

Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association
Minutes from Steering Committee/Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, July 6, 2009, 7:00PM

Bud & Bev Cole Residence, Friar's View Drive, Lehigh Township, Northampton County

- The steering committee meeting was called to order shortly after 7:00pm, with the following committee members & guests in attendance: Chris Amato, Bev Cole, Bud Cole, Dale Gogel (guest) Bob Hosking, Debbie Miller, Colin Murphy & Jim Wilson.
- The June 8th, 2009 minutes & the June 22nd, 2009 public meeting memo were accepted as presented.
- Colin received a BHCWA membership application in the Walnutport PO Box & handed it off to Jim to send to Rick Ritter, BHCWA Membership Chair.
- The committee nominated & elected officers as follows:
 - Bud nominated Chris as President, seconded by Colin. The vote carried unanimously.
 - Chris nominated Bud as Vice President, seconded by Debbie. The vote carried unanimously.
 - Chris nominated Colin as Treasurer, seconded by Bob. The vote carried unanimously.
 - Jim will act as Secretary until such time a BHCWA member is recruited for the office.
 - Board members need to be nominated & elected at a future meeting.
- The committee spent most of the meeting establishing the program schedule & logistics for the “Lehigh River Paddle Adventure” scheduled for July 11th.
- Jim reported that he attended a preliminary meeting with DEP regarding Watershed-based Surface Water Quality Assessments that NCCD applied for funding to implement on several NorCo streams, including waterways in the BHCWA Region. Jim will attend DEP assessment protocol training on July 16th & report back to the committee at the August meeting.
- Because there were a number of concerns about BHCWA’s bylaws, the committee tabled discussing, revising & adopting them until the next meeting.
- Jim reported that the Foundation for PA Watersheds indicated BHCWA should develop a one-page request for 50% of funding anticipated IRS & Commonwealth registration costs for tax-exempt, nonprofit, charitable organization status. The letter is to be on BHCWA letterhead & should explain the need for funding, the dollar amount requested (approximately \$400), the reason for BHCWA’s formation & expected outcomes. Jim will draft the letter in time for the next meeting.
- Some discussion was had about BHCWA representing at the Lehigh Township Fair July 16-18. An earlier email from Martin suggested BHCWA support FHE at the fair in their opposition to the proposed Lehigh Township CAFO. There was concern among committee members about BHCWA taking such a position. Bud made a motion that BHCWA not directly mention the proposed CAFO nor directly promote FHE at the fair. Colin seconded the motion & the motion carried. Bob indicated he would develop a piece of literature relative to environmental challenges in the BHCWA region, including agricultural operations, to be available at the BHCWA exhibit at the Lehigh Township Fair.
- The next steering committee meeting was scheduled for 7:00pm, Monday, August 10th at the home of Colin & Tiffany Murphy, 519 Mulberry Drive, Lehigh Township.
- The steering committee meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.