



State Water Plan Update Delaware Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

October 10, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Committee Members in Attendance:

Ed Boscola	Susan Myerov
Becky Bradley	Mark Nemitz
Carol Collier	James McCarthy
Kate Harper	Chad Pindar
Gary Kribbs	Nathan Walker

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Kelly Anderson	Bill Royer
Mark Bowen	Jane Rowan
Joe Buczynski	Peter Rykard
Patrice Dume	Elaine Paul Schaefer
Irvil Kear	Christopher Uhland
Dave Ritter	Eliza Walbridge

Others in Attendance:

James Horton – DEP
Susan Weaver – DEP
Elizabeth Cushman – DEP
High Garst – DEP

Visitors:

None

Welcome

James Horton, DEP, welcomed everyone to the meeting, explained the meeting was being recorded, and provided helpful hints on the use of technology. Attendance was recorded by voice acknowledgement.

Meeting Summary

The meeting summary of the April 11, 2023, meeting was reviewed, and it was noted the meeting summary was dated 2022 and needed to be changed. The meeting summary was approved on a Kate Harper / Sue Myerov motion.

Public Comment

The meeting was opened for public comment. No public comment was received.

DEP Update

James Horton presented an update of DEP activities to support the current State Water Plan and reviewed status of Committees membership. For the next update of the State Water Plan, DEP plans to develop draft content for the plan during 2025, hold public hearings and meetings in the first quarter of 2026, and have a draft updated plan for the Statewide Committee to approve in the third quarter of 2023. DEP hopes to have the finalized plan completed by the end of 2027.

The five-year plan for implementation of the current plan is outlined in the following chart.



James described DEP's current outreach initiatives for the current State Water Plan. These initiatives include:

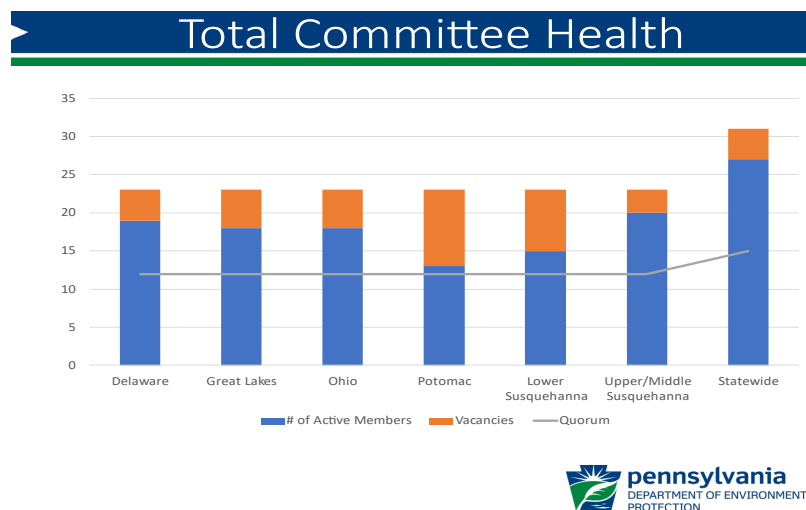
- Planned presentations to Pennsylvania Environmental Council on October 30 and a presentation at the PSATS convention in April of 2024.
- Presentations that have been provided include a presentation to the Western PA Water Symposium and a presentation to the Citizen's Advisory Council.
- Development of presentation tools – James is developing a modular presentation for speaking to different groups and the presentation will be tailored to address individual interests of the group. A one-page fact sheet is also being developed as a handout at presentations.

Currently DEP staff are reviewing and organizing feedback provided by the public during the development of the 2022 State Water Plan update to determine what information will be useful for additional planning efforts. This synopsis of information will be brought to the Committee at future meetings.

The three CARPs are in development and under review with DEP. James hopes to have the CARPs completed during this cycle of planning. The three CARPs are:

- Back Creek CARP in the Ohio region
- Laurel Hill Creek CARP in the Ohio region
- Marsh and Rock Creeks CARP in the Potomac region

James reviewed the status of membership on the six regional committees. The following graph shows active members available for each committee. Potomac Regional Committee is most in need of additional members. James stated he has several applications for membership on the various committees and these applications are being prepared to be sent to the Governor for appointment.



Act 220 is very specific on the professional roles of regional committee members. The Delaware Committee currently has openings in the following professional categories. There are no current applicants for these positions and recommendations from Committee members are welcome.

- Horticulture
- Ag production
- Local government (2 positions)

Committee members had the following suggestions to support the recruiting efforts.

- DEP provide an email to all Committee members outlining current open positions and the criteria for the role;
- Members provide suggestions of individuals to fill the roles;

- An effort be made to balance regional geographical representation on the committee;
- When DEP presents at the PSATS convention, ask for volunteers or names of individuals to serve on regional committees;
- DEP contact the following organizations for suggestions to fill positions -
 - PA State Association of Boroughs
 - County Commissioners Association
 - PA Municipal League

James provided the following flow chart of the process for recruiting new members to regional committees.



Next Steps

2024 meeting dates for the Committee are scheduled for April and October.

Chair Pindar shared that DRBC has developed a report on water storage possibilities in the region. The Commission is also completing a surface water availability study and has completed a 10-year comprehensive assessment on the auditing of public water suppliers. Committee members asked if he would share this information with the Committee at a future meeting.

Nate Walker shared the PA Supreme Court will be reviewing a case involving municipal storm water fees at some point in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am. on a Sue Myerov / Nate Walker motion.