

# Upper/Middle Susquehanna Regional Water Resources Committee Meeting

November 17, 2005

Department of Environmental Protection  
Northcentral Regional Office, Williamsport, PA

## DRAFT Meeting Summary

### Attendance

#### Committee members in attendance

Tom Beauduy	Doug Manning
Ed Bellis	Jennifer Means
Mike Cavanaugh	Coreena Meyer – alt. for David Snook
Bill Gerlach	Jerry Walls
Todd Giddings	Harold Webster
Tim Horner	Uwe Weindel
David Kaufman	John Yamona
Bill Manner	

#### Committee members not in attendance

Drew Hadley  
Frank Halderman  
Roy Herlocher  
Gary Petrewski  
Richard Wardrop  
Dorne White  
Adam Zakarian

#### Others in attendance

Ray Stolinas – Bradford County Planning Commission  
Brian Davis – Bradford County Planning Commission  
Bob Jacobs – Centre County Planning Commission  
Betsy Hack – Montour County Planning Commission  
Shawn McLaughlin – Union County Planning Commission  
Kevin McJunkin – Lycoming County Planning Commission  
Jim Weaver – Tioga County Planning Commission  
Rich Adams – DEP  
Bill Gast – DEP  
Leslie Sarvis – DEP

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 by Chairman Uwe Weindel.

### **Administrative Items**

Motion by Mike Cavanaugh, seconded by Tim Horner to approve the draft meeting summary from the August 18, 2005 meeting.

Discussion: Todd Giddings pointed out a correction- Page 3, third paragraph under “Comments from the Public” “critical water planning areas (CWPAAs)” should be changed to the SRBC designation of “potentially stressed areas (PSAs).” With this change, the meeting summary was approved.

**Elections for Chair and Vice Chair**

Uwe Weindel noted that he can no longer serve as chair. He also mentioned that Adam Zakarian has taken a new job with PPL, so can no longer serve on the committee. The committee discussed the need to fill the vacancies that currently exist. The committee is currently short three vacancies including representatives from the horticulture, planning director, and professional sectors.

Ed Bellis nominated Doug Manning to serve as Chair, seconded by Mike Cavanaugh. Motion passed.

Jerry Walls nominated Harold Webster for Vice Chair, seconded by Mike Cavanaugh. Motion passed.

**2006 Meeting Schedule**

A proposed meeting schedule was passed out at the meeting. Todd Giddings requested the tentative date for the February meeting be changed from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, to Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Locations are tentative and will need to be confirmed. That leaves the schedule as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tentative Locations</u>
February 23, 2006	State College
May 18, 2006	Wilkes-Barre
August 17, 2006	Williamsport
<b>*November 16, 2006</b>	State College

***\*Please note: Subsequent to the meeting, this date was changed to November 15, 2006.***

**Comments from the Public**

No public present other than invited guests- County Planners.

**DEP Summary of Activities**

Leslie Sarvis and Bill Gast highlighted items in the Statewide Committee memo dated September 27, 2005 that was sent in lieu of the September Statewide Committee meeting. Leslie commented that there is now a Template for Completion of the Statewide and Regional Components, which lists lead DEP staff and target completion dates for the sections of the Component. Leslie reviewed a powerpoint handout “Building the State Water Plan – Overview of the 2006 Planning Year.” The “components” mentioned in the handout correlate with the components of the state water plan described on the green sheet handed out a number of meetings ago. The plan is now to have the *beginning* of the State Water Plan by the deadline of 2008, then to build on it from there. Beginning next year, DEP staff will bring draft templates of the Regional Components to the committees for their review and input.

Todd Giddings mentioned that all of the Subcommittee chairs met in September and followed up with a conference call to discuss how to proceed with the regional planning component.

Bill Gast gave the following update:

- USGS Screening Tool- as of a week and a half ago, the screening tool was just about finished. DEP is working with DRBC and SRBC (both received funding again to work on the State Water Plan) to develop a scope of work for this year's contract to develop an automated projection tool, based upon the results of the DRBC/CDM projections methodology contract that is also nearing completion. The combined projection tool and budget screening tools will be incorporated into a Water Use Assessment Tool (WUAT). SRBC will also be contracting for development of a yield assessment component of the WUAT.
- The regulations were sent to the Deputy Secretary's office last week and it is hoped they will go to the Environmental Quality Board in January. A number of changes were made to the draft regulations as a result of comments from the Regional and Statewide committees.
- Critical Water Planning Area planning document - changes were made to the process section of the document in response to public comments to clarify who is doing what in the process.
- The Critical Water Planning Area Subcommittee will develop guidelines for the development of a critical area resource plan (CARP). The Subcommittee will meet on December 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss a draft.

Leslie Sarvis reported on additional items:

The following are upcoming meetings:

- 12/1/2005 Statewide Committee Meeting, Rachel Carson State Office Building
- 11/22/2005 Policy and Integration Subcommittee conference call
- 12/20/2005 CWPA Subcommittee meeting, Rachel Carson State Office Building

The transcripts from the public hearings are now up on the Act 220 website. They are located on each regional committee's "homepage," along with meeting schedules, draft meeting summaries, agendas, etc.

Bill Gerlach asked about the status of registrations. Bill Gast answered that there's nothing more recent than what was in the memo provided.

### **Panel Discussion with County Planners**

County planners in the Upper/Middle Susquehanna Basin were invited to attend the meeting and asked to answer a series of questions, listed below, about water resources in their counties.

1. Please provide an overview of your county including the status of your Comprehensive Plan and how it addresses water resources.

2. What other county, subcounty or watershed level water resources plans or studies (by name) are currently underway or completed in the last five years for your county?
3. What is the status of stormwater management plans (Act 167) for watersheds in your county?
4. What are the critical water resources issues in your county?
5. What technical reports or model ordinances has the county developed that address local water resources issues?
6. What needs and priorities are identified in county/municipal/multi-municipal comprehensive plans and ordinances that are related to water resources?
7. Would you recommend any changes to the regional priorities to adequately address the county/local needs and priorities?

These questions were provided to the planners ahead of time, and a number of them submitted responses in writing. The committee requested that the responses be posted on the Act 220 website. The following planners and representatives attended the meeting and discussed water resource issues in their counties:

Ray Stolinas and Brian Davis, Bradford County  
Jodi Brennan, Clearfield County  
Jerry Walls and Kevin McJunkin, Lycoming County  
Shawn McLaughlin, Union County  
Bob Jacobs, Centre County  
Jim Weaver, Tioga County

Rich Adams was introduced as the new Watershed Management Program Manager for the Northcentral Region.

Jerry Walls invited DEP staff to speak to the County Planning Directors Association to discuss Act 537 program updates. Jerry also suggested that the State Water Plan should recommend that the Act 537 program be reformed to have more consistency with county comprehensive plans.

#### **Follow-up / Next Steps**

The next meeting is February 23, 2006, and the location will be announced at a later date. The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.