

Lower Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

May 16, 2005
Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center
1150 Camp Hill Bypass
Camp Hill, PA 17011

FINAL Meeting Summary

Attendance:

Committee members in attendance:

Bill Achor	James Hostetter
Don Baldwin	Michael Kyle
Mike Brownell – alt. for Tom Beauduy	Walter Leis
Jineen Boyle	Thomas Mealy
Jolene Chinchilli	Bill Morris
Betty Conner	Jeff Osman
Melanie Hesse	Craig Robertson
Cynthia Hitz	Don Robinson
Chris Hoffman	Steven Seidl

Committee members not in attendance:

Tom Beauduy
Ron Evanko
Ed Goodhart
Gerrit Strathmeyer

Others in attendance:

Joel Caves – Spotts, Stevens and McCoy, Inc.

DEP

Bill Gast	Lori Mohr
John Hines	Leslie Sarvis
Dave Jostenski	Susan Weaver

Administrative Items

1. The Draft December 6, 2004 Meeting Summary was approved with corrections (please refer to Final Feb. 14, 2005 Meeting Summary for corrections). **Note:** No official action was taken on this summary at the February meeting due to a lack of quorum.

Motion made by: Don Robinson
Motion Second: James Hostetter

Motion was carried.

2. The Draft February Meeting Summary was approved with no changes

Motion made by: Don Robinson
Motion Second: James Hostetter
Motion was carried.

3. Member Attendance Discussion – Because of very low attendance by some of the committee members and because the committee has not had a quorum on several occasions, the committee discussed drafting an attendance policy similar to that of the Ohio Committee's. A motion was made that Betty Conner would draft a policy and email it to the committee for comments, and a final attendance policy would be voted on at the August 15 meeting. Craig Roberston amended the motion so that in the interim the excessively absent committee members would be contacted by the chair.

Motion made by: Walter Leis
Motion second by: Bill Achor
Motion was carried.

4. William Morris stated the key items that were discussed at the May 4 Statewide Committee meeting:

- The Critical Water Planning Process and Criteria Documents will be reviewed again by the regional committee members, and comments on the criteria document are due by May 31.
- Regulations for registration, reporting and record keeping. Regional committee comments are due by June 15th. The Statewide Committee will then discuss them at the July 21 meeting and take action to move the regulations forward for the Oct/Nov Environmental Quality Board (EQB) meeting.

5. DEP Summary of Activities

- The Main focus of DEP has been preparing for the public meetings and hearings. In addition, DEP technical staff are working on four hand-computed water budgets. USGS continues its work on the screening tool. DEP is developing a computer system to attribute the NHD stream layer as a holding place for watershed data. Discharge Monitoring Reports are being collected in the Delaware and Susquehanna Basins. Similar work is being proposed in the Great Lakes Basin.
- State Budget: John Hines reported that the budget has not yet been finalized. With Clean Water Fund, we will be able to close out the USGS project, committee work and upgrades to registration systems. We are working with River Basin Commissions to do the work we need to do.

- Committee Member Biographies. Bios of each committee member were distributed, and committee members were asked to give comments to Leslie Sarvis. An inventory of bios will be generated for the Technical Expert Pool. Committee members may also nominate an individual to serve on the pool.
 - Population Projections: Bill Gast described ongoing projection work and said that projections would be distributed to county planners for comparison with their own projections.
 - Bill discussed the updated registrations, which were provided in the May 2, 2005 Memo to the Statewide Committee Members.
4. No comments from the public.

CWPA Process & Criteria Documents Discussion

May 31st is the deadline for comments to the Statewide CWPA Subcommittee on the criteria document. Bill Gast reviewed some changes to the criteria document, primarily to the instream aquatic resource criteria in which an actual numeric value was assigned. Walter Leis and Craig Robertson said that they, along with Tom Beauduy, had formulated comments on the criteria document. They would review the comments again and email them to the committee for comment. Then Betty Conner will submit the final committee comments by the May 31 deadline. Walter and Craig also stated their concerns regarding the 15-square-mile planning area size.

Bill Gast stated that many of the comments on the process document that were submitted by the regional committees were incorporated into the document, and a revised version had been developed by the CWPA Subcommittee. The main change to the document was that the “bar” was lowered for nominations to be submitted. Both the process and criteria documents will be merged and reviewed once again by the Statewide Committee at its July 21 meeting prior to posting for public review.

Registration and Reporting Regulations Discussion

Bill Gast provided an overview of the draft regulation provisions and reminded the committee that the current registration process is interim until regulations are completed. Bill said that it is a goal of DEP to incorporate the reporting requirements of the DRBC and SRBC programs into one system and to pre-populate them as much as possible to reduce the burden on applicants. Comments on the regulations – as a committee or as individuals – are due by June 15 to DEP. The draft regulations will be reviewed by the Statewide Committee at its July 21 meeting, and the regulations should then go to the EQB in October.

Regional Component Framework Discussion

John Hines noted that the committee needs to focus on what is important to this region and should think about what the Lower Susquehanna component should look like. The Delaware version of the regional component will be distributed to the committee members as an example. At the next meeting, more time will be spent fleshing out the regional component. The committee stressed the need for data and to also tap into information that committee members may already have.

Public Meeting/Hearing Discussion

Leslie Sarvis reviewed the agenda for that evening's public meeting/hearing and discussed outreach/advertising for the series of meetings.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

The next meeting will be held on August 15, 2005. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.