

# Statewide Water Resources Committee

Mar. 17, 2005  
Room 105  
400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA

## Meeting Summary

### **Attendance**

#### Committee members in attendance

Don Bluedorn, Chair  
Janet Bowers, Critical Water Planning Area Subcommittee Chair  
Rick Carlson  
Carol R. Collier  
Gerald Feldman  
Tom Ford represented by Leroy Young  
Rep. Bud George represented by Angela Stalneckner  
Rep. Kate Harper  
Joe Hoffman  
Bob Long represented by Joseph Roberge  
Jim MacKenzie, Vice Chair  
David Mandelbaum, Policy and Integration Subcommittee Chair  
Susan Fox Marquart  
Gary Merritt  
Bill Morris  
Cathy Curran Myers  
Gary Petrewski  
Robert Reichart  
Robert Rosenthal  
Rich Subasic  
Paul Swartz represented by Tom Beauduy  
Alan Vicory  
Bill Wehry  
George Wolff  
Matt Wolford

#### Committee members not in attendance

Nick DeBenedictis  
Michael Donohue  
Scott Dunkelberger  
John Mizerak  
Howard Neukrug  
William Nichols

#### Others in attendance

Keith Ashley  
Stan Geary  
Bill Gerlach  
Kerry Leberknight

Dan Snowden  
Daniella Spila  
R. Timothy Weston

DEP Representatives in attendance

Pam Bishop, Office of Chief Counsel  
John Booser, Water Planning Office  
Jineen Boyle, Watershed Manager/member of Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee  
Bill Gast, Water Use Planning Division Chief  
John Hines, Water Planning Office Executive Director  
David Jostenski, Water Use Planning and Assessment Section Chief  
Mark Mathews, Watershed Manager/member of Potomac Regional Committee  
Lori Mohr, Program Analyst  
Leslie Sarvis, Program Analyst  
Kurt Skees, Senior Civil Engineer- Hydraulics  
Susan Weaver, Special Projects Manager

**Administrative**

Review of draft January 20, 2005 Meeting Summary. Sue Weaver requested a revision to member attendance recording in the meeting summary, in particular to revise Rep. George's attendance. Correct "Act 200" typo on page 2.

Motion: Accept revisions and adopt as final

Made By: Bob Reichart

Seconded By: George Wolff

Outcome: Passed

Review of revised draft November 19, 2004 Meeting Summary. Jan Bowers provided additional language to CWPA Subcommittee item. Sue Weaver requested change to recording of Rep. George attendance.

Motion: Accept revisions and adopt as final

Made By: Bob Reichart

Seconded By: Rich Subasic

Outcome: Passed

**Funding Update**

John Hines presented an update on the funding issue for the State Water Plan activities. There are currently 15 full-time staff working on the State Water Plan. These positions are funded through the State General Fund and two positions are Federally funded under the Coastal Zone Program. In addition, Clean Water Fund money is being used to support the USGS budgeting tool effort as well as support to the Regional and Statewide committees.

**USGS Model Update**

Dave Jostenski provided an update on the USGS budgeting tool efforts. We are anticipating the pilot project for the Lehigh River to be completed later this summer.

**Regional Committee Appointment Update**

Sue Weaver reviewed the status of the Regional Committee appointments. Nine vacancies at the moment.

Regional Committee- Category Vacant

Delaware- Horticulture, Production Agriculture

Great Lakes- Professional

Lower Susquehanna- Conservation District Director/Planning Director

Ohio- Public Water Supply, Conservation District Director/Planning Director

Potomac- Industrial, Environmental

Upper/Middle Susquehanna-Horticulture

**Comments from the Public**

Dan Snowden of Penn DOT requested to know the types of positions available on the Delaware Committee. The Horticulture position and the Production Agriculture positions are vacant on the Delaware Committee.

Tim Weston representing the PA Chamber of Business and Industry commented upon the draft regulations and that the current draft is not consistent with Act 220. There were two provisions in Act 220 for other methods than metering, one for users less than 50,000 gpd and the other for users greater than 50,000 gpd. Technical guidance for these provisions is needed to be developed ASAP and he is offering technical assistance from the Chamber to work on these items.

**Science Advisory Board Discussion**

Don Bluedorn introduced the concept of developing a Science Advisory Board similar to the Act 2 board, although not formalized, to provide guidance to the Statewide Committee. The Board would consist of a mixture of disciplines and perspectives, perhaps 6-8 people from across the state. Don's goals for the Board are flexibility, expertise and balance.

Significant discussion ensued. There was general consensus that Don, Jim MacKenzie and John Hines would develop a concept paper for the next meeting to begin formulating an approach for the idea.

It was agreed that the current Bylaws need to be revised to reflect this future activity. Motion to amend Article VII of the Bylaws by including the following sentence: The Chair and Vice-Chair may also, from time to time, invite independent individuals to provide technical or other appropriate advice and counsel to the Committee and to participate in the discussion during Committee meetings, at their discretion.

