



State Water Plan Update Great Lakes Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

October 25, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Committee Members in Attendance:

Tim Bruno
Tony Foyle
Joy Fronzoli
Joe Greco
Tom McClure
Craig Palmer
Dennis Whitney
Matthew Wolford

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Robert Buhl	Amy Murdock
James Cardman	Zachary Norwood
Jason Childs	Deborah Phillips
Patrick Gehrlein	Timothy Wachter
Daniel Gold	David Wright
Rebecca Hosack	Kathy Wyrosdick
Melissa Lyon	Brenda Sandberg
Susan Moyer	

Others in Attendance:

James Horton – DEP
Elizabeth Cushman - DEP

Visitors

None

Welcome

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

Public Comment

Chair Palmer opened the meeting for public comment, an opportunity to express comments verbally or in the chat box. No public comment was offered.

Minutes

The meeting summary of the April 26, 2023, meeting was reviewed, and a correction to the spelling of Jeanette Schorars was noted. The committee was unable to vote on approval of the meeting summary due to a lack of quorum.

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 2026. 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:

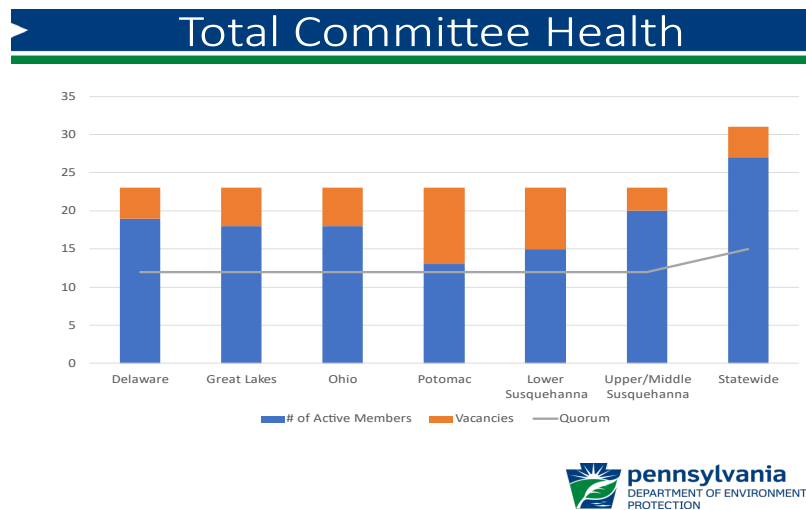
- Planned presentations to Pennsylvania Environmental Council on October 30 and a presentation at the PSATS convention in April of 2024.
- Presentations that have been provided include a presentation to the Western PA Water Symposium and a presentation to the Citizen's Advisory Council.
- Development 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. Committee members must work or live within the region. The Great Lakes Committee currently has openings in the following professional categories. Recommendations from Committee members are welcome.

- Industrial & Commercial, Energy Development and Production
- Environment and Conservation
- Local Government

Committee members provided suggestions on professional and geographic representation that may be helpful to the Great Lakes Committee:

- Potter County (more than one person)
- Maritime industry
- Invasive species

- Nutrients run off and water quality.
- Agriculture and non-point water sources
- Climate resiliency
- Microplastics

James provided the following flow chart of the process for recruiting new members to regional committees.



Next Steps

2024 Meeting Dates

- April 24, 2024 – 9:00 to noon
- October 23, 2024 – 9:00 to noon

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am by the Chair.