

Draft
Ohio Water Resources Regional Committee
April 12, 2004

Westmoreland County Conservation District
211 Donohoe Road
Greensburg, PA 15601

Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Shirl Barnhart	Robert Ritchey
Donald C. Bluedorn, Esq.	Ronald J. Rohall
Mitchell Brouman	Deb Simko
Marie M. Clark	Robert Softcheck
Terry Dayton	Charles O. Stowe
Jeff Fliss	Roger Uhazie
Richard C. Lehman	Jay Tarara

Committee members not present:

Daniel Barton	Bob Junk
Scott Blauvelt	Jan Oliver
Bob Croker	Jerry Schulte
Jerry Feldman	Vincent Vicites
Jeff Foley	

Others in Attendance:

Suzanne Plesha	LaVerne Sober
Nathan Rozic	Drew Banar
Len Hess	Carole Wright
Michael Barrick	

DEP Representatives:

Stuart Gansell	Sue Weaver
Bill Gast	Ron Horansky
John Hines	Rita Coleman
Hoss Liaghat	Larry Gasparato
Lori Mohr	Joe Schueck
Dennis L. Angelo	Joe Pizarchik
David Jostenski	

Administrative Items

- The summary from the previous meeting held on February 2, 2004 was approved.

Motion made by: Mr. Lehman
Motion Second: Mr. Softcheck
Motion was carried

- Mr. Hines provided the committee with the updates on the Act 220 budget and the status of statewide committee.

- Sue Weaver provided updates on the public outreach strategy. Dave Jostenski and Sue Weaver provided an update on the Act 220 registration process. Registration information will be used to develop an inventory of water use data. A water budgeting model will utilize the water use registration information to assess the availability of water and identify critical areas.

All public water supply agencies, hydropower facilities and all users exceeding an average rate of 10,000 gallons per day in a 30-day period must register. Approximately 2,600 sources have registered as of April 2004. DEP expects to have approximately 15,000 sources registered when complete.

- David Jostenski also provided information about maps, digital elevation models (DEMs), and groundwater use data.

- Committee members interested in serving on an outreach/public participation workgroup should volunteer. This workgroup will develop the framework for public education by working with volunteers from the other regional committees, the statewide committee, and DEP. A tentative meeting date was suggested for May 26th in State College.

Comment

- Len Hess from Conemaugh Valley Conservancy commented that grass roots environmental organizations are not adequately represented on the regional committee for Act 220.

Westmoreland County Conservation District Watershed Specialist Report

Presentation by Mike Barrick:

The presentation provided an overview of the County Conservation District's environmental programs and activities.

Timeline/Flowchart of State Water Plan

Dave Jostenski provided committee members with a timeline of DEP activities that will take place between 2004 and 2008. Sue Weaver reviewed the role of

the Regional Committee and included a timeline of target completion dates for Committee tasks. Handouts were provided detailing these activities and tasks.

Water Use Registration

Sue Weaver explained the registration process and outreach efforts focused on the Agricultural community. Richard Lehman suggested that it is more efficient for DEP to provide the workshops at established Agriculture meetings. He mentioned that in the registration forms, the Latitude and Longitude determination is a tedious job, and he suggested using the county conservation district newsletters to reach farmers. He will help to draft and sign a letter to explain Act 220 to other farmers.

Mine Pool Presentation

Presentation by Joe Schueck. Joe explained how water from mine pools could provide opportunities for use by industries. He presented data obtained from a DEP supported mine pool demonstration project.

Act 54 Presentation

Presentation by Joe Pizarchik. Joe provided the committee with the history and effects of mine subsidence regulations on preservation of historical, streams, surface water resources, and structural damages.

Wrap-Up/Next Steps

- Mitchell Brouman requested that we provide the committees with a report at the December meeting pertaining to activities that other state agencies are involved with that may relate to the SWP.

- Robert Ritchey made a motion, and Deb Simko seconded, to have DEP put mine pool locations on maps. The motion passed unanimously.

- Marie Clark made a motion that the regional committee should recommend to the statewide committee that the state water plan should include a feedback mechanism, or some way of measuring the progress of environmental indicators over time. Don Bluedorn seconded the motion and said that he would take their recommendation to the statewide committee for consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: June 14, 2004 10:00 AM, at the DEP Knox District Mining Office.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.