

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Annville Town Hall and Remotely Via Zoom (Hybrid Meeting)
Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Present: Michael Schroeder (President), Alexis Biondi, Bob Connell, Jason Cora, Karen Feather, Katie Hollen (LCCD), Rick O'Leary, Bill Osburn

The meeting opened at 7:01 PM

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes of the May 20, 2025 meeting were circulated electronically before the meeting and approved by consensus.
- 2. Meeting Venue.** After discussion, consensus was reached that we should reserve the Community Room in the Annville Free Library for future meetings. Mike agreed to make the arrangements. Until further notice, this will be our last meeting in the Annville Town Hall.
- 3. Monitoring Program**
 - A. Fieldwork updates.** Katie organized fieldwork on Thurs June 12 (Katie, Bob, LCCD interns Maddie Carr & Kellen Markley, and Mike) and Tues June 17 (Katie, LCCD interns Maddie & Kellen, Gary Zelinske, and Mike).
 - B. Equipment updates.**
 - 1) Solinst Sensors.** Bob reported that the Solinst sensors are now deployed in the field and recording data at five of our monitoring sites (all except Q2, which has a USGS monitoring station). He was thanked for his excellent work.
 - 2) ISCO auto-samplers.** Mike reported that both units were tested in the field on Fri June 13 at Q1 and K1 with Katie Hollen, Bob Connell, and Mike. Unit "Kay" worked well, Unit "Lee" needs work (insufficient suction to draw water up to unit, with the message "No Liquid Detected"). Bob is working to fix the problem.
 - C. Data management & Water Quality Portal.** Bob reported that the Solinst website has the capacity to generate graphs from data received from the sensors, and invited members to email him if they are interested in viewing.
 - D. Biological monitoring.** After discussion, Mike agreed to ask Charles Katona for the raw data used to produce his 17-page report of April 2025, housed on the QWA website.

- E. Conewago Creek Monitoring.** Bob reported that an acquaintance asked for help with their monthly water sampling efforts at one site in the Conewago Creek watershed. Interested persons should be in touch with Bob.
- 4. National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grant.** Mike, Bob, Katie, and Kara reported on the in-person strategic planning meeting with Ryan Szuch and Katie Ombalski of Grow Conservation from 10:30-3 pm on Thurs June 3 in the LCCD conference room. In attendance were Tali MacArthur of POWR, Bob Connell, Katie Hollen, Alexis Biondi, and Mike. A follow-up remote meeting was held on Mon June 30. The meetings were characterized as helpful and productive.
- 5. “Digital Storytelling” Course at LVC.** Mike reported that he is waiting for Prof. Pettice to make available the digital content created by LVC students in spring semester.
- 6. Projects updates.** See Rocky’s June 5, 2025, “Watershed Action Team Projects Update – Quittapahilla Creek Projects” below in **Appendix 1** to these minutes.
- 7. LCCD Watershed Action Team.** The minutes of the WAT’s meeting of June 5, 2025 are included below in **Appendix 2** to these minutes.
- 8. Media & website.** Mike reported that he continues to post on Facebook about the QWA’s monitoring program and continues to keep the website updated.
- 9. Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium updates.** No update beyond what appears in the WAT minutes.
- 10. Education, outreach & special events.**
- A. Historic Old Annville Day, Sat June 14.** Mike and Bob reported a successful tabling event at Historic Old Annville Day, including the recruitment of several potential volunteers. Special thanks to Bob & Alexis Biondi for staffing the table.
 - B. Milton Hershey School Middle Schooler Field Trip to Quittie Creek Nature Park, June 26.** Katie reported that she and Hannah Hartman, District Manager of the LCCD, and Master Watershed Steward Margaret Hopkins will supervise an educational field trip to QCNP for 10-20 middle schoolers from MHS from 9:30-2:00 pm on Thurs June 26. She invited QWA members to help.
 - C. Water Week at Cornwall Manor, late October.** Daphne Messerschmidt & the Tree & Environment Committee at Cornwall Manor are organizing a “Water Week” in the last week of October with Bethany Canner of the Swatara Creek Watershed Association and Mike for the QWA presenting on “Where does our water come from

and how is it doing health-wise? Where does our 'used water' go (sewage treatment plant)? and What's the condition of the water around us? (Furnace Run, Snitz Creek, source through The Woods past the tennis courts and beyond)''

