

Great Lakes Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting
Erie County Conservation District
September 10, 2007
9:00 am

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Committee Members in Attendance:

Lori Boughton	Edward Kosa
Ronald Chapman	Dave Skellie
Tom Fuhrman	Nancy Slater
Mark Gorman	Bob Wisener
Bill Gough	Matthew Wolford
George Greig	David Wright

Others in Attendance:

R. Timothy Weston – PA Chamber	Kathy Krommes – Greenhorne & O'Mara
John Walliser - PEC	Jake Welsh – County Planning
David Naftzger – Council of Great Lakes Governors	Brian Zeppenfeld – Erie County Conservation District

DEP Staff Members in Attendance:

Lori Mohr	John Booser
Andy Zemba	Dave Jostenski
Pam Bishop	

Administrative Items

Bill Gough opened the meeting with introductions at 9:15 am. New committee member, Ron Chapman, was introduced and the committee thanked Bob Wisener for his participation over the last few years. Bob's last day with Erie County planning is Wednesday, September 11, 2007. Bob will be leaving for a new position in Phoenix, Arizona.

Regional Atlas Review and Comments

Kathy Krommes presented information on the format and development of the water atlas. After Kathy's presentation, the committee broke into small groups to discuss sections of the atlas in greater detail.

DEP Summary of Activities

Lori Mohr gave an update on DEP activities. Public meetings and hearings have been postponed until the Spring of 2008. The next Statewide committee meeting will be held on September 20, 2007. The P&I subcommittee has been writing and discussing policy papers that will include recommendations for consideration at future Statewide committee meetings. Matt Wolford is the Great Lakes representative serving on the Statewide committee and the P&I subcommittee on behalf of the Great Lakes region.

Public Comment

Dave Naftzger complimented the work done on the draft atlas and stated that he likes the information contained in it. He mentioned that the atlas will be helpful in educating the public and legislators on issues impacting Pennsylvania's portion of the Great Lakes.

Screening Tool Analysis

Dave Jostenski presented information that has been analyzed for the water budget screening tool. Dave also reported that there were many lessons learned from the watersheds that were scrutinized using the water budget tool. More information on the screenings will be provided at the November meeting.

May Meeting Notes Approved

Dave Wright made a motion to approve the May meeting notes and previous meeting notes . Nancy Slater seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Next Regional Committee Meeting

The next meeting will be held in February 2008.

Joint Meeting with the Great Lakes Compact

Bill Gough turned the meeting over to Brian Hill for the joint meeting with the Great Lakes. Introductions were made.

Mark Gorman gave a brief update to the participants and stated that legislation to ratify the compact was introduced in the state House of Representatives by Representative Harkins. David Naftzgar gave a status report on legislation initiatives to ratify the Compact in other Great Lakes states.

Deputy Secretary, Cathy Myers, described the work that went into drafting the Compact and the process the states must follow to ratify the Compact through legislation in each Great Lakes state and the two Canadian provinces. Several meeting participants provided perspectives on the existing legislation and gave their opinions on whether or not amendments to the Compact or legislation to ratify the Compact are appropriate.

Deputy Myers explained the intent of the Compact and described some issues that are still somewhat open-ended and the action plan for addressing them.

Other committee members were given an opportunity to ask questions and make comments.