



State Water Plan Update Ohio Regional Committee Meeting

October 21, 2025

1300 – 1530

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting and In-Person
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Minutes

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Michon Budziszewski Annie Quinn Sam Dinkins Matthew Genchur Duane Goodsell, P.G.	Sheryl Kelly Heather Manzo Ronald Musser, P.G. Ron Rohall Kevin Halloran	John St. Clair Jasun Stanton Tom Goughenour
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OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

James Horton – DEP Dave Jostenski – DEP Erin Rybacki – DEP Bianca (No Last Name Provided) Chad Reisch Chavaysha (No Last Name Provided) Clara Kitongo Dakota Raab	Eric Harder, Youghiogheny Fawn Walker-Montgomery Gabby (No Last Name Provided) Jennifer Dann John Burgess John Detisch Kathleen Martincic Kayla Virgone Lisa Beatty	Rodger Varner Sabrina Haydt Sam Carroll Scott Alderfer Stacy Silva Trent Machamer Zachary Salada
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AGENDA:

Time	Presenter	Topic
1300	DEP	Welcome and Introductions
James Horton (DEP) welcomed all attendees to the meeting, noted that the session was being recorded, and provided guidance on the use of meeting technology as well as housekeeping procedures for the virtual format. Attendance was documented through the online participants' log. Both virtual and in-person participants introduced themselves.		

1305	Chair	Administrative Items • Elect Chair/Vice • Finalize Draft Meeting Summary • Public Comment
Administrative / Quorum Update Quorum: Quorum reached; elections held. Acting Chair Annie Quinn assumed responsibility for administrative items. Election of Chair: • Acting Chair Quinn called for nominations and recommendations for the Chair position. • James Horton provided an overview of the duties and responsibilities of the Chair. • Michon Budziszewski self-nominated for the position of Chair. • Motion to nominate Michon Budziszewski: Ron Rohall. • Second: Sam Dinkins. • Verbal vote was conducted. There being no opposition or abstentions, Michon Budziszewski was unanimously elected Chair. Election of Vice Chair: • Chair Michon Budziszewski assumed responsibility for administrative items and called for nominations and recommendations for the Vice Chair position. • Annie Quinn self-nominated for the position of Vice Chair. • Motion to nominate Annie Quinn: Tom Goughenour. • Second: Sam Dinkins. • Verbal vote was conducted. There being no opposition or abstentions, Annie Quinn was unanimously elected Vice Chair. Draft Meeting Summary: The draft meeting summary from the October 2024 meeting was distributed prior to the meeting. Draft meeting summary distributed; no corrections offered; minutes approved. Public Comment: James Horton (DEP) explained public comments will be limited to three minutes. Chair Budziszewski opened the floor to verbal and chat comments. No comments were received.		
1330	DEP	DEP Update Presentation
Act 220 Requirements • Established committee structure: 6 Regional Committees + 1 Statewide Committee. • Historic inventories/assessments: Extensive work completed in the 1980s.		

- CWPAs & CARPs: Statewide screening identified areas at risk for water-availability issues; plans exist but are not the focus of this update.
- Policies & recommendations: Act 220 enabled policy development but no direct regulatory/enforcement authority (see Chapter 110; no fines or enforcement authority).
- Act 220 does not prescribe what the plan must look like.

2009 Update

150-page report, primarily a qualitative assessment.

2027 State Water Plan (SWP) Vision and Outputs

- Utility over volume: Avoid producing inventories/assessments that aren't useful or are redundant with existing work.
- Forum and Expertise: Regular committee meetings on an annual cycle (presentations → toolkit updates → refreshed legislative recommendations). Public participation via webinars/meetings is encouraged. A core product of the SWP is bringing people together to identify problems, share expertise, and inform policy; webinars will be posted for broader access.
- Data: Regional "Toolkits" that curate high-value water-resources information primarily for use by local governments. Start with a links webpage; may evolve to a story map or a "one stop shop" dashboard for water resources information.
- Updated Story Map with region-specific sections

Timeline

- October 2025 (now): Vision and outputs introduced to committees.
- April 2026: Form a workgroup in each region to define what belongs in the toolkit. What are important issues in the region and what information/resources would people need. Discuss a webinar series to pull in topic experts.
- October 2026: Reconvene committees to review in-progress toolkits/story map; prepare for public hearing presentation for each regional committee (Act 220 requirement).
- April 2027: Host public hearings; committees vote to advance regional content for the statewide plan.
- October 2027: Vote to approve/disapprove the SWP. Final package will include (1) summaries of presentations/discussions, (2) toolkit updates with links, and (3) refreshed legislative priorities, with signature by the DEP Secretary and the Statewide Committee Chair.

