

DELAWARE WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

November 10, 2005
DEP
Southeast Regional Office
2 E. Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Carol Collier	Gary M. B. Kribbs
John Coscia	George Kunkel – alt. for Howard Neukrug
Allen Fidler	Preston Luitweiler
Hon. Kate Harper	Michael Meloy
Helen Haun	Barbara Smith
Desiree Henning-Dudley	Michael Stokes
John Hoekstra	Maya van Rossum
Leonard Johnson	Robert Wendelgass
M. Irvil Kear	

Committee members not in attendance:

H. Clark Connor
Jeff Featherstone
Julie Lyn Gallisdorfer
Arthur Needham

Others in attendance:

Tony Bellitto - North Penn Water Authority	Leonard Smith – Borton Lawson Engineering
Bill Gast - DEP	Cynthia Unangst – Bucks County Planning Commission
Todd Kincaid – Hazlett-Kincaid, Inc	Sue Weaver – DEP
Ken Najjar – DRBC	Sarah Whitney – PA Sea Grant
Leslie Sarvis – DEP	
David Sayers – DRBC	

Administrative Items

1. The Draft August Meeting Summary was approved with no changes.

Motion made by: Barbara Smith
Motion Second: Irvil Kear
Motion was carried.

2. *Elections of Chair and Vice Chair for 1-year terms*

Kate Harper nominated Carol Collier for Chair.

Nomination Second: John Coscia
Nomination approved.

John Coscia nominated Jeff Featherstone for Vice Chair.
Nomination Second: Kate Harper
Nomination approved.

3. *2006 Meeting Schedule*

Proposed dates are:

- February 10, 2006
- May 12, 2006
- August 11, 2006
- November 9, 2006

Carol Collier said there were some conflicts with her schedule and the February 10th and May 12th dates. It was agreed to move these two dates as follows:

- February 9, 2006
- May 11, 2006

Leslie Sarvis requested meeting locations and Carol Collier asked for suggestions. John Coscia suggested DVRPC for the February meeting; Lehigh University was suggested for the May meeting. It was suggested that the August meeting be held in the Upper Delaware area, i.e. Monroe County Conservation District. DEP, Southeast Region Office, was considered for the November 9th meeting. Leslie Sarvis will check on the availability of these locations.

4. *DEP Summary of Activities*

- Re-appointment letters will be forthcoming for committee members whose terms ended in September 2005.
- Sue Weaver reported the results from the 30-day public comment on the Critical Water Planning Area (CWPA) document. She said they will be revising the language in the process section of the document for more clarity, but will not change the process itself or criteria piece. They hope to have it ready for the December 1st Statewide Committee meeting and published in early 2006. The CWPA Subcommittee met in October and will be meeting again in December. They will be discussing guidelines for writing a Critical Area Resource Plan (CARP).
- The 9/22/05 Statewide Committee meeting was cancelled. In lieu of this meeting, the memo dated 9/27/05 entitled "Water Resources Planning Process Status & Update" was sent out to all regional and statewide committee representatives. Sue reviewed the Template for Completion of the Statewide and Regional Components, which lists lead DEP staff and target completion dates for the draft sections of the Component. We need to start thinking of 2008 as the *beginning* of the State Water Plan, then to build on it

from there. Beginning next year, DEP staff will bring draft templates of the Regional Components to the committees for their review and input.

- Sue Weaver stated that the interim final registration and reporting regulations are moving internally and will hopefully go to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) early in 2006. DEP is in the process of revising and integrating the drinking water annual reporting forms and the Act 220 reporting forms.
- DEP is also working on the development of a Water Use Analysis Tool that brings together the screening tool that the USGS has been developing and the projection methodologies that Camp, Dresser and McKee (CDM) has been developing. Later today Ken Najjar from DRBC will be presenting CDM's developments on water use projections for Act 220.
- Questions were raised about funding for Act 220. Growing Greener II bond money cannot be used for planning; however, it may be utilized for plan implementation. It was reiterated that Act 220 has not received the necessary funding, and Carol Collier asked for suggestions on how to increase legislators' awareness on this issue. Kate Harper said it would be most effective to write to Governor Rendell. Bill Gast emphasized that we need to think about what we can do with the money we already have. Carol Collier asked for a motion to authorize sending a letter to the Governor, and that she would email a draft to the committee members for comment.

Motion made by: Hon. Kate Harper

Motion second: John Coscia

Motion Carried.

Collaborative Water Resource Planning – Pennridge Water Resources Plan

The committee was given a power point presentation by Todd Kincaid, Hydrogeologist, from Hazlett-Kincaid, Inc, based in Reno, NV. Todd was joined by representatives from the Bucks County Planning Commission and from Borton-Lawson Engineering to give a broader overview of the collaborative water resource planning project in the Pennridge area of Bucks County.

