

POTOMAC REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, November 17, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Franklin County Administrative Annex Building, Gettysburg

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Charlie Bennett
Mark Bream
Phyllis Chant
Michael Christopher
George Fisanich
Joe Hoffman

Jeff Kloss
Don MacAskill
Bill McLaughlin
Bob Reichart
Bill Reichart
James Richenderfer

Committee members not in attendance:

Dr. Evon Barvinchack
Andrew Fitz
Thomas Gratto
Ricky Leese

Mark Mathews
Russell McLucas
Pat Naugle
Brent Ramsey

Others in Attendance:

Dave Jostenski – DEP
Bill Gast – DEP
Leslie Sarvis – DEP

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Charlie Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Administrative Items

The Draft September 2006 and November 2005 Meeting Summaries were approved with no changes.

Motion made by: Mike Christopher
Motion second by: Bob Reichart
Motion passed.

DEP Summary of Activities

Leslie Sarvis informed the committee members that she will be the new lead contact for the Potomac Committee. The six committee is now split between Lori Mohr (Great Lakes and Ohio Committees), Leslie (Delaware and Potomac Committees) and Rachel Delavan (Lower Susquehanna and Upper/Middle Susquehanna Committees). Leslie's contact information is lsarvis@state.pa.us. Her phone number is 717-772-5634.

Leslie Sarvis said that the nominations to fill their vacancies are still under review in the Governor's Office. The committee briefly discussed what vacancies there are and if there are any suggestions to fill the industrial / commercial category to please contact Leslie. There was a request that a roster be sent out to the whole committee, and Leslie said that she would take care of this.

Leslie updated the committee on the status of several documents:

The Guidelines for Identification of Critical Water Planning Areas document was finalized on September 30. The Guidelines for Development of a Critical Area Resource Plan document should be published as Draft guidance early next year. The Draft registration and reporting regulations have gone through DEP's approval process and were approved by the Environmental Quality Board. The Draft Regulations are expected to go out for public comment early in 2007.

Leslie reviewed the flow chart describing the State Water Plan work products. The Plan will consist primarily of online products, and it will be dynamic in nature allowing for ongoing updates. Each work product for the State Water Plan was discussed briefly. There will be two versions of the Regional Atlas, a web version and a paper or "tabletop" version. An RFP is being prepared to hire a consultant to develop the tabletop version of the Regional Atlas. The RFP is under internal DEP review and should be advertised at the end of November. The RFP also includes finalizing the Public Information (marketing) Document once the Policy & Integration Subcommittee finishes revisions of the text.

Bob Reichart expressed concern that water quality is not being adequately addressed in the State Water Plan. Specifically, Bob and others would like to see well construction standards addressed somewhere in the Plan. A motion was made for "DEP to draft a white paper on water quality issues, specifically well construction standards, licensing and continuing education."

Motion made by: Mike Christopher
Motion second by: Bob Reichart
Motion passed.

2007 Committee Meeting Schedule

There were no changes to the proposed dates for the 2007 meeting schedule. The committee agreed to continue holding the first two meetings at the Adams County Ag. and Natural Resource Center in Gettysburg (**Please note change in location below for the Feb. 16 meeting**) and the last two meetings at the Franklin County Administrative Annex in Chambersburg. Charlie Bennett said he would reserve the Adams County meetings and Mike Christopher said he would reserve the Franklin County meetings. The final meetings dates and locations are below.

Friday, Feb. 16 - Adams County Dept. of Emergency Services, Gettysburg
Friday, May 18 - Adams County Ag. and Natural Resource Center,
Gettysburg
Friday, Aug. 17 - Franklin County Administrative Annex Bldg.,
Chambersburg
Friday, Nov. 16 - Franklin County Administrative Annex Bldg.,
Chambersburg

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Leslie announced that the Winter Watershed meeting of the Franklin County Conservation District will be held on December 4 at Dickinson College in Carlisle. Charlie gave a bit of background about the Conservation District. If anyone is interested in attending, Leslie has contact information to register for the meeting.

Regional Action Agenda Facilitated Session

Leslie led a discussion on the committee's Regional Action Agenda Outline, which was developed using the Committee's Regional Priorities and Desired Outcomes discussed at the Aug. 2006 meeting. The goal of today's meeting was to break into working groups to further define the Action Agendas by incorporating specific objectives and recommendations.

The Committee broke into small working groups to develop specific objectives and recommendations for the Action Agenda. Group members presented their work to the full committee at the end of the session and asked for questions and comments. It was decided that a member of each sub-group would type up their portion of the Action Agenda and send it to Leslie to forward onto the whole committee before the February meeting. Any sub-group wanting to continue refining its work before the February meeting is welcome to do so. Leslie offered to help set up conference calls for the sub-groups.

Follow-Up/Next Steps

In Pat Naugle's absence, Charlie asked for feedback on the idea of the Committee supporting a legislative change to give ICPRB (Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin) the same water use control powers that SRBC and DRBC currently have. Joe Hoffman gave a bit of background on the functions of ICPRB, and he said that some division of functions would not necessarily require legislation. To amend the ICPRB Compact would require a state legislative change *and* a Congressional change. The Committee wanted more of an explanation from Pat, so a motion was made for "Pat Naugle to present an explanation of his question to the Committee at the next meeting."

Motion made by: Bill McLaughlin
Motion second by: Mike Christopher
Motion passed.

For follow-up to the Regional Action Agenda, a member of each sub-group will type up their notes and send them to Leslie. Leslie will then forward them to the whole Committee before the Feb. meeting. We will continue discussion of the Regional Action Agenda in February.

The next meeting is Feb. 16 at the Adams County Dept. of Emergency Services in Gettysburg. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.