Committee Membership & Recruiting

- Ongoing recruitment; DEP will pursue nominees provided by members.
- Composition (23 volunteers): County government: county planning commission directors (2) or county conservation districts' directors (2), non-county local

government (3), agriculture: production (1) and horticulture (1), public water supply (1), public wastewater (1), industrial and commercial enterprises and energy development and production (3), environment and conservation (3), water resources management: Geologist (1),

Engineer/Hydrologist/Geologist/Planner/Lawyer/Economist (3), compact or river basin commission representative (1), DEP employee, non-voting (1)

- Nomination process: Interest in position + appropriate vacancy → letter of interest + nominating letter + résumé, addressed to Governor Shapiro; DEP review → oath of office → appointment letter.
- **Open Vacancies for Ohio:** County Conservation District Director (1), County Government (1), Industrial (1), Horticulture (1), Local Government (non-county) (2)

Immediate Next Steps

April (next spring): ~1-hour regional workgroup meeting (informal; no committee business) to define toolkit components and prioritize presentations. Volunteers requested.

Committee Discussion & Comments

- Eric Harder asked in chat "Is there any update to CARPS (Back Creek, Ohio Region – In review phase with DEP. Laurel Hill Creek CARP, Ohio Region – In review phase with DEP.)?" James Horton answered that the CARPs are not the focus of this 2027 SWP update due to limited resources.

1400	DEP	Safe Drinking Water PFAS MCL Rule and Lead Service Line Replacement Status Update
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Sabrina Haydt (DEP) presented an update on Pennsylvania's PFAS program and PENNVEST lead service line replacement efforts. PFOA/PFOS are regulated in Pennsylvania, and compliance monitoring is underway across public water systems, with a small share exceeding state limits to date. Public water systems are addressing detections through operational changes, interconnections, and treatment. DEP offers technical assistance, and multiple funding programs are available to support projects. The presentation discussed the federal EPA PFAS timeline, initial monitoring followed by compliance, and ongoing federal rule activity. Lead service line replacement progress includes numerous funded projects, with additional funding still available. Presentation slides and the recording provide additional detail.

Links:

PADEP PFAS MCL Rule (<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/water/bureau-of-safe-drinking-water/drinking-water-management/drinking-water-regulations/pfas-mcl-rule>)

1430	Annie Quinn et al.	Coordination on the Ohio River
The committee received an overview of Ohio River Basin coordination from basin-wide to neighborhood scale. Presentations covered the Ohio River Basin Alliance and restoration/protection planning (basin-wide priorities and coordination), the H2O Water Network (headwaters collaboration and information-hub functions), the Three Rivers Waterkeeper/Three Rivers Urban Watersheds Council (watershed-scale coordination in the Pittsburgh area), and the Mon Water Project (single-watershed, neighborhood-level organizing). Key themes were aligning priorities across geographies, sharing information, and strengthening collaboration to attract investment. Links: Ohio River Basin Alliance (https://www.ohioriverbasinalliance.org/) H2O Water Network (https://h2owaternetwork.org/) Three Rivers Urban Watersheds Council (https://www.wospgh.org/truw-council) The Mon Water Project (https://www.monwaterproject.org/) Slides and the recording provide additional detail.		
1500	Committee	Discussion • Establish Workgroup • Presentation Recommendations • Toolkit Ideas
James Horton discussed the objective of the workgroup: Bring stakeholders together to discuss what should be included in a Toolkit and the format it should take. Annie Quinn, Matthew Genchur, Sheryl Kelly, and Ronald Musser volunteered for the workgroup. Presentation topic recommendations: Data centers, funding for creekside/riverside easement purchases to help manage floodwaters, forest fires and droughts, dredging, grants. Michon Budziszewski volunteered to present on a variety of water issues, excluding PFAS). Toolkit Ideas: • What do Clean Water Organizations need to do for DEP to use their data? How to share data? • What is PUC and how do they work in water? • Small water system grant information. • Grant language/wording needs under the new administration.		
1530	DEP	Next Steps
Assemble workgroup meetings in April 2026 Develop webinar series		

1530	Chair	Adjourn
Chair asked for motion to adjourn meeting at 3:48 PM. Motion: Annie Quinn Second: Sam Dinkins Meeting adjourned at 3:48 PM by Chair Budziszewski.		

ACTION ITEMS:

Task	Responsible Party
Follow up regarding workgroup participation, survey, next meetings, and recruiting	DEP
Assemble workgroup meeting in April 2026	DEP

KEY DECISIONS:

1. Michon Budziszewski elected as Chair
2. Annie Quinn elected as Vice Chair