- Cynthia Unangst from Bucks Co Planning Commission stated that this planning project was started in the Pennridge area by eight municipalities, and the planning document was completed in 2002. The implementation measures, recommendations, tasks, and grants received for the plan can be accessed from the Hilltown Township's website: www.hilltown.org/pacc. The goal of the plan is to address concerns about future population growth and development and to manage water resources for this growth. An objective was to develop a basin-scale model of groundwater flow that could be used to delineate wellhead protection and aquifer protection.
- Leonard Smith from Borton-Lawson Engineering presented the geographic components of the plan. They interfaced data with GIS and created maps to display the information. Data includes existing land use, development in flood plains, soil studies, sewer and

water service areas, withdrawal and recharge points, and municipal/industrial discharge points.

- Todd Kincaid then gave a detailed geologic overview of the plan. The main purpose was to develop a basin scale numerical model of ground water flow that can be used to delineate wellhead protection zones for the individual municipality wells, and the relationship between zones of neighboring municipalities under varying environmental and development conditions. He tapped into existing data resources and used them to integrate geologic maps into a water resource development model. It was noted that the quarries mapped out in the plan are a cause for concern, since they can de-water wells in the area.

Carol Collier asked if Bucks County is looking to use this to help with water quality in the area? Carol Unangst said they are and that the municipalities will look at it more closely for water recharge with new developments.

Presentation on Water Use Projections for Act 220

Ken Najjar from DRBC discussed a study performed by Camp Dresser and McKee (CDM) to determine what factors drive demand for water and to develop a method to calculate water demand. Water use estimation and projection methodologies were developed for six water use sectors: public water supply, industrial, agriculture, mining, thermoelectric and hydroelectric sectors. The final water demand projections will conform to watershed units of 15 square-miles.

CDM applied this methodology to the Lehigh River Basin as a pilot study. The results showed an average of 1.7% increase in water use in 5-year increments over 25 years. This seemed reasonable enough to accept as a statewide approach .

Questions were raised about planning the model for maximum peak usage, like the tourist season. There were also concerns about the agricultural sector – inputting into the plan other green areas that are not necessarily considered agriculture, like greenhouses and turfs. Additional concerns were also expressed about the data inputted for mining and the manufacturing areas – the driver mainly uses future numbers of employees as screening tools to identify critical watershed areas and to project future use. It was suggested revising it to use multiple drivers. Kate Harper also suggested using footnotes to inform consumers that projections were not all inclusive. Carol Collier said this presentation can be circulated by email to the committee members.

Update and Discussion on Building the State Water Plan

- Sue Weaver said that DEP developed the Water Resources Plan Template for Completion, dated October 5, 2005, and divided it into sections that were then assigned to DEP staff along with projected completion dates for first drafts. Gary Kribbs said that all the geologic data is already in a GIS format and the geologists on each of the regional committees have met to discuss what other critical areas can be included.

Carol Collier then discussed the various tasks outlined in the plan and asked if committee members would like to be assigned as leads to assist DEP staff. Bill Gast said that Task 2 is pretty much an in-house DEP project, using the water use analysis tool. Maya van Rossum was asked by Carol Collier to lead a sub-group for Task 3 and to contact Stu Gansell for details about this task. John Coscia and Jeff Featherstone could assist in a sub-group for the 1st bullet of Task 4. Sue Weaver said the second bullet item in Task 4 will be a GIS layer Map not an overview of text, and Barbara Smith will lead a sub-group to review this data. George Kunkel along with Preston Luitweiler will lead a review for the third bullet item in Task 4. They will hold off on reviews for Tasks 5 and 7, because their projected completion dates are in 2007. Michael Meloy expressed his desire to participate in a sub-committee review for Task 6, as this should incorporate some land use management issues.

- Carol Collier suggested that the regional committee keep in mind these three key elements during the development of the first state water plan due in 2008:
 1. Assisting DEP in moving forward on the data management system established.
 2. Develop real recommendations to move water planning forward after 2008.
 3. Determine what public behavior change we want to see happen now.

Follow up/next steps

- Leslie Sarvis said that the transcripts from the May and August public hearings have been scanned and uploaded to the Regional Committee homepages. She encouraged the committee members to look at the transcripts, in particular the comments on their Draft Regional Priorities.
- Leslie Sarvis gave a brief overview on the Regional Demographic and Socio-Economic Planning Information and passed out copies of a draft Socio-Economic and Land Use Outline for the Regional Components.
- Carol Collier mentioned two recent publications:
 - * Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable Preliminary Report, dated 9/30/05, and put together by various agencies.
 - * Sewage Facilities and Land Development, dated 2005, and authored by 10,000 Friends of PA.

The next meeting is Feb. 9, 2006. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.