MacArthur at POWR with the QWA and other local watershed association recipients to discuss the process moving forward with our NFWF grants. Those notes appear below in these minutes in **Appendix 2**.
- 4. Digital Communications Course at LVC.** Mike noted that the course was ongoing, reported that he has been interviewed by students twice so far, and asked who else has been interviewed or contacted. Katie said she had done several interviews. Kent and Bryan agreed to be interviewed, with Bryan adding, “You know me, I will talk to anyone!”
- 5. Coordinating with Lebanon Co. Planning Dept.** Mike again noted that he will reach out to Julie Cheyney at the Leb. Co. Planning Dept. to explore possible collaboration on data management and on an updated Comprehensive Plan.
- 6. Projects updates.** See the minutes of the Watershed Action Team of Feb. 7, 2025, courtesy of Kara Lubold, below in these minutes in **Appendix 3**.
- 7. Education, outreach & special events.**
 - A. Sat. March 29, Lebanon County Community Water Day,** Mount Gretna Fire Hall; see <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/watershed-stewards/news/lebanon-county-community-water-day-set> Mike noted that he will be out of town on that date and asked if other QWA members might represent the QWA at this event.
 - B. Historic Old Anville Day, Sat June 15.** Mike noted that due to North Anville Township’s denial of Friends of Old Anville’s request to reroute eastbound Rt 422 truck traffic north onto Clear Spring Rd., HOAD 2025 will not take place on West

Main St. as in past years, but instead on North College Ave. and East Sheridan Ave. adjacent to the campus of Lebanon Valley College. He said he was encouraging vendor coordinator Doug Nyce to cluster environmental groups together, including the QWA, the Quittie Creek Nature Park Cmte, Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited, the LCCD, and perhaps others.

- C. **Farm Show, January 2026.** Alexis reported that her research revealed that it would not be worth the time or effort for the QWA to be represented at the Farm Show.
- D. **The Lebanon Valley Conservancy 25th Anniversary Sustainability Soiree.** Scheduled to start at 5:30 PM Thursday, Feb. 20 at the Blue Bird Inn; see their Facebook post at <https://www.facebook.com/share/1WfepV9PUX/>
- E. **Possible field trips** to the City of Lebanon Authority's (COLA's) Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Cleona Pumping Station. Mike reported that he has been in touch with LebTown reporter Margaret Hopkins regarding the City of Lebanon Authority's wastewater treatment plant, about which she has written several articles, and that a tour of that facility might serve as a useful educational program. Bryan kindly offered to offer a tour of the Cleona Borough Pump Station

8. **Media & website.** No update.


9. **Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium updates.** Bryan noted that PA-DEP has finally released the criteria for the current MS4 permit cycle (2025-2029), with a major shift away from "load" and toward "volume." That is, in this 5-year permit cycle, DEP will prioritize those projects that have the greatest prospect of reducing the volume of water entering the waterways and flowing down to the Chesapeake Bay. This is a major change from "load" being the principal criterion, i.e. the quantities of sediment, phosphorous, nitrogen, and other pollutants. In Bryan's words, "volume is everything." This also means that measuring volume is key to the work of the Consortium – which means that the QWA's monitoring program has the potential to contribute in important ways to the data being used by the Consortium.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem

Appendix 1. Quote from Solinst Canada Ltd. for water sensors and related equipment and services, Jan. 23, 2025


Quotation # Q000122910

Customer/Prospect #: 20879

Bill To:
 Quittapahilla Watershed Association
 610 E Walnut St
 Amville PA 17003
 UNITED STATES

Attention: Bob Connell
 609-929-8393

Ship To: 0
 Quittapahilla Watershed Association
 610 E Walnut St
 Amville PA 17003
 UNITED STATES

