



**WHITE CLAY CREEK**  
**National Wild & Scenic River**

*Ours to Enjoy. Ours to Protect.*

MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2021

Attendees:

Shane Morgan	Doug Janiec	Ed O'Donnell	Don Peters
Jenny Egan	David Hawk	Laura Lee	Cori Trice
Sarah Bursky	Kelley Dinsmore	Kristen Travers	Rick Mickowski
Martin Wells	Andrea Withers	Aileen Parish	Kate Raman

Ed O'Donnell chaired the meeting.

Approval of December minutes.

Kate Raman gave an update on current open space projects in the White Clay. Following the update the committee reallocated the \$5000 put on hold for the Auburn Road property to the Penn Green property which is moving forward for a total of \$10,000. Dave Hawk mentioned there was a potential historic fishing shack on the Penn Green Property and it was agreed that prior to releasing the additional \$5000 that this should be further investigated to see if it can be protected as opposed to being demolished. Kate was unsure if DCNR would award the needed grant funding for this project to move forward if any existing structures were to remain on site. This will be investigated further. The priority is to protect the land, but if there is a way to do that and protect the structure that is the preferred path. If it cannot be protected then we will still move forward with the land protection only.

The committee also allocated \$15000 in open space funding towards a new property in New Garden Township. This property appears to be moving forward and the township would be the owner and use the land for passive recreation. Natural Lands will also be developing a restoration and trail plan for the property. This property is not likely to close until 2022.

Shane added that the London Grove Open Space Committee is also moving forward with some projects in the Township and may be requesting funding support in the near future.

New Business

Shane reviewed the proposed FY21 Work Plan and Budget. The Committee discussed several proposals outlined in the work plan including several new proposals including work with Rutgers and West Grove Borough on a second rain garden installation, riparian

buffer installations in Franklin Township, a watershed study and restoration plan to address flooding issues in Avondale Borough, and support of the John Evans House emergency stabilization. The details and amount of funding put towards each project can be viewed in the FY21 Workplan.

The Committee agreed to continue to support the Stream Watch program which includes the sensor stations and the bacteria monitoring sites, and our current education and outreach programs which include Creek Fest, school programs, and municipal and community outreach efforts.

The Committee considered and approved the watershed manager's request for a salary increase using a combination of federal and non-federal funds.

### Financials

Shane reviewed the current budget status and the status of the White Clay Restoration Funds. She noted that COVID did not impact the amount of restoration funding we generally receive, it just came a bit later. She also reviewed a proposal submitted by Jason Fischel that requested \$7500 in support for the potential removal of the Deerfield Dam on White Clay Creek (Dam 7). This was put on hold until further questions about the proposal could be answered.

Sarah provide a brief update on National Park Service activities including the ongoing RTCA planning with PA DCNR. They are currently in the information gathering phase and it is likely that this assistance will be extended into the following year. Sarah also noted that National Park Service held a virtual Partnership Wild and Scenic meeting during the quarter.

Due to lengthy discussion on the open space proposals and the FY21 workplan and budget Shane did not go over any other Wild and Scenic Program Updates.

2021 Meeting Dates: (second Tuesday at end of each quarter)

June 8, 10am

September 14, 10am

December 14, 10am

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.