- D. Possible field trips** to the City of Lebanon Authority's (COLA's) Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Cleona Pumping Station.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem

Appendix 1. Rocky Powell's Watershed Action Team Projects Update for Quittapahilla Creek Projects, June 5, 2025

Beck Creek 6

Work in May slowed with 12 of 25 workdays lost due to weather.
Channel Construction Phase 1, Stage 1 – Completed work along Stations 6+15 to 12+13.

Snitz Creek 2

PADEP Growing Greener – DFTU Contract – Executed
DFTU – ARRC Construction Contract – Executed
ARRC Final Schedule – Work started 6/04/2025

Bachman Run – Horst Properties

Permit Application & Supporting Documentation – Uploaded to DEP ePermits website 5/1/2025
PADEP Comments received 5/11/2025
Response to PADEP Comments uploaded to DEP ePermits website 5/28/2025
E&S Permit Application – Approved by LCCD 5/28/2025
E&S Approval Letter uploaded to DEP ePermits website 5/29/2025
Bender Lane Culvert Design – GP Permit Pending.

Snitz Creek 3

GGP Grant Application and Supporting Documentation – Completed 6/04/2025

GGP Grant Application Upload – 6/06/2025

319 – \$457,727.00 (DEP Pre-Selected sent to USEPA – Approval Fall 2025)

GG – \$330,408.00 (6/20/2025 Application, Approval Winter 2025/Spring 2026)

Cost – \$788,135.00

Original Construction Cost \$645,228.00 Adjusted to \$721,190.00 due to Project Delay and addition of Tree Shelters

Construction Fall 2026

Snitz Creek 4

Preliminary Stream Design - In Progress

Preliminary Plans for SWM Pond – Complete

Scheduling Landowners Meetings – June 2025

Appendix 2. LCCD Watershed Action Team Minutes of June 5, 2025



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Bethany Canner, Russ Collins, Reid Garner, Hannah Hartman, Darren Heisey, Katie Hollen, Kara Lubold, Rocky Powell, Mike Schroeder, and Bryan Seipp

1. Applications

- Beck Creek 1: \$184,700.00- deferred to 2026 CAP round

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 of CAP funding for construction-related expenses- in progress
- Wengert Memorial Park Seeded Slope: \$27,313.92- in progress
- Hess: \$10,000- Non-Fed match commitment for NFWF INSR grant
- Gingrich Run 1: \$204,325- streambank restoration and stabilization, concrete dam removal
- Snitz 2: \$241,385.50- streambank protection, constructed wetland and riparian buffer

3. Partner Updates

- Clear Creeks Consulting, Rocky Powell
 - o See Appendix 2.
 - o Beck Creek 6: Channel work started in April but work in May slowed with workdays lost to weather.
 - o Snitz Creek 2: PADEP Growing Greener – DFTU Contract is executed. DFTU – ARRC construction contract is executed. ARRC started work on 6/4/2025.
 - o Bachman Run: Submitted for permitting 5/1/2025 (S Annville Twp is the permit applicant so there is no permit fee). Received DEP comments on 5/11/2025. Uploaded response to comments on 5/28/2025. E&S permit application was approved on 5/28/2025. Bridge permit still pending.
 - o Snitz Creek 3: Submitted GGP application for \$330,408. Pre-selected for \$457,727 from 319, which should be confirmed this fall. Hoping for construction fall 2026.
 - o Snitz Creek 4: Preliminary stream design in progress. Preliminary plans for SWM pond are complete. Scheduling landowner meetings.
- Lebanon Consortium/MS4, Darren Heisey
 - o Still waiting on DEP permit package. They have not received answers to the questions they submitted for the draft permit package.
 - o SQ1: Flyway had been replacing trees and shrubs. Wetland plugs will now be planted instead. Around 620 plugs will be planted.
 - o SQ6: Still in planning. Not working on the design because of missing landowner agreements. The DEP grant extension has not been granted yet, but they expect it will be.



