

Draft
Potomac Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting
Franklin County Administrative Annex Building
Chambersburg, PA
February 18, 2005

Meeting Summary

Attendance

Members Present:

Charles Bennett, Chair
Joseph Hoffman
Ricky A. Leese
Donald MacAskill
Mark Mathews
William McLaughlin
George Fisanich
Pat Naugle
Robert Reichart
William Reichart
James Richenderfer, Ph.D., P.G.
Mark Bream
Andrew Fitz
Roger Steele
Michael Christopher

Members Not Present:

Dr. Evon Barvinchack
Phyllis Chant
Marlin Ewing
Thomas Gratto
Jeffrey Kloss

Russell McLucas
Brent Ramsey
Tim Schaeffer

DEP Staff:

Bill Gast
Nicki Kasi
Leslie Sarvis
Kurt Skees

Others:

Bob John
Julie Kiang

Administrative Items

Motion was made by Mark Mathews to accept the December 17th minutes as written; seconded by William McLaughlin and passed unanimously.

There is still the existing committee seat vacancy along with a new resignation (Tim Schaeffer).

Statewide Committee Update

Leslie Sarvis - May 31st is the deadline for comments on the Draft CWPA Designation Criteria document. The CWPA Nomination Process document comments and comments on the Regional Component Outline should be in by the end of this month.

The Program Revision Request of \$3.1 million was not granted nor were the SRBC or DRBC “add-ons”. At this time, this should not change DEP’s and the water resources committees’ basic activities or course of action. Charlie Bennett will develop a template letter that can be used by committee members to contact their legislators regarding funding needs for the development of the State Water Plan.

Leslie summarized the six key goals for the 2005 process (page 3, Statewide Nov. update).

Registration is summarized: Over half of Public Water Suppliers (approx. 3,600 out of 6,300) have come in. Sectors such as agricultural and industrial can only be guessed at and are sure to be harder to corral.

Public Comment - Bob John, Bear Valley Water Manager, described the registration process as confusing (i.e. distinguishing between pre-registration & registration). He also emphasized that it is hard to obtain materials and some who have already registered have received letters saying they didn’t.

CWPA Revised Criteria Presentation

Bill Gast detailed key elements and changes to the CWPA Designation Criteria document (dated January 18, 2005). He explained the logic and development of criterion. Most changes were in the form of reorganization and language (more use of direct quotes from Act and less paraphrase). There were also changes made to the numeric standards for the screening criteria. Regional Population projections will be able to be incorporated.

CWPA Process and Criteria Comments Report from the Work Group

Charlie Bennett distributed a handout titled Draft Basin Comments for Potomac Discussion, which highlights population growth as a primary concern in the basin.

Comments for the Nomination Process need to be finalized. Roger Steele said that it would be extremely helpful to see a simulation of how this nomination process works in reality. He feels there needs to be more concrete guidance, as existing language seems to be merely loose recommendations. Others added that the purpose of the Act is not to force municipalities to follow some concrete process but to make data and some type of process available for planning.

1st Motion was made on the “sign-off” issue. Motion made by Michael Christopher and seconded by Robert Reichart. Vote was 9-for; 4-against.

This Motion was carried to have a 75% sign off of all municipalities and counties involved. It is especially important to include the counties because of the level of their expertise and other county planning activities.

2nd Motion was made by Donald MacAskill and seconded by James Richenderfer and passed unanimously. Motion carried for Robert Reichart to present the Draft Basin Comments for Potomac Discussion (with population guidance cleaned up) to the CWPA Subcommittee & Statewide Committee.

3rd Motion was made by Pat Naugle and seconded by William Reichart and carried with a vote of 8-for; 4-against, 1-abstain (Ricky Leese). Motion carried to take out all reference to funding out of the nomination process document (funding should not be part of the nomination process).

Nicki Kasi, facilitator, will be distributing a more detailed comment list.

Public Meeting/Hearing Discussion – Leslie Sarvis

The committee was agreeable to holding the public meeting/hearing on the date of their next meeting, scheduled for May 19. Chambersburg High School was suggested as a location for the public meeting/hearing. Leslie Sarvis will check the availability of the high school for May 19. The power-point presentation and draft agenda for the meeting/hearing were distributed to the committee members. Committee members suggested that the presentation should include a slide from each county. Any other comments or additions to the regional portion of the power point presentation should be sent to Charlie Bennett. It was asked whether any interested parties such as watershed groups, County Conservation Districts, etc would be allowed to display at the public meeting/hearing. Leslie Sarvis will get back to the chair with an answer.

Finalize Comments on Regional Framework

If committee members have any comments on this document, please forward them to Charlie Bennett before Feb. 28 so that he can submit them to the Policy & Integration Subcommittee.

Follow-up/Next Steps

Make sure you forward any comments on the slide presentation to Charlie Bennett. Get in comments on the draft Regional Component Outline as soon as possible. Submit any other suggestions as to the location (cannot involve a fee) for the Public Meeting to Leslie Sarvis or Lori Mohr.

Next meeting is May 19th. Same place @ 12:30 unless changed.