Motion By: Jan Bowers

Seconded By: Bob Reichart

Outcome: Passed

Actual voting to revise to the Bylaws will occur at next meeting.

**Update from Regional Committee Representatives**

Delaware – Carol Collier stated that they finalized comments on the CWPA Process document, priorities and their Regional Component outline. Plans for the two Public Meeting/Hearing were finalized as well, May 12<sup>th</sup> and Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Great Lakes – Matt Wolford mentioned that their comments for the CWPA Process document were general in nature and that there was not a quorum.

Lower Susquehanna – Leslie Sarvis of DEP reported that there was not a quorum at the

Lower Susquehanna meeting. The Committee did develop comments on the CWPA Process and the Regional Component Outline. Discussed the May meeting/hearing.

Ohio – Don Bluedorn mentioned there was spirited discussion on the CWPA Process and Criteria documents, discussion on the outline.

Potomac – Bob Reichart reported that the Potomac discussed the funding, worked on preparing comments on the CWPA Process document, and submitted comments on the CWPA Criteria document regarding population concerns in the basin.

Upper/Middle Susquehanna – Gary Petrewski stated that their subcommittees drafted comments for consideration by the full committee. There will be two Public Meeting/Hearings, May 26 in State College and Aug. 18 in Wilkes-Barre.

### **Subcommittee Activities/Reports**

- CWPA – Jan Bowers reported on the 3/11/05 meeting. CWPA Process Document- Comments have been received on the Draft Process document, which has been transferred to the Policy and Integration Committee. PADEP commented to the CWPA Subcommittee that it would like to open the nomination process without restriction based on technical data, so that all interested nominees can be received and evaluated by PADEP with data available to PADEP for review against the “designation criteria”. This will make it easier to get proposals in the door and make better use of limited resources to appropriately consider and review nominations, and proceed with qualifying designations within the remaining timeframe available under Act 220. Several Subcommittee members and other attendees provided comments to PADEP regarding several concerns and potential implications of this change in process that should be clearly addressed within the revised process document. A motion was passed that the CWPA Subcommittee requests that the P&I Subcommittee provide the draft Process document, as revised by PADEP, to this CWPA Subcommittee for review and comment prior to finalization.

CWPA Criteria Document- Bill Gast provided all attendees with a copy of both the revised white paper and revised Draft Criteria Document for their review. Bill then explained the rationale and recommendations presented in the white paper to apply more protective quantitative criteria on streams designated as Class B, C and D and “other streams” in the Draft Criteria Document. After substantial discussion, the Subcommittee concurred that the Sub-Subcommittee should reconvene to work with PADEP on further revisions to the Draft Criteria document.

- P&I – David Mandelbaum reported on the 3/7 meeting. Approved 1/5/05 minutes, addressed the comments on the Regional Component Outline. Asked DEP staff to review Regional Component Outline submittals for inconsistencies with the Act. The P & I Subcommittee discussed the CWPA Process Document. DEP presented a revised approach to reflect comments received from the Regional Committees. The Subcommittee requested DEP to revise the Process document and bring it back to the Subcommittee for discussion.

- Public Participation – Lori Mohr reported and presented committee with the “Save the Date” flyer, press releases are planned for each basin, opening statements have been drafted, and mailing to the stakeholder list has begun.

### **Draft Regulations**

Bill Gast presented the draft regulations. The proposed regulations are now requesting those on PWS to register if they are large consumptive users, although this user type was not required to register under the interim registration program.

The Chair requested members to bring their comments to the next meeting on May 4, 2005.

Joe Hoffman commented that it would be advisable to include language in the Preamble that would “sell” these regulations. Joe also commented that perhaps if there was a cost/fee associated with registration, it would carry more meaning and more would register. There were varying opinions on the fee issue.

Matt Wolford questioned the user specific information being requested. Bill Gast responded that the previous water use surveys collected this type of information. The work being done by the DRBC consultant on projection methodology may have an impact on what info we may need to collect, this would be known later this year. Also, we are going to replace the SRBC reports, so there are items we must include meeting the SRBC conditions.

Matt Wolford requested these draft regulations be added to the Regional Committee agenda for May.

Cathy Myers asked the Statewide Committee if DEP should be considering fees with the registration and reporting program. The Statewide Committee did not take any action on this discussion of whether or not to add a fee to the registering and reporting requirements.

### **Population Projection Methodology**

Kurt Skees presented the methodology that the Department is using to develop population projections.

### **Registration Update**

Dave Jostenski updated the committee on the progress of registrations. There are approximately 6,526 sources registered now in the system. There are 3,639 registered PWS agency sources out of 6,387 sources.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2005 at 9:30 in room 105 of the RCSOB in Harrisburg.

