

## QWA Meeting Agenda

Anville Town Hall & Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83149587533>

March 18, 2025

1. Approve draft minutes of Feb 18 meeting (also attached here and posted on the Meetings & Minutes page of QWA website)
2. Monitoring Program
  - a. Fieldwork updates
  - b. Equipment updates
    - i. ISCO auto-samplers
    - ii. grant for Solinst sensors approved by Cleona Borough Authority, \$9,279
  - c. Data management updates
  - d. QWA Water Quality Portal and storymap template:  
<http://147.185.239.141/qwa-new/> and  
<http://147.185.239.141/StoryMap/>
  - e. Biological monitoring update
3. NFWF Grant discussion & decision:
  - a. Introductory meeting with Tali MacArthur and other watershed associations, Feb 3; see Bob Connell's meeting notes in **Appendix 1**, below)
  - b. Meeting with Tali Tues March 18 (earlier today) – any remaining questions for consultants?
  - c. Our consensus selection?
4. Digital Communications Course at LVC – panel discussion & film viewing live event at Allen Theater late April
5. Meeting with Leb Co Planning Dept Tues March 18 (earlier today)
6. Projects updates: see Feb 7 Watershed Action Team minutes and Rocky's report, **Appendix 2**, below (thanks Kara & Rocky!)
7. Education, outreach & special events:
  - a. Sat March 29: Lebanon County Community Water Day (Mike will be out of town): <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/watershed->

[stewards/news/lebanon-county-community-water-day-set](#) - see flier in

### **Appendix 3**

- b. Fri April 25, 4-6 PM: Arbor Day Celebration at Gloninger Woods Park  
(Mike will bring table & model watershed)
  - c. Sat June 14, 9 AM—2 PM: Historic Old Annsville Day
  - d. Planning for Farm Show, January 2026 (Alexis)
8. Media & website
  9. Leb Co Stormwater Consortium updates
  10. Whatever else you bring to the table

### **Appendix 1. NFWF Grant: NFWF Grant Proposal – Introductory Meeting**

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 2: Watershed Action Team Meeting Minutes Feb 6, 2025



### 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Watershed Action Team Projects Update: Quittapahilla Creek Projects**

**Rocky Powell**

**March 6, 2025**

### **2025 CAP Projects Grant Applications**

Grant Application and Supporting Documentation (Project Descriptions, Stabilization Concepts, Contractor Budgets) for Proposed Design, Permitting and Construction Projects submitted to LCCD 1/30/2025

Project 1 - Gingrich Run 1 – Reiner Property Gully Restoration

Project Funding Approved for \$204,325.00

Resource Restoration Group (RRG) to start Topographic Survey as soon as DFTU-RRG

Contract Executed

Project 2 - Beck Creek 1 – Formanek Property Breached Dam and Gully Stabilization

Project Funding for \$184,700.00 – On Hold until 2026

### **Beck Creek 6**

PADEP-DFTU Funding Contract finalized.

DFTU-Resource Restoration Group Contract to be completed next two weeks.

Pre-Construction Meeting – March 7, 2025

Construction will start on or about April 1, 2025

### **Snitz Creek 2**

Snitz Creek 2 Funding

Growing Greener – \$481,563.00 (Approved)

ACAP – \$241,385,50 (Approved)

CAP – \$241,385,50 (Approved)

Cornwall Borough – \$100,000.00 (Approved)

Total Approved – \$1,064,849.00 (Approved)

Community Meeting to Update Landowners held February 26, 2025

Contract Agreement PADEP-DFTU Pending

Construction will start on or about April 7, 2025

### **Snitz Creek 3**

Snitz Creek 3 - On Hold

319 – \$457,727.00 (Pre Selected for Further Review by USEPA – Approval anticipated October 2025)

PennVest – \$313,552.00 (May 2026 Application/Fall 2026 Decision/Construction Winter 2026-Spring 2027)

Project Cost – \$771,279.00 (Construction Cost Adjusted 9.1% for Project Delay)

### **Killinger Creek**

NFWF Grant Application submitted November 5, 2024 for Phase 1 Construction and Phase 2 Design and Permitting.

Bryan Seipp contacted NFWF for feedback. Grant not approved. Debriefing with NFWF staff March 2025.

Reapplying for NFWF Grant 2026.

### **Bachman Run**


1. Final Grading Plans – CAD Drawings - Complete.
2. CCC/EPR initiating Materials Quantity Estimates.
3. Final Design Report – Complete.
4. Permit Applications in progress with submittal mid-March.
5. Steckbeck – Draft Culvert Design – Completed. Permit application submitted to PADEP.
6. EPR Final Hydraulic Analysis - Complete.

### **Snitz Creek 4**


1. CCC Preliminary Stream Design in progress
2. EPR Preliminary Plans for SWM Pond I in process.



## Appendix 3: Lebanon County Community Water Day Flier, Sat March 29



Experience a watershed moment at



# Lebanon County Community Water Day

Learn about our water resources, stream health, and water quality

**Saturday, March 29, 2025, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**  
Mount Gretna Firehall, 41 Boulevard Avenue, Mount Gretna, PA

## Schedule of Activities

- 9 - 12 Paint a Rain Barrel: Enter a raffle to win the barrel! (outside)
- 9 - 12 Fishing for Trash (outside)
- 9 - 12 Meet Up with Macros: Find and identify the critters that live in streams (outside)
- 9:30 Stream Testing Demo: See how citizen scientists monitor water quality (outside)
- 10:00 Survivor: Staying Alive (outside and inside)
- 10:15 Fish Frenzy: Investigate the challenges of the commercial fishing industry (outside)
- 11:00 Survivor: Staying Alive Round Two (outside and inside)
- 11:00 Rain Barrel Workshop: Learn the benefits of rain barrels and how to install one. Use the QR code to register. (inside)
- 11:15 Water Watch: How much fresh water do we have? (outside)
- 12:00 Stream Testing Demo: See how citizen scientists monitor water quality (outside)
- 12:30 Awesome Aquifer: Explore Hydrogeology (outside)
- 1:00 Fish Frenzy: Investigate the challenges of the commercial fishing industry (outside)

All Day Inside Activities: Water Trivia, Fly Tying, Enviroscape and MORE!

For more information, go to <https://swatarawatershed.org> or <https://conewagocreek.net>