Attention: Bob Connell

Date Printed: Jan-23-2025
Quote Date: Jan-23-2025

Solinst Canada Ltd.
 35 Todd Road
 Georgetown ON L7G 4R8
 Canada
 Fax: 905-873-1992/800-516-9081
 Phone: 905-873-2255/800-661-2023

email: instruments@solinst.com
web: www.solinst.com

Quote Expiration	Ship Via	Shipping Terms	Duty & Brokerage	HST/PST	GST		State Tax		Terms
Mar-24-2025	UPSG	DDP	Included	TAX 0%		GST EX		Customer remit	Credit Card
Qty	Part#	Description		U-M	List Price	Disc 1	Disc 2	Net Price	Ext Price
5.00	115924	9500 LevelSender 5 Telemetry System - 4G c/w SDM Card		EA	998.00	0.00	0.00	998.000	4,990.00
1.00	115378	9200/9500 USB-C Programming Cable for RRL5/LevelSender 5		EA	46.00	0.00	0.00	46.000	46.00
5.00	112867	9200/9500 Reader Cable for RRL5/LevelSender (3ft)		EA	71.00	0.00	0.00	71.000	355.00
5.00	114833	3001 L5 Direct Read Cable (15ft) for the Levellogger 5		EA	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.000	500.00
5.00	114606	3001 Levellogger 5 Junior, M5		EA	544.00	0.00	0.00	544.000	2,720.00
1.00	114598	3001 L5 Slip-Fit Adaptor Assembly		EA	80.00	0.00	0.00	80.000	80.00
1.00	109609	3001 / 3250 PC Interface Cable (USB) for Levellogger / LevelVent		EA	208.00	0.00	0.00	208.000	208.00
0.00	110659	3001/3500 Biofoul Screen for the Levellogger/AquaVent		EA	88.00	0.00	0.00	88.000	0.00

Page 1 of 3



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Solinst Canada Ltd.
35 Todd Road
Georgetown ON L7G 4R8
Canada
Fax: 905-873-1992/800-516-9081
Phone: 905-873-2255/800-661-2023

Attention: Bob Connell
609-929-8393

Attention: Bob Connell

email: instruments@solinst.com
web: www.solinst.com

Quote Expiration	Ship Via	Shipping Terms	Duty & Brokerage	HST/PST	GST	State Tax	Terms
Mar-24-2025	USPS	DDP	Included	TAX 0%	GST EX	Customer remit	Credit Card

Qty	Part#	Description	U-M	List Price	Disc 1	Disc 2	Net Price	Ext Price
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Estimate valid up to and including March 16th 2025.
For orders received on March 17th 2025 or later, new annual product pricing will apply.

LevelSender System Assembly (p#115924) includes: LevelSender Assembly with Modem, 2" Locking Well Cap, Support Hanger Bracket, Antenna and 3x AA Lithium Batteries. Solinst SIM Card included and preprogrammed. Data plans available, require contract for monthly or annual charge. See data plan calculator on Solinst website.
Data Plan Rates / Solinst SIM Zone B Pricing:

Monthly Billed:
5Mb Data Plan - \$5.10 USD
20Mb Data Plan - \$6.60 USD
50Mb Data Plan - \$12.00 USD
100Mb Data Plan - \$18.00 USD

Yearly Billed:
5Mb Data Plan - \$58.00USD
20Mb Data Plan - \$75.00 USD
50Mb Data Plan - \$137.00 USD
100Mb Data Plan - \$205.00 USD

Note: The Reader Cable SS connectors should remain out of water

114598 – Connects Levellogger 5/ Barologger - App Interface (115009)/ SRU (115115)/DataGrabber (116507)/PC Interface Cable (109609)

109609 - Connects DRC to PC for Data download, Programming and Firmware update (Optional Item required to troubleshoot if needed)

115378 - Used to Program LevelSender 5
112867 - Used to Connect Levellogger 5 - LevelSender 5
114833 - Connects Levellogger 5 to Reader Cable 112867

Solinst supplies L5 Direct Read Cable assemblies in lengths up to 1500 ft. DRC



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Mar-24-2025	UPSG	DDP	Included	TAX 0%	GST EX	Customer remit	Credit Card

