



State Water Plan Update Delaware Regional Committee Meeting

April 9, 2024

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance:

Ed Boscola
Carol Collier
Gary Kribbs
Chad Pindar
Jane Rowan
Nathan Walker

Others in Attendance:

James Horton – DEP
Dave Jostenski - DEP
Susan Weaver – DEP
High Garst - DEP
Bob Whitmore – Strategic Consulting Partners
Jenny Gallagher Blom – Strategic Consulting Partners

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.

Committee Chair

Act 220 requires the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair be elected annually. With a lack of quorum of committee members, an election could not be held. Chad Pindar volunteered to serve as Chair at the meeting

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Meeting Summary

The meeting summary of the October 10, 2023 meeting was reviewed by the committee members and accepted and affirmed on a voice vote.

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 2026. DEP hopes to have the finalized plan completed by the end of 2027.

The timeline objectives include:

- 2025 – Draft content for the updated plan.
- 2026, Quarter 1 – Conduct a combined public hearing and public meeting
- 2026, Quarter 3 – Send the draft plan to the Statewide Committee for approval

Five Year Plan for Developing the Next State Water Plan

James outlined his five-year plan for updating the next State Water Plan. Activities to update the State Water Plan will include:

- 2023 – Provide outreach activities throughout the state, recruit new members to fill all positions on the Regional Committees, and review the current plan and activities to move the plan forward.
- 2024 – Implementation of recommendations and activities identified in the State Water Plan and provide an analysis of current activities.
- 2025 – Reengage the work groups to draft updates to the State Water Plan.
- 2026 – Complete editing, compile input and recommendations from Regional Committees and Statewide Committee and public review of the plan
- 2027 – Respond to feedback from the public review, complete edits to the plan, and deliver the updated state water plan to the public.

Outreach Plans

- James delivered a presentation to Pennsylvania Environmental Council in October 2023.
- DEP staff are developing tools to support outreach and tools in process of development includes:
 - Developing one-page posters (handouts) tailored to specific stakeholder groups.
 - Developing modular presentations on specific aspects of the state water plan that can also be tailored for specific audiences.

Analysis of Specific Topics- IWRM Workgroup

DEP Staff are forming a IWRM Workgroup within the Statewide Committee to begin work on defining the problem and identifying solutions. Representation from each Regional Committee and the Statewide Committee is sought for the IWRM Workgroup.

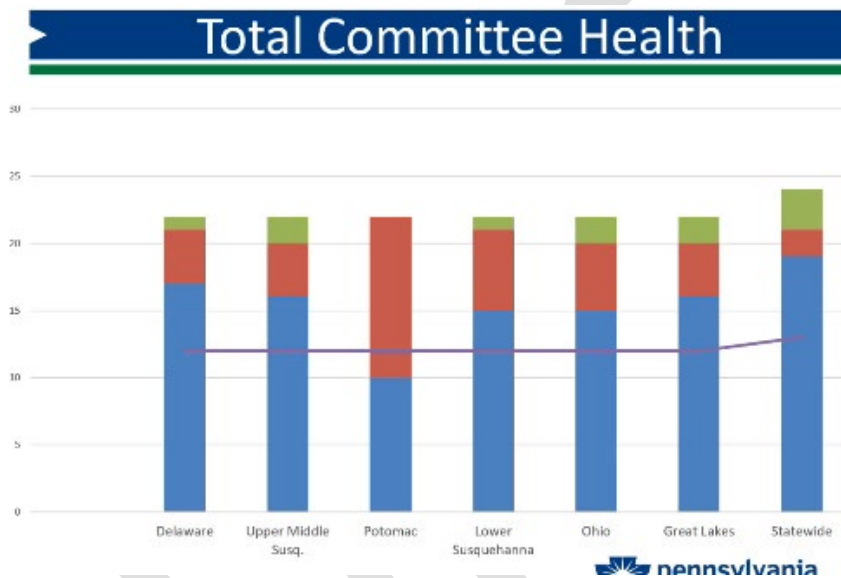
CARPs in Progress

Three CARPs are in progress and under review by internal DEP staff. 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

Committee Membership

James reviewed membership for each Regional Committee. Twenty-three members for each Regional Committee aligned to specific professional positions or roles is detailed in Act 220. Current active memberships and vacancies are depicted in the following chart. Blue colors represent current filled member positions, orange/red colors represent vacancies with no current applicants, and green colors represents prospective new members for a committee in the application review process.



Roles to be filled in the Delaware Regional Committee

- Horticulture
- Local government (3 positions, need clarification on what the roles should be)

Process for Recruiting Members

The process for recruiting new members is outlined in the flow chart below.

Recruiting New Members



Next Steps

Chad Pindar commented that DRBC has published a ground water analysis report and ground water use and availability report and the publications are available on the DRBC website.

2024 Meeting Dates

- October 8, 2024 – 9:00 to 12:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m. on an Ed Boscola / Jane Rowan motion.