

DRAFT

Statewide Water Resources Committee

December 1, 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
Carol R. Collier
Tom Ford
Rep. Bud George represented by Thomas Kuhn
Rep. Kate Harper
Joe Hoffman
Bob Long represented by Joseph Roberge
Jim MacKenzie, Vice Chair
Susan Fox Marquart
Gary Merritt
Bill Morris
Cathy Curran Myers represented by John Hines
William Nichols
Gary Petrewski
Robert Reichart
Robert Rosenthal
Paul Swartz
Bill Wehry represented by Rob Davidson
George Wolff
Matt Wolford

Committee members not in attendance

Rick Carlson
Tom Crane
Nick DeBenedictis
Scott Dunkelberger
Gerald Feldman
David Mandelbaum, Policy and Integration Subcommittee Chair
John Mizerak
Howard Neukrug
Alan Vicory

Others in attendance

Melanie Cook
Stan Geary
Matt Genchur
Brion Johnson
Bev Reinhold
Andrea Sharretts

Dan Snowden
R. Timothy Weston

DEP Representatives in attendance

Pam Bishop, Office of Chief Counsel
Jineen Boyle, DEP representative on Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee
Stu Gansell, Watershed Management Bureau Director
Bill Gast, Senior Civil Engineer Manager
Lou Guerra, DEP Policy Office
Desiree Henning, DEP representative on Delaware Regional Committee
David Jostenski, Water Use Planning and Assessment Section Chief
Hoss Liaghat, Senior Civil Engineer- Hydraulics
Leslie Sarvis, Special Projects Coordinator
Susan Weaver, Acting Division Chief, Water Use Planning
Lori Mohr, Special Projects Coordinator

Administrative

Review of draft July 21, 2005 Meeting Summary. No comments.
Motion: Adopt as final
Made By: Bob Rosenthal
Seconded By: Bob Reichart
Outcome: Passed

Election of Officers

Motion: Don Bluedorn nominated to remain Chairperson.
Made By: George Wolff
Seconded By: Kate Harper
Outcome: Passed

Motion: Close nominations for Chairperson.
Made By: Bob Reichart
Seconded By: Gary Merritt
Outcome: Unanimous

Motion: Jim MacKenzie nominated to remain Vice - Chairperson.
Made By: Bob Reichart
Seconded By: Jan Bowers
Outcome: Passed

Motion: Close nominations for Vice - Chairperson.
Made By: Gary Merritt
Seconded By: Kate Harper
Outcome: Unanimous

Schedule for 2006 Meetings

The proposed schedule for 2006 meetings of the Statewide Water Resources Committee was distributed. Meeting dates are: Mar. 16, Jun. 15, Sept. 21 and Dec. 21, 2006.

Motion: Adopt proposed schedule for 2006 meetings

Made By: Bob Reichart
Seconded By: Susan Fox Marquart
Outcome: Passed

Comments from the Public

Tim Weston representing the PA Chamber of Business and Industry wished everyone a happy holiday.

DEP Update

Funding: John Hines explained the situation with funding the state water plan. A Program Revision Request was submitted, but denied, because the budget was “flatlined.” The Department is looking into whether or not Growing Greener money can be used in some way to enhance our efforts. Growing Greener 2 money could be used for “implementation” of the State Water Plan, as it is bond money and therefore can only be used for capital improvement projects. Representative Harper suggested that the funding issue be revisited in March, since the Governor’s budget will be presented by that time. In addition, she requested that DEP provide more information to the regional committees on funding.

Strategy for writing plan components: John Hines explained that templates are being developed by DEP staff to address the 16 components that are required to be included in the plan. DEP staff is currently working on this assignment and will report on the progress at the March Statewide committee meeting. The templates will be a framework for the Plan with varying levels of detail to be fleshed out in future years. Regional plans will use the general template, but they will be customized by the regional committees to highlight regional variations.

WUAT: The Water Use Analysis Tool is being developed by CDM, under a contract with DRBC. This tool will be GIS based and it will integrate projections for the future use of water with the USGS screening tool. The target date for completing this tool is Spring/Summer 2006.

Update from Regional Committee Representatives

Delaware- Re-Elected Carol Collier as Chair and Jeff Featherstone as Vice-Chair. Committee discussed where they would like to see the plan go by 2008. They would like to begin making recommendations for improving the water of PA. Assigned regional committee members to respond to templates that are developed by DEP staff. The committee also discussed the funding issue and decided to write a letter to Governor Rendell to encourage him to fund this effort in the 2006-2007 budget.

Great Lakes- Re-Elected Nick Mobilia as Chair and Bill Gough as Vice-Chair. Committee focused on the Template for Completion at the November meeting. Chairman Mobilia committed to calling all of the members who have not been attending to gauge their interest in continuing to serve on the committee.

Lower Susquehanna- Re-Elected Betty Conner as Chair and Bill Achor as Vice-Chair. The committee continued with presentations from County Planners.

Potomac- Re-Elected Charles Bennett as Chair and Phyllis Chant as Vice-Chair. The committee discussed the Template for Completion and agreed to write letters to all County Commissioners in region to let them know that the committee is functioning and can help, especially with suggestions for projects that could potentially be funded through Growing Greener 2.

Upper/Middle Susquehanna- Leslie Sarvis reported that the committee Elected Doug

Manning as Chair and Hank Webster as Vice-Chair. They discussed the Template for Completion and heard from a panel of County Planners.

Ohio- Re-Elected Ron Rohall as Chair and Mitch Brouman as Vice-Chair. The committee discussed the Template for Completion and assigned volunteers to review the component templates. This committee also heard from County Planners with a range of expertise on water issues.

Subcommittee Activities/Reports

- **P&I** – David Mandelbaum reported that the Subcommittee is working with the Vision document to draft an Introduction to the plan. A small drafting committee volunteered to work on this assignment. Carol Collier also volunteered to work on an engagement process for bringing the regional committee comments to the table at an early stage.
- **CWPA** – Jan Bowers reported that the Subcommittee has been working with the Department on the CWPA technical guidance document and that the guidelines are being finalized by DEP. The Subcommittee is also planning to discuss developing the guidance for writing Critical Area Resource Plans. Comments were also given to the Department on the revised Registration and Reporting forms.

Draft Registration and Reporting Regulations and Revised Forms

At the previous meeting of the Statewide committee, the membership voted to endorse the draft Registration and Reporting regulations. The draft regulations are going through an internal DEP review and they will be placed on the EQB agenda for discussion in early 2006. The committee will be notified when the EQB hearing will be held. After the EQB hearing, the draft regulations will be considered to be a proposed rulemaking. There will be a public comment period and at the end of the comment period, they will return to the EQB as a final rulemaking.

Dave Jostenski reviewed changes to the Registration and Reporting forms to make the process easier to use and understand. The changes to the forms were based largely on comments received from the Statewide and Regional committees, as well as the public.

Next Meeting Date

1. The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2006, at 9:30 in room 105 of the RCSOB in Harrisburg.