



State Water Plan Update
Lower Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting
February 6, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

DEP Southcentral Regional Office
909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Committee Members in Attendance:

Andrea Blosser	Joe McNally
Andrea Danucalov	George Pomeroy
Felicia Dell	Craig Robertson
Jennifer Fetter	Byron Ross
Andrew Gavin	Justin Spangler
Jeff Hines	Warren Weaver (phone)
Lincoln Kauffman	Thomas Wilson
Sean Kenny	Jenni Woodworth
Mike Kyle	Tyler Erb

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Ruth Hocker

Others in Attendance:

Kristina Peacock-Jones - DEP	Monica Gould - Strategic Consulting Partners
Mark Matlock - DEP	Bob Whitmore - Strategic Consulting Partners
Mike Hill - DEP	
James Horton - DEP	
Dave Jostenski - DEP	

Visitors:

Renee Reber
Curtis Schreffler
Brian Chalfant
Michelle Moses
John Seitz (phone)

Dave Jostenski opened the meeting welcomed everyone. The DEP staff and Strategic Consulting Partners (SCP) facilitators introduced themselves. All committee members and visitors in attendance introduced themselves and provided a brief overview of the

interest in the work of the committee. The agenda for the meeting was reviewed by Monica Gould.

State Water Plan Update

Dave Jostenski provided an overview of what the State Water Plan update will include and what will not be included and how this plan update will be different than the plan developed between 2003 and 2012. This plan update has a shorter timeframe and it is anticipated it will be completed in two years. Quarterly regional planning committee meetings will be held in 2020. In the first two quarters of 2021 the Regional Committees will be engaging the public and will be drafting recommendations to present to the State Committee. During the second half of 2021 the State Committee will review the Regional Committees recommendations and develop a finalized plan to be presented to the Secretary of DEP.

The current plan update primary objectives will include:

- A review and update to the state water plan
- Review of the policies and requirements of Act 220
- Review and revisions to the goals of each planning region
- Development of strategies for implementation of the 2018 Climate Action Plan
- Development of strategies and a model for long term planning and funding of the planning process
- Recommendations for legislative, regulatory, policy and programmatic changes to Act 220.
- Review, complete, approve and adopt the Critical Area Resource Plans (CARPs) in the Potomac and Ohio Regions.
- Complete additional web-based applications and tools to convey water resources information to the public.

Election of Regional Committee Officers and Statewide Committee Nominations

Felicia Dell was nominated to be the Chair of Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee and Mike Kyle was nominated to be the Vice Chair of the committee on a Thomas Wilson/Jeff Hines motion. The nominations were unanimously approved by the Committee.

Jennifer Fetter and Thomas Wilson volunteered to be nominees to the State Committee. A Mike Kyle/Byron Ross motion to nominate Jennifer Fetter and Thomas Wilson to the State Committee was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Lower Susquehanna Regional Planning Committee Bylaws

Bob Whitmore reviewed the Lower Susquehanna Region committee bylaws which were approved in 2004. A comparison of all regional committee bylaws was provided and variances in different committee articles related to meetings, voting, and executive sessions were reviewed. Article XII: Amendment of By-Laws provides that “the bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Regional Committee by two-thirds vote of the full Regional committee membership (15 voting members) provided that written notice of

such change has been sent via certified mail with a return receipt to each member at least two weeks prior to the meeting.”

If committee members have suggestions for bylaws changes, they should be sent to the Chair prior to the next meeting.

Regional Priorities

Mark Matlock, DEP staff member, reviewed the regional priorities that have been identified in the current state water plan. A future document will be provided to Committee members on accomplishments since the State Water Plan was adopted. This includes:

- DEP regulation changes, new program, and studies;
- Accomplishments and changes at the federal, state and local levels
- Actions that have been proposed.

Committee members were provided a list of the current regional priorities and asked which are still relevant, which ones have changed, and what should be new priorities? Committee members were divided into small work groups to identify initial priorities they believe the Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee should consider. Priorities identified by the workgroups include:

- Water quality
- Reduce and prevent pollution in impaired streams
- Water supply and demand - different perspectives
- Flooding issues
- Storm water management
- Emerging contaminants
- Climate resiliency
- Leveraging resources
- Data - what happens with the data that is being collected
- Protecting water resources
- Current initiatives underway - federal, state and local levels
- Integration of program efforts focusing on water demand
- Use of innovative tools and techniques

CARPs

James Horton, DEP staff member, provided an overview of the three CARPs initiated since the State Water Plan was adopted. There are no current CARPs in progress in the Lower Susquehanna Region, however at least one water supplier has been investigating an interconnection with a CARP watershed in the Potomac Region. During this planning phase DEP will be accepting nominations for Critical Water Planning Areas to be examined though there are no plans to complete any additional CARPs other than the ones left incomplete in during the last plan.

Climate Change

Kristina Peacock-Jones, DEP staff member, provided a high-level review of the Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan. The Plan identifies 19 overall strategies to reduce

greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. Water resource strategies identified in the Plan include:

- Strategy 14 - Use stormwater best management practices, and
- Strategy 15 - Promote integrated water resources management and water conservation.

Future Meetings

A tentative schedule of the quarterly meetings for 2020 and the first half of 2021 was provided to Committee members. It was agreed meetings will be held at the current meeting location, DEP Southcentral Regional office building. The tentative schedule is being re-evaluated and a revised schedule will be sent to Committee members. The tentative meeting dates for 2020 are: April 15, July 15, and October 14.

Action Items

- Home addresses for mailings will be updated by DEP staff
- An email list of Committee members will be provided to the Committee
- Ideas for changes to the bylaws should be sent to the Chair

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.