

Draft
Great Lakes Water Resources Regional Committee
May 10, 2005

Erie County Conservation District
Erie County
Erie, PA 16509
Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Nicholas C. Mobilia, Chair
William R. Gough, P.G., Vice Chair
John Walliser
Dave Skellie
Nancy Slater
David Wright
George Greig

Committee members not present:

Lori Boughton	Scott Evans
Thomas Fuhrman	Jesse R. Koon
Edward Kosa	Donna Mindek
Janet Anderson	
Craig Kern	Gary Young
David Mulvihill	Richard Brine
Matthew Wolford	Randall "Randy" Meabon
Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.	Jerry Rice

DEP Representatives:

John Hines
Lori Mohr
David Jostenski
John Booser

Others in Attendance:

Robert Wisener

Not a quorum

Administrative Items

- Minutes: Mr. Mobilia, Chair opened meeting and asked for comments on the February 8, 2005 minutes. Consensus that minutes were fine. No vote due to lack of quorum.

Statewide Committee Meeting Summary:

- John Hines gave a summary of the April Statewide Committee Meeting.
- Three key items discussed:
 1. Move forward with "Technical Expert Pool". Purpose to get names to address committee or help answer specific questions. Names will be reviewed by DEP.
 2. Critical Water Planning Process Document released
 3. Regulations for registration, reporting and record keeping. Regional committee comments by June 15th. Ready for Oct/Nov Environmental Quality Board meeting.

DEP Summary of Activities/Regional Committee Activities - John Hines

- Main focus of DEP- setting up for Public Meetings. DEP technical staff working on four hand computed water budgets. Continued work on screening tool being developed by USGS. DEP developing computer system to attribute the NHD stream layer as a holding place for watershed data. Discharge Monitoring Reports being collected in Delaware and Susquehanna Basin. Similar work being proposed in Great Lakes.
- State Budget: With Clean Water Fund, we will be able to close out 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. All committee members asked to provide input on the biographies that were distributed.
- Population Projections: Dave Jostenski described ongoing projection work and distributed draft population data for Crawford, Erie, and Potter Counties
- Dave Jostenski provided an update on registrations statewide and within the Great Lakes basin.

Public Comments - None

CWPA Process and Criteria Comments Report - John Hines

- The “process document” prepared by CWPA Sub Committee established a process to allow areas to be nominated for designation as critical water planning areas ahead of recommendations through the state water plan process. Designation is key point of process- because other programs and issues will need to be reviewed for consistency with designated critical areas. May 31st- deadline for comments. Target of July has been set for Statewide Committee approval.
- John continued in a description of the Criteria document. Document describes size of watersheds, time horizons, demands, safe yield criteria, etc. Both the process and criteria will be merged prior to posting for public review.

Registration and Reporting Regulations Discussion – John Hines

- Current registration is interim until regulations are completed. Note that this draft does not include fees. John provided an overview of regulation provisions. We have received a number of comments from state committee members. Comments on regulations will be due by June 15 to DEP. They will be taken to EQB in October. Note it may take 18 to 20 months to go through regulatory process.

Regional Component Framework Discussion-John Hines

- John noted need to focus on what is important to this region. Next meeting, more time will be spent on regional component. What will the Great Lakes component look like? Need to tap into others to get a feel for issues, infrastructure and resources being lost as an essence to this plan. Delaware component proposed to be distributed to other committees as an example.

Public Meeting/Hearing Discussion- Lori Mohr

Lori distributed agenda and discussed outreach/advertising for the series of meetings and elaborated on the agenda items. John Hines related discussions during the previous night’s Ohio public meeting and hearing.

Follow-up/Next Steps

A discussion ensued on potential use of “focus groups” in the future to facilitate discussion and focus on issues.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held August 9, 2005, at the Erie County Conservation District Building.