

## Ohio Regional Water Resources Committee Meeting

February 1, 2010  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Westmoreland Conservation District  
218 Donohoe Road  
Greensburg, PA 15601

### **DRAFT** Meeting Summary

#### **Committee Members in Attendance:**

Dan Barton	Bob Ritchey
Mitchell Brouman	Jerry Schulte
John Courtney	Deb Simko
Terry Dayton	Bob Softcheck
Todd Dillan	Charles Stowe
Jeff Fliss	Roger Uhazie
Dan Ireland	John Walliser
Patrick Meinert	

#### **Committee Members Not in Attendance:**

Shirl Barnhart	Dan Gracenin
Scott Blauvelt	Jan Oliver
Gerald Feldman	Ron Rohall

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Dave Jostenski, DEP  
Mike Hill, DEP

With Ron Rohall not in attendance, Mitchell Brouman opened meeting.

#### **Officer Elections**

Mitchell Brouman nominated Ron Rohall as Chair and seconded by Bob Richey. Motion passed unanimously. Deb Simko nominated Mitchell Brouman to serve as vice chair, seconded by John Courtney. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Statewide Committee Representative**

Deb Simko inquired about status of her nomination to fill Statewide Committee position. DEP to follow-up.

#### **Comments from the Public**

No public in attendance.

#### **DEP Summary of Activities**

Statewide committee update:

Dave Jostenski gave a brief update of Water Resources Technical Assistance Center. DEP to follow-up by email on details.

Discussions ensued on Marcellus Gas operations. Jeff Fliss discussed concern within watersheds of only one notice being filed by operators on first withdrawal of water. Questions raised about who is checking on Marcellus related water withdrawals.

### **CWPA Nominations**

Dave Jostenski provided summary of comments received on all watersheds including testimony received at public hearing and written comments coming into the Department. Only one written comment was received from Somerset Borough in opposition to the designation. Oral testimony was all supporting designation of Laurel Hill and the Back Creek Tributary to Indian Creek. No comment in support or opposition was received for the Connoquenessing Creek. Dave J. described that all comments were taken seriously and reviewed with the assistance of the USGS who performed the verification work. The points made by Somerset Borough were considered, but did not affect Laurel Hill Creek meeting the designation criteria.

### **Laurel Hill Creek**

Discussions ensued on the concept of combining Back Creek with work on Laurel Hill Creek. Pros and cons were shared.

Roger Uhazie motioned for the Regional Committee to continue support of Laurel Hill Creek as a CWPA nomination and not incorporate Back Creek into a combined nomination. Bob Richey seconded. Vote was unanimously in favor of motion.

### **Back Creek**

Dan Barton motioned for the Regional Committee to support Back Creek a CWPA nomination as a second priority area. Deb Simko seconded. Vote was 13 in favor and 2 opposed.

### **Connoquenessing Creek**

There was discussion on appropriateness of considering all four tributaries recommended by DEP as to meeting CWPA criteria, or just two. Consensus was that it would make sense to do all four.

Dan Ireland motioned for all four tributaries recommended by DEP – Bonnie Brook, Little Connequenessing Creek, Glade Run, Breakneck Creek be supported as a CWPA nomination. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Follow-up/Next Steps**

No meetings have been scheduled. Future meetings will be on an as-needed basis.

Technical Sub Committee of the Statewide Committee meeting on March 26 in room 105 of the RCSOB Harrisburg at 9am and the Statewide Committee meeting on April 28th at 9:30 am at the PA Fish and Boat Commission, Harrisburg.