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

- Lions Lake Shoreline Stabilization: Substantially completed.
 - Quittapahilla Watershed Association, Mike Schroeder
 - See Appendix 1.
 - Swatara Watershed Association, Bethany Canner
 - Successful sojourn on May 3rd from Jonestown to Swatara Watershed Park. Thirty-nine people paddled.
 - Had their first capacity-building consultant meeting in May. SWA is partnered with Manada Conservancy so the plan will not be SWA-focused but will be focused on their partnership. SWA and QWA will stay in touch throughout the process to exchange details about their respective plans.
 - Trout Unlimited, Russ Collins
 - Heisey Farm: EPR will be meeting with the landowner on Friday to discuss the initial draft concept plan with the proposed floodplain width.
 - Barry Farm: Meeting with landowners next Thursday to finalize work and get permits submitted. Permit should be submitted in about 2 weeks.
 - EPR, Bryan Seipp
 - Hammer Creek Estates: There is a plan in place for where soil will be held after excavation. Received comments from DEP and resubmitted permit application.
 - Historic Schaefferstown Farm: Slow because of focus on other projects. Currently in the concept design phase. Applied for a DCED grant.
 - Spring Hill Partners, Reid Garner
 - Snitz Trib at Ironmaster Rd: Putting together design/permit/construction estimates.
 - Hoffman Farm: Held a few site meetings with the landowner. There are three main components of the project. The first is the landowner's primary concern, which is continued flooding of the farmhouse and farm fields adjacent to the floodplain. The second is vegetation management of the reed canary monoculture downstream of the driveway, which could be a multiyear effort. The third component is the headcutting of small reaches upstream and downstream that could threaten the wetland complex. Wetlands will likely have bog turtle hit.
- 4. Lebanon County Conservation District Update-** Hannah Hartman, Maranda Smith
- Accepting grant applications on a rolling basis for the 2026 CAP implementation grant cycle. There will be a checklist with the application. Kara will distribute details to the Action Team.
- 5. Next Meeting**
- Thursday, July 10, at 9:00 a.m.



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

Appendix 1. Mike Schroeder updates, Quittapahilla Watershed Association, June 5, 2025

QWA Monthly Update for the LCCD Watershed Action Team

Michael Schroeder, QWA President
Thurs June 5, 2025

1. Monitoring program continues – Katie Hollen organizing our June fieldwork.
2. Solinst sensors for five monitoring stations now deployed and recording data thanks to Bob Connell and Alyssa Bellucci.
3. Sites identified for testing & deploying the two ISCO auto-samplers: one at Q1 on the Quittie mainstem in Cleona, and the other at K1 at Killinger Creek & Killinger Rd. Date TBD.
4. NFWF Small Watershed Planning and Technical Assistance Grant for capacity-building: a good remote kickoff meeting with Ryan Szuch of Grow Conservation 9-11 am Thurs May 22, and after today's WAT meeting, our first in-person strategizing meeting 10:30 am—3:00 pm in the LCCD conference room.
5. Education & Outreach:
 - a. LVC Digital Communications course "Watershed Stories" video screening of class projects focused on work of QWA at the Allen Theater, 3-5 pm Mon May 5. Films will be added to QWA website
 - b. QWA, LCCD, and DFTU will be clustered together at Historic Old Anville Day Sat June 14.
6. Projects Update: Rocky poised to send Mike data for Growing Greener Plus proposal for Snitz Creek Project 3; deadline later in June.
7. Next QWA meeting Tues June 17, probably in the Community Room of the Anville Free Library (more commodious than the Anville Town Hall, with better tech for remote attendees).



Lebanon CAP Watershed Action Team

Appendix 2. Rocky Powell, Clear Creeks Consulting Update- Quittapahilla Creek Projects, June 5, 2025

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