



State Water Plan Update Statewide Committee Meeting

January 19, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Committee Members in Attendance:

Len Bradley	Gary Merritt
Carol Collier	Heidi Moltz, Ph.D
Andrew Dehoff	Kevin Moore
Sean Donnelly	Kristina Peacock-Jones
Theresa Eberly	Shannon Rossman
Patty Elkis	Trish Salvia
Jennifer Fetter	Heather Smiles
Matthew Genchur	Simeon Suter
Andrew Gutshall	Steve Tambini
Kate Harper	Tim Weston
Richard Harrison	Matthew Wolford
Jeff Jumper	

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Kelly Anderson	Michael Roth
Brian Eckert	Deb Simko
Daniel Gold	Jessica Trimble

Others in Attendance:

Mark Matlock – DEP	Monica Gould – Strategic Consulting Partners
Mike Hill – DEP	Bob Whitmore – Strategic Consulting Partners
James Horton – DEP	
Brian Chalfant – DEP	
Dave Jostenski – DEP	

Visitors:

Erin Kepple Adams	Eric Jespersen
Eve Adrian	Sheryl Kelly
Ed Boscola	Lincoln Kauffman
Mark Bowen	George Kunkel
Tim Bruno	Abdolhossain Liaghat
Joseph Buczycki	Jason McCabe
Anthony Foyle	Mark Nemitz
Andy Gavin	Mark Snyder
Kevin Halloran	Jen Whisner

Kurt Hausammann
Dustin Shaw
Richard Harrison

Cathy Yeakel
Benjamin Lorson

Welcome

Mark Matlock, DEP, welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the meeting was being recorded and provided helpful hints on the use of the technology. Chair Tim Weston welcomed everyone attending the meeting. Attendance was recorded in the Microsoft Teams participant's log.

Minutes

The meeting summary of the November 17, 2021, meeting was approved on an Andrew Gutshall / Len Bradley motion.

Public Comment

Chair Weston opened the meeting for public comment. No public comment was offered.

DEP Summary of Activities

Mark Matlock provided the committee an update of what DEP is working on regarding the State Water Plan Update.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) Water Use Data and Research (WUDR) grant data sharing projects are progressing well. The project involving Chapter 110 data for moving water use registration forms from paper to online is complete and has been deployed. The project involving data sharing between agencies (Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC), Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), and USGS) is in the testing phase. The project should be fully operational during the fourth quarter of this year.

The three draft Critical Area Resource Plans (CARPs) continue to be under development and the drafts are progressing nicely. Two of those CARPs are for the Ohio Regional Committee and one is for the Potomac Regional Committee.

The State Water Plan Atlas from 2009 is being developed into a StoryMap as a Digital Atlas. The Digital Atlas should be ready in the first half of 2022.

The Power BI report summarizing water use data is public and on our website. The link to the Power BI report was distributed to committee members by email.

The eighth round of regional committee meetings are occurring in January 2022.

Workgroup Updates

1. **Sustainable Infrastructure** – Update provided by Tim Weston.
The workgroup will be meeting on January 31. Current work includes updating the recommendations from the previous State Water Plan and an extensive study of what

is currently being done at the state and local levels and private sector. The biggest challenges identified include:

- Funding
- New standards that have been developed
- Deferred maintenance on systems
- Managerial and organizational challenges
- Many small systems in existence

Recommendations being developed include:

- Keep 2007 Sustainable Infrastructure Task Force recommendations
- Maximize funding from the 2021 federal infrastructure bill
- Promote PENNVEST funding and programs
- Encourage the legislation to strengthen funding for public water supply systems

2. **Coordination Amongst Agencies** – Update provided by Carol Collier.

The workgroup has not met since last fall. Initial recommendations being discussed include:

- Establish a multi-agency single point of contact
- Develop inter-basin coordination
- Develop state and federal coordination
- Develop state and local government coordination
- Support new legislation for the Integrated Water Management Platform

Agencies to be included in internal inter-agency coordination include:

- DEP
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
- Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Fish & Boat Commission
- County Conservation Districts
- River Basin Commissions

Recommendations being developed include:

- DEP develop a framework for Integrated Water Resources Planning (IWRP)
- Implement a pilot IWRP
- DEP provide assistance to counties for developing IWRPs
- Resources are needed
- Review current policies
- Integrate IWRP with land use planning

Review of Draft Document Components

Draft documents of reports prepared by the committee's workgroups were presented and additional edits provided by committee members. The edited documents include the following:

1. Water Withdrawal and Use
2. Water Efficiency
3. Emerging Contaminants
4. Legacy Issue Impacts
5. Floodplain and Stormwater Management
6. Navigation Needs
7. Preface
8. Introduction

Regional Committee Updates

Mark Matlock provided an overview of the regional committees' meetings being held in January. Three committees met last week, and the other three committees will be meeting next week. The committees are reviewing the latest versions of the region's priorities and the StoryMap content. These documents will be used for a public hearing to be held in March. In April, the committees will review and adopt the region's priorities and StoryMap content. The statewide committee will be reviewing these priorities in May.

Comments in the chat

- The Great Lakes & St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council and Regional Body partners with the Great Lakes Commission to provide an annual water use report that includes trend information. <https://www.glc.org/work/water-use>

Next Steps

The next steps in the planning process are:

1. The statewide committee will continue meeting bi-monthly in 2022.
2. DEP is drafting documents on the following sections of the report:
 - Climate Change
 - Land Use and Management
 - Strategic Planning
 - Data Access and Collaboration
3. The statewide committee will focus on prioritization of recommendations and legislative priorities at the March and May meetings.

Future Meetings

The committee is on a bi-monthly schedule. The meeting dates for the Statewide Committee in 2022 are:

- March 16
- May 11

- July 20
- September 21
- November 9

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon on a Matt Wolford / Len Bradley motion.