

Upper/Middle Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

February 17, 2005
DEP Northeast Regional Office
2 Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790

DRAFT **Meeting Summary**

Attendance:

Committee members in attendance:

Tom Beauduy	Gary Petrewski
Ed Bellis	David Snook
Mike Cavanaugh	Jerry Walls
William Gerlach	Richard Wardrop
Todd Giddings	Uwe Weindel, Chair
Roy Herlocher	Dorne White
Bill Manner	John Yamona
Doug Manning	Adam Zakarian, Vice Chair

Committee members not in attendance:

Drew Hadley
Frank Halderman
Tim Horner
David Kaufman
Jennifer Means
Harold Webster

Others in attendance:

Josh Longmore, Luzerne County Conservation District
Risa Stevens Andrews, Luzerne County Conservation District

DEP

Bill Gast
David Gordner
Leslie Sarvis

Comments from the Public

Josh Longmore and Risa Stevens Andrews of the Luzerne County Conservation District introduced themselves and stated that they were attending the meeting to

observe how the committee addresses stormwater issues. They also plan on attending the public meeting/hearing in May.

Administrative Items

Finalize December Meeting Summary

The Draft December 16, 2004 Meeting Summary was approved with no corrections.

Motion made by: Mike Cavanaugh
Motion second: Bill Gerlach

Statewide Committee Update

Leslie Sarvis updated the committee on the last Statewide Committee meeting, which included discussion on changes to the Draft CWPA Criteria document. Because of these changes, the deadline for comments from the regional committees is extended to May 31, 2005. Comments on the drafts CWPA Nomination Process document, and the Regional Component Framework are still due by Feb. 28, 2005. The Statewide Committee would also like to remind the regional committee members to emphasize the Vision Statement when speaking about the State Water Plan at events or to other organizations. The next Statewide Committee meeting is March 17, 2005.

DEP Summary of Activities

Committee members were provided with a copy of the 2004 Review and goals for 2005. Leslie Sarvis highlighted the major activities to be accomplished in 2005, including: improving registration responses from public water suppliers; delivery of pilot projects from the USGS screening tool; and development of proposed regulations for registration and reporting. In addition, although the Program Revision Request of \$3.1 million for DEP's upcoming 2005-06 budget was not granted, this should not impact the existing course of action for DEP staff and the water resources committees in developing the State Water Plan.

Several committee members expressed concern over funding needs for Act 220. Gary Petrewski will draft a letter to the Statewide Committee expressing the Upper/Middle Susquehanna Committee's concern over the lack of resources to adequately develop the State Water Plan.

Motion made by: Jerry Walls
Second by: Todd Giddings

CWPA Revised Criteria Presentation

Bill Gast presented a revised version of the Draft Critical Water Planning Area Designation Criteria document. In particular, Bill discussed changes to the numeric standards for the screening criteria under Section D. Safe Yield of

Available Resources. The new numbers are a bit more conservative than before. The committee was reminded that the deadline for comments has been extended to May 31, so they will continue their discussion of this document at the May 26 meeting.

CWPA Process and Criteria Comments

Tom Beauduy discussed comments on the CWPA Process document that were drafted by members of the Lower Susquehanna Committee. The committee went through the CWPA Process document and formulated comments to be sent to the Statewide Committee. Tom Beauduy will draft the comments and circulate them to the committee via email before February 27. A motion was made to send the Upper/Middle Susquehanna Committee's comments to the Statewide Committee, with appreciation to Tom Beauduy for his work in drafting the comment document.

Motion made by: Jerry Walls
Second by: Todd Giddings

Comments on the revised CWPA criteria are due by May 31, 2005.

Regional Priorities Refinement

Richard Wardrop