

DRAFT
Statewide Water Resources Committee

July 21, 2005
Room 105
400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA

Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance

Don Bluedorn, Chair
Janet Bowers, Critical Water Planning Area Subcommittee Chair
Rick Carlson
Carol R. Collier
Gerald Feldman
Tom Ford
Rep. Bud George represented by Thomas Kuhn
Rep. Kate Harper
Joe Hoffman
Jim MacKenzie, Vice Chair
David Mandelbaum, Policy and Integration Subcommittee Chair
Susan Fox Marquart
John Mizerak
Bill Morris
Cathy Curran Myers
Howard Neukrug
Gary Petrewski
Robert Reichart
Robert Rosenthal
Paul Swartz
George Wolff
Matt Wolford

Committee members not in attendance

Tom Crane
Nick DeBenedictis
Scott Dunkelberger
Bob Long
Gary Merritt
William Nichols
Rich Subasic
Alan Vicory
Bill Wehry

Others in attendance

Stan Geary
Brion Johnson, Pennvest
Steve Neidlinger
Bev Reinhold, Pennvest
Bill Shane, PUC

Andrea Sherretts
Dan Snowden, PennDOT
R. Timothy Weston

DEP Representatives in attendance

Pam Bishop, Office of Chief Counsel
Jineen Boyle, DEP representative on Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee
Stu Gansell, Watershed Management Bureau Director
Bill Gast, Water Use Planning Division Chief
Desiree Henning, DEP representative on Delaware Regional Committee
David Jostenski, Water Use Planning and Assessment Section Chief
Hoss Liaghat, Senior Civil Engineer- Hydraulics
Leslie Sarvis, Program Analyst
Susan Weaver, Special Projects Manager

Introductions

Deputy Secretary Myers introduced PUC Commissioner Bill Shane to the committee. Mr. Shane expressed his pleasure in returning to the PUC and that if anyone knew of small water companies in violation, they are to send the name to Judy Carlson of the PUC for further action.

Administrative

Review of draft May 4, 2005 Meeting Summary. Correct typo on page 4.
Motion: Accept revision and adopt as final
Made By: Howard Neukrug
Seconded By: Kate Harper
Outcome: Passed

Comments from the Public

Tim Weston representing the PA Chamber of Business and Industry commented that the most current version of the draft regulations was substantially improved from earlier versions. He also mentioned that guidelines would be needed for the alternative methods to metering and volunteered to bring together a group of industry experts to aid the Department in the development of these guidelines. And finally, Mr. Weston commented that there could be confusion regarding the conservation practice measures and that the yearly reporting may be too onerous.

Technical Expert Advisory Pool Discussion

Sue Weaver reported that there have been a small number of names submitted to date.

DEP Update

Sue Weaver briefly went over the 7/15/05 Update Memo that was distributed to the Committee. Deputy Secretary Myers then provided an update on the funding situation, specifically on the River Basin Commission supplemental budget requests and the status of the Growing Greener II efforts.

Report on Public Meetings/Hearing

Leslie Sarvis summarized the May Regional Committee meetings/hearings that were held in the six basins. There were approximately 25 attendees per event.

Matt Wolford expressed his disappointment with not having many in attendance at the Great Lakes meeting/hearing. Don Bluedorn of the Ohio Committee was pleased with

the turnout.

The Committee held a discussion on the aspect of public awareness and public outreach, although took no specific actions based upon the discussion.

Update from Regional Committee Representatives

Delaware- Howard Neukrug reported that the Delaware will be conducting it's second meeting/hearing in August.

Great Lakes- Matt Wolford reported nothing new.

Lower Susquehanna- Bill Morris reported nothing new.

Potomac- Bob Reichart reported nothing new and that the committee needs to be re-energized.

Upper/Middle Susquehanna- Gary Petrewski reported nothing new.

Ohio- Don Bluedorn reported that the committee discussed the draft regulations and that the committee had a recommendation that there be no fees associated with the regulations.

Subcommittee Activities/Reports

- P&I – David Mandelbaum reported that the Subcommittee met on June 22 to discuss the underlying issue of where the plan is going and what are the outcomes of the plan.
- CWPA – Jan Bowers reported that the Subcommittee has been working with the Department on the CWPA technical guidance document.

Motion: Allow DEP to finalize the Identification of Critical Water Planning Areas Guidelines as an interim final or final technical guidance document.

Made By: Jerry Feldman

Seconded: Bob Rosenthal

Outcome: Passed

Draft Regulations

Bill Gast presented the revised draft regulations dated 6/17/05. There was discussion on the water conservation reporting, notification of the large consumptive users on PWS, the technical assistance center and the registration of water conservation practices.

Motion: The committee voted to allow Don Bluedorn to send a letter to the EQB stating that the draft regulations are a good package and the Department has shown a willingness to address comments from the various stakeholders. The letter is to also state that it is the committee's understanding that there are to be no fees involved with the registration and reporting program and that this is to be explicitly stated in the preamble language.

Made By: Kate Harper

Seconded By: Bob Reichart

Abstained: Bob Rosenthal

Outcome: Passed

NHD Project Status

Nancy Imler, DEP's Chief Information Officer, discussed the status of the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) project and gave an overview of how this data integration will serve as the foundation of the overall State Water Plan. Gail Jackson (Bureau of Information Technology) and her staff gave a PowerPoint presentation

Registration Update

Dave Jostenski updated the committee on the progress of registrations.

Next Meeting Date

1. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22, 2005 at 9:30 in room 105 of the RCSOB in Harrisburg.