

Potomac Regional Water Resources Committee Meeting

May 16, 2008
10:00am – 12:15pm

Franklin County Administrative Annex Building
218 N. 2nd St.
Chambersburg, PA 17201

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Committee Members in Attendance:

Mark Bream	Mark Mathews
Phyllis Chant	Bill McLaughlin
Michael Christopher	Russell McLucas
George Fisanich	Pat Naugle
Joe Hoffman	Brent Ramsey
Jeff Kloss	Bob Reichart
Ricky Leese	Bill Reichart
Don MacAskill	

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Charlie Bennett	Vy Trinh
James Richenderfer	

Others in Attendance:

Kim Kalaka, Bedford County Planning Commission	Dave Jostenski, DEP
Fran Koch, Land Conservancy of Adams County	Leslie Sarvis, DEP
Carl Rundquist, Borough of Chambersburg	

Introductions

Charlie Bennett, Chair, was unable to attend the meeting. Phyllis Chant, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30a.m.

Finalize Draft February Meeting Summary

The Draft Feb. 15 Meeting Summary was approved with no changes.

Motion: Joe Hoffman

2nd: Bob Reichart

Reappointments and Vacancies

The 2007 reappointments were approved by the Governor's Office, and the respective committee members should have received their reappointment letters. Please let Leslie know if you did not receive your reappointment letter. DEP has received nominations to fill an environmental vacancy and an industrial vacancy on the committee. Leslie said that Brian Hill has resigned from the committee, so there is a new environmental vacancy. It was suggested to contact Scott Alexander with the Fulton County Conservation District. Leslie said she would contact him.

Statewide Committee Meeting Updates

At its March 20th meeting, the Statewide Committee approved four white papers to be included in the State Water Plan (Navigation, Integrated Water Resources Management,

Stormwater/Flooding and Water Quality). There was also a presentation about the newly created Sustainable Infrastructure Task Force, which will explore resources for upgrading aging drinking water and wastewater facilities and present a report to the Governor in the fall. The Task Force is holding public meetings across the state in May, and Leslie said the press release with the dates and locations had been emailed to all of the regional committee members.

At its April 18th meeting, the Statewide Committee approved the Chapter 110 regulations (registration and reporting). The Committee also discussed the Water Conservation Technical Assistance Paper and asked that it be sent to the Regional Committees for comments. Comments should be submitted by May 15th to Gary Obleski and Jerry Feldman.

Comments from the Public

Pat Naugle informed the committee that there is an effort in Adams County to set up a countywide water resources advisory committee. The purpose of the committee is to address issues such as groundwater monitoring wells, data collection, promoting riparian buffer ordinances and focusing more resources in the county. It is intended that the advisory committee would help fill in gaps, not duplicate, the work of the Potomac Water Resources Committee.

Discussion on Regional Regulatory Programs

Joe Hoffman discussed a document he drafted about regulatory process and powers in the Potomac River Basin. The document gave background information on water resources planning and management in Pennsylvania, including the current powers of ICPRB, and it highlighted several key issues on water related programs.

Fall Public Meeting and Hearing

Leslie confirmed that the date of the committee's public meeting and hearing will be Thursday, September 18th and the location is Penn State Mont Alto Campus, Multi-Purpose Center. The September 19th meeting will be canceled because there will be a regular committee business meeting before the public meeting/hearing on September 18th.

The agenda will be similar to the public meeting/hearing held in 2003. There will be a regular committee business meeting in the afternoon. The evening will begin with an open house for the public to view displays and maps. Following the open house, the public meeting will include a presentation and an informal discussion period. Then the public hearing portion of the evening will begin. All of the materials will be posted on the State Water Plan website before the public meetings. Committee members asked if hard copies could be mailed to them. Leslie said it would be difficult to do this because of the voluminous documents, but that she would look into it. NOTE: It was subsequently determined that hard copies could not be sent to committee members because time and resources did not allow for this.

Draft Regional Atlas Review

A copy of the Draft Potomac Atlas was passed around for committee members to review. Leslie went over the major changes from the last draft and said that the only changes between now and the September public meetings would be to the graphics (maps and photos). The text will remain the same. If committee members have

comments they may submit them to Leslie, and the comments will be considered with the other public comments received during the public comment period in the fall.

Watershed Verification Update

Dave Jostenski updated the committee on the five watersheds that were chosen by the committee to undergo further screening for potential water quantity problems. DEP has contracted with ICPRB to perform verification of the watersheds in the Potomac basin to determine which ones could potentially be nominated by the regional committee as a Critical Water Planning Area. DEP will send updates, when available, to committee members via email and at subsequent meetings, and staff will report on the results of the verification at the November round of committee meetings.

Follow-up/Next Steps

- The September 19th meeting has been cancelled.
- Leslie will send more information to the committee members about the Sustainable Infrastructure Task Force.
- Materials for the public meetings and hearings will be posted on the web as they become available.

The next meeting of the full committee is Thursday, September 18th at the Multi-Purpose Center on the Penn State Mont Alto campus beginning at 2:30pm. The public meeting and hearing will follow that evening.