

# State Water Plan Update Potomac Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

October 12, 2023

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

## Committee Members in Attendance:

Pat Bowling Tom Hart Adam McClain Heidi Moltz Dr. Sarah Principato

## Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Charles Bennett Barry Best Andrea Blosser Mark Guise Russell McLucas Kevin Moore Pat Naugle Brent Ramsey Coleen Reamer

#### Others in Attendance:

James Horton – DEP Susan Weaver – DEP Elizabeth Cushman - DEP

#### Visitors:

None

#### <u>Welcome</u>

James Horton, DEP, welcomed everyone to the meeting, explained the meeting was being recorded, and provided helpful hints on the use of technology.

Committee Vice-Chair Adam McClain welcomed committee members to the meeting.

#### Public Comment

Vice-Chair McClain opened the meeting for public comment. An opportunity to express comments verbally or in the chat box was offered. There was no public comment.

#### Meeting Summary

The meeting summary of the April 12, 2023, meeting was reviewed by the committee members and no changes to the summary were offered. Committee members concurred on the meeting summary by voice vote.

## DEP Update

James Horton presented an update of DEP activities to support the current State Water Plan and reviewed status of Committees membership. For the next update of the State Water Plan, DEP plans to develop draft content for the plan during 2025, hold public hearings and meetings in the first quarter of 2026, and have a draft updated plan for the Statewide Committee to approve in the third quarter of 2023. DEP hopes to have the finalized plan completed by the end of 2027.

The five-year plan for implementation of the current plan is outlined in the following chart.



James described DEP's current outreach initiatives for the current State Water Plan. These initiatives include:

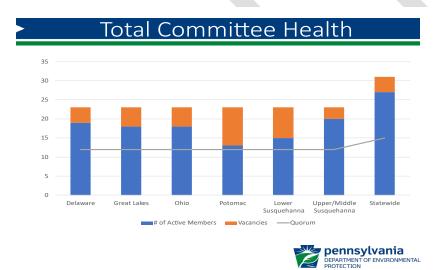
- Planned presentations to Pennsylvania Environmental Council on October 30 and a presentation at the PSATS convention in April of 2024.
- Presentations that have been provided include a presentation to the Western PA Water Symposium and a presentation to the Citizen's Advisory Council.
- Development of presentation tools James is developing a modular presentation for speaking to different groups and the presentation will be tailored to address individual interests of the group. A one-page fact sheet is also being developed as a handout at presentations.

Currently DEP staff are reviewing and organizing feedback provided by the public during the development of the 2022 State Water Plan update to determine what information will be useful for additional planning efforts. This synopsis of information will be brought to the Committee at future meetings.

The three CARPs are in development and under review with DEP. James hopes to have the CARPs completed during this cycle of planning. The three CARPs are:

- Back Creek CARP in the Ohio region
- Laurel Hill Creek CARP in the Ohio region
- Marsh and Rock Creeks CARP in the Potomac region

James reviewed the status of membership on the six regional committees. The following graph shows active members available for each committee. Potomac Regional Committee is most in need of additional members. James stated he has several applications for membership on the various committees and these applications are being prepared to be sent to the Governor for appointment.



Act 220 is very specific on the professional roles of regional committee members. The Potomac Committee currently has openings in the following professional categories. There are no current applicants for these positions and recommendations from Committee members are welcome.

- County Conservation District (2 positions)
- CCD Director, Planning Commission Director, or County Government Representative (2 positions)
- Horticulture
- Ag Production
- Public Wastewater
- Industrial & Commercial, Energy Development and Production
- Environment and Conservation (2 positions)
- Local Government (3 positions)

## Next Steps

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2024 Committee meetings will be held in April and October. Notification of exact meeting dates will be sent to Committee members.

Committee members stated they are open to both virtual and in-person meetings in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m. on a Tom Hart / Heidi Moltz motion.