

**Final Minutes of the
January 15, 2014, Meeting of the
Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)**

The regular meeting of WRAC was called to order at 9:42 a.m. by Chair Robert Traver on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, in Room 105 of the Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA.

The following committee members were present:

Harry Campbell, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Robert Cavett, Merck & Co.
Sherene Hess, League of Women Voters
Jeff Hines, York Water Supply
John Jackson, Stroud Water Research Center
Gary Merritt, NSG
Dr. Robert Traver, Villanova University
Chuck Wunz, Wunz Associates

The following committee members were not present:

Myron Arnowitt, Clean Water Action
Don Bluedorn, Babst, Calland, Clements, Zomnir
Andrew Gavin, Susquehanna River Basin Commission
Arthur Gazdik, Groundwork Civil, LLC
Cory Miller, University Area Joint Authority
Dean Miller, Pennsylvania Water Environment Association
John Schombert, 3 Rivers Wet Weather
Jeff Shanks, Waste Management
Jennifer Reed-Harry, PennAg Industries Association
Stephen Rhoads, East Resources Management

The following DEP staff members were present:

Fred Fiscus, Bureau of Conservation and Restoration
Sean Furjanic, Bureau of Point and Non-Point Source Management
Sean Gimbel, Office of Water Management
Lee McDonnell, Bureau of Point and Non-Point Source Management
Ken Murin, Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands
Meg Murphy, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel
Jen Orr, Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands
Paula Sviben, Office of Water Management

The following guests were also present:

Andrew Dehoff, Susquehanna River Basin Commission
Neal Brofee, PennDOT
James Erb, API
Josie Gaskey, PA Coal Alliance
Sarah Miller, PA Builders Association

Karen Moury, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
Bryan Ruhl, PennDOT

Approval of Minutes –

Approval of the draft minutes of the August 14, 2013, meeting was tabled for lack of a quorum.

Review of Fees Established in 25 Pa Code Ch. 102 –

Jen Orr of the Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands presented a review of fees established in 25 Pa Code Ch. 102. These fees are related to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits that are issued for the discharge of stormwater associated with construction activities. Ms. Orr fielded a number of questions from WRAC members, particularly with respect to how Conservation District funding relates to DEP's analysis of Chapter 102 permit fees. WRAC members also commented on projections indicating program surpluses into the next three fiscal years. Some WRAC members indicated such surpluses justified entertaining a reduction in fees. Conversely, other WRAC members questioned some of the assumptions underlying DEP's fee analysis, and believed the analysis underestimated program costs.

Review of Fees Established in 25 Pa Code Ch. 92a –

Lee McDonnell, Director of the Bureau of Point and Non-Point Source Management presented a review of fees established in 25 Pa Code Ch. 92a. These fees are related to NPDES sewage, industrial waste, industrial stormwater, municipal stormwater, pesticide, aquaculture and agricultural permits. WRAC members asked questions regarding the presentation, which were addressed by Mr. McDonnell.

General Discussion –

Dr. Traver read aloud Article II of the By-Laws of WRAC and reminded the Committee of its role in providing technical advice to DEP. Dr. Traver underscored WRAC's ability to request and review policies, guidance or regulations of the Department.

Public Comment Period –

No comments were made by the public.

Next Meeting Dates

WRAC meetings are scheduled for the following dates in 2014: March 19, May 14, July 16, September 17 and November 12.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.