

Delaware Regional Water Resources Committee Meeting

February 8, 2008  
9:30 – 2:30pm

DEP Southeast Regional Office  
2 E. Main Street  
Norristown, PA. 19401

**DRAFT** Meeting Summary

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Carol R. Collier	Preston Luitweiler
Jeffrey Featherstone	Michael Meloy
Hon. Kate Harper	Barbara Smith
Helen Haun	Pete Snyder
Desiree Henning-Dudley	Michael Stokes
John Hoekstra	Maya van Rossun
M. Irvil Kear	Robert Wendelgass
Gary M.B. Kribbs	John Woodling

**Committee Members Not in Attendance:**

Allen Fidler  
Julie Lyn Gallisdorfer  
Darryl Jenkins  
Arthur Needham  
Howard Neukrug

**Others in Attendance:**

Bill Manner, DEP NERO	David Sayers, DRBC
Ian C. Palmer, Schuylkill Headwaters, Minersville, Pa	Kent Barr, DRBC
George Kunkel, Philadelphia Water Dept	Sarah Whitney, Pa Sea Grant
Ed DeSeve, Brodhead Protective	Michelle Clark, DEP SERO
Eleanor Vine, Health Dept, Norristown	Bharat Bham, DEP NERO, Bethlehem District Office
Chotty Sprenkle, Chester County Conservation District	Alexis Melusky, MCPC
Rea Monaghan, Bucks County Planning Commission	Dave Jostenski, DEP
Ken Najjar, DRBC	Andy Zemba, DEP
	Leslie Sarvis, DEP
	Lori Mohr, DEP

Carol Collier called for introductions at 9:38 a.m.

**Election of Officers**

Representative Harper made a motion to retain Carol Collier as Chair. Irvil Kear seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Representative Harper made a motion to retain Jeff Featherstone as Vice Chair. Gary Kribbs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Finalize Draft Nov. Meeting Summary**

Helen Haun made a motion to accept the November meeting summary as written. John Woodling seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Reappointments and Vacancies**

The 2007 reappointments are being reviewed in the Governor's Office. Leslie Sarvis said that there are still two industrial vacancies, and she asked for suggestions of people to fill the vacancies. David Greenley of Rohm and Haas Company and Kathy Pape, President of Pa American Water were suggested as potentially interested nominees.

### **2008 State Water Plan Timeline**

Currently--DEP is working closely with consultants to complete revisions to the Draft Atlas based upon Regional Committee and Statewide Committee comments. The Policy and Integration Subcommittee and DEP are working on the white papers and the components to be included in the State Water Plan Principles document.

- o Summer 2008—Comprehensive State Water Plan package to be presented to the Statewide Committee
- o Fall 2008—Public Meeting and Hearings for public review and comment on Draft State Water Plan package

### **Public Meetings and Hearings**

The committee decided on Thurs, September 11 to hold its public meeting/hearing. Northampton Community College was suggested as a location. Leslie will look into the availability of Northampton CC.

There was discussion about the regional committees having an opportunity to review documents before they are presented at the public meetings/hearings in September. Bob Wendelgass made a motion to request an opportunity to review the white papers prior to the public meeting/hearing in September. Motion was seconded by John Hoekstra and passed unanimously. Carol Collier said that she would write a letter to the Statewide Committee chair with this request.

### **Stormwater Pilots**

Leslie informed the committee that three stormwater pilots are getting underway in the State to encourage integrated water resources management initiatives. One pilot is in the Schuylkill watershed, and DRBC has submitted a proposal to DEP for the pilot project.

### **Draft Regional Priorities**

Leslie Sarvis explained that brief policy statements were prepared for the top two priorities identified previously by the regional committee. With the approval of the Committee, these will be presented to the Statewide Committee in the spring for consideration as part of the State Water Plan Principles document. The Committee amended the headings and policy statements. The new headings are:

1. Linking land use decisions and water resources management
2. Improve management of water resources (including stormwater and wastewater) and waterway corridors to reduce damages from extreme conditions (floods and droughts)

It was requested that the policy statements be emailed to the entire committee after the meeting. Kate Harper made a motion to pass on the top two regional priorities to the Statewide Committee. Helen Haun seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Prioritization of Watersheds**

The results and recommendations of the technical subcommittee were discussed by the full regional committee. Dave Jostenski led a discussion of 12 areas the subcommittee recommended for further discussion and asked the Committee to reduce the list to 5 watersheds. The watersheds chosen by the committee are:

Brodhead  
Little Lehigh  
Macoby  
Hay Creek  
W. Branch Brandywine  
{6. Neshaminy}

Motion made by John Hoekstra made a motion to accept the top 5 watersheds chosen by the committee. Irvil Kear seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Rep. Harper made a motion to add the Neshaminy as a sixth watershed and to flag the Wissahickon watershed since it is undergoing the SAMP pilot project.

John Hoekstra made a motion to reflect in the meeting summary that the committee made decisions regarding selection of the six priority watersheds based on information available at the time – but knowing that there are data gaps – and in the interest of moving the process forward. Irvil Kear seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Update on Upper Wissahickon SAMP**

Ken Najjar updated the regional committee on the Wissahickon Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). The project started in March 2007 to pilot the Draft CARP Guidelines. The Upper Wissahickon Advisory Committee (UWAC) was subsequently formed, which includes several regional committee members. A Draft SAMP Report was given to the UWAC for comments in December. A public meeting will be held in May for interested persons to comment on the Draft SAMP Report. Committee members agreed that the SAMP public meeting should be sponsored by the regional committee.

The regional committee suggested that recommendations be included in the SAMP Report for lessons learned/next steps and for the UWAC's continuation. There was discussion about the regional committee's role with the SAMP from this point forward, because the Draft CARP Guidelines do not address this issue. It was stressed again that the regional committee does not endorse this project as a designated CWPA or as an official CARP. It is a SAMP that is piloting the Draft CARP Guidelines, and it is intended to provide ideas and suggestions on the process for future CARPs.

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

- Leslie Sarvis will check into locations for the Sept. 11 public meeting/hearing.
- Desiree Henning-Dudley will email the newly drafted Regional Priorities to the whole committee

Next meeting is Friday, May 9 at the Sweet Arrow Lake Park in Pine Grove, PA.