Qty	Part#	Description	U-M	List Price	Disc 1	Disc 2	Net Price	Ext Price
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Sale Amount:	8,899.00
Order Disc(0.0000%):	0.00
Surcharge:	N/A
Freight	0.00
Misc Charges:	0.00
GST:	0.00
HST/PST:	0.00
Total Amount:	8,899.00
	US Dollar

E&OE

Freight extra unless otherwise indicated

Please allow additional time for transit

ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO PRODUCT AVAILABILITY AT TIME OF ORDER

Salesperson: Wilson, Nicholas

SIGNATURE _____

Appendix 2. NFWF grant: Notes on introductory meeting, Feb. 3, 2025

2/3/2025 via Zoom

Notes by Bob Connell

Attendees (as best I could capture):

- Tali MacArthur and Megan Marrangoni, POWR
- Kara Lubold and Bob Connell, QWA
- Ryan Szuch, Grow Conservation
- Grace Ellis, Galileo Project
- Bess Langbein, Due East Partners, Annapolis, MD
- Kristen Peterson, The Hatcher Group, Bethesda, MD
- Jen Dunlap and Shawn Jacobs, Manada Conservancy
- ??, Elk Creek WA
- Bethany Canner, Swatara WA
- John Zazworsky, Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited
- ??, Warren Energy

Introductory Comments

Tali will be the point person for this grant. She will be the go between with contractors. There will be presentations highlighting the problems, solutions and outcomes of the projects at the end of the grant, probably around December 2025. There have been questions about a QAPP requirement. Tali said she did not have all the answers yet, but POWR would help applicants and contractors work through that requirement. She also cautioned everyone that the funding for this grant is federal (USEPA) and that federal funding issues were currently in turmoil. She also said that an interview with the contractors post-proposals may not happen. Once the contract is signed, Bidders/Contractors will respond directly to the Watershed Associations.

Questions from Contractors

Bess Langbein of Due East Partners asked Bob Connell if the activities on our SOW numbered D – I would be independent from the Strategic Plan evaluation/development. Bob and Kara responded that they would not be independent. After revisiting QWA' strategic plan, mission statement and goals, there may be changes in emphasis and/or approach to items D-I.

Ryan Szuch of Grow Conservation asked about payments and accounting with contractors. Would funding be a one shot lump sum, or in quarterly payments? Megan Marrangoni of POWR said there would be quarterly payments and accounting.

Grace Ellis of the Galileo Project asked if our published plans need to be 508 compliant (i.e. – will they be published on a federal website)? Tali said she would check on that.

- Insurance for Contractors needs to be updated at the time of contract. Contractor bears liability for any additional subcontractors.

Appendix 3. Projects Updates: Watershed Action Team Meeting Minutes, Feb. 6, 2025, courtesy of Kara Lubold, LCCD



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

February 6, 2025, 9:00 a.m. – Minutes

Members Present: Bethany Canner, Hannah Hartman, Darren Heisey, Katie Hollen, Kara Lubold, Rocky Powell, Mike Schroeder, Bryan Seipp, & Maranda Smith

1. Applications

- Gingrich Run- \$204,325.00: DFTU submitted to LCCD 1/30/25
- Beck Creek 1- \$184,700.00: DFTU submitted to LCCD 1/30/25

2. In-Process Projects

- Hammer Creek Estates: \$250,000 of CAP funding for construction-related expenses
- Gerald Horst bridge replacement: \$23,600 of ACAP funding for design and permitting
- Syner Rd. Phase II: \$213,950.00 of CAP funding

3. Partner Updates

- Clear Creeks Consulting, Rocky Powell (See Appendix 1 for updates)
- Lebanon Consortium/MS4, Darren Heisey
 - o DEP released draft MS4 permit on Jan 18, 2025. Darren has reviewed and will discuss at the next Consortium meeting. As rumors suggested, the new permit has a heavy focus on volume management and treatment. The Consortium has excess credit from the first permit cycle, but will need to confirm with DEP how it will transfer to the new permit cycle.
 - o SQ1: Recently signed a new 2-year maintenance contract with LandStudies for Phase 1. Phase 2 is still planned to be part of the bridge replacement in 2026.
 - o Construction started on Lions Lake.
 - o SQ6 is still in limbo as grant funding is being withheld until all property agreements are in place. There is an opportunity for a land swap with the remaining landowner, with the Consortium looking to purchase another piece of land to compensate the landowner for the land they would give up for the project. The first piece of land the Consortium considered for this swap did not work.
- Quittapahilla Watershed Association, Mike Schroeder
 - o The capacity-building NFWF grant with POWR is moving forward. There was a meeting earlier this week with bidders and the participating watershed associations.
 - o A digital communications class at LVC is featuring QWA in their work for the spring semester. If anybody is open to being interviewed for the project, let Mike know.
 - o Water quality monitoring is scheduled for next week. Volunteers continue to build the QWA water quality portal.
 - o Mike distributed minutes from the last strategizing meeting to those who attended. Some key takeaways are that there is a need for QWA and the Hammer group to



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

meet in November/December to discuss projects and funding sources for the coming year, there is a desire to have a shared digital platform to keep track of projects in the county, and DFTU and TLVC have limited capacity to serve as project sponsors.

- Hopefully will have a table at Community Water Day on March 29.
- Swatara Watershed Association, Bethany Canner
 - The capacity-building NFWF grant with POWR is moving forward. There was a meeting earlier this week with bidders and the participating watershed associations.
 - Table at Community Water Day on March 29.
 - Settled on 5.5-acre property adjacent to Swatara Watershed Park. The next step is to create a park master plan, including what to do with an existing right-of-way, trail improvements, streambank stabilization, etc.
 - The Swatara Sojourn will be held on May 3. The paddle will start at Jonestown and end at Swatara Watershed Park (entirely in Lebanon County).
- Ecosystem Planning & Restoration, Bryan Seipp
 - Hammer Creek Estates: Permit package has been to DEP, so they are waiting for approval and not expecting any major hurdles. TU has new procurement guidance so DFTU/EPR will be adhering to that for construction bids. Construction is expected to begin this summer and take about 3 months. Planting trees and shrubs may have to be done later, in October/November. Bryan anticipates that most expenses will be incurred by the end of September, except for planting.

4. Other

- 2025 CAP Grant applications- Deadline- February 28,2025
 - Kara said she had been in contact with TLVC about a potential project but has not received an application.
 - Kara explained some of the stipulations of the CAP funding. Half of the 2025 funds must be in Most Effective Basin Disadvantaged Community areas, and half of the 2025 funds must be spent by October 1, 2025. This means only one of the projects TU applied for can be funded.
- Action team members received information about the two projects DFTU submitted for CAP funding. After a vote, the group approved sending Gingrich 1 to the LCCD Board to approve \$204,325 of CAP funding. The project will be presented for funding at the February 20 LCCD Board meeting.
- Rocky, LCCD, DEP, and the contractors for Snitz 2 & 3 are meeting this afternoon to discuss the status of those two projects. Discussion was held in advance of this meeting about possible funding scenarios. Rocky mentioned he has considered moving ahead with Snitz 2 but holding off on Snitz 3, although the projects were bid together. Per the



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

contractor, if Snitz 3 were to be completed next year, independently of Snitz 2, the original Snitz 3 bid would increase by about 9% because of inflation and additional mobilization costs.

- Kara mentioned that during her most recent meeting with DEP, DEP said they are hopeful there will be a 2026 CAP grant round, though nothing is confirmed.
- TLVC's 25th anniversary is this year. They are hosting a Benefit Dinner at the Blue Bird Inn on February 20.

5. Next Meeting

- Thursday, March 6, at 9:00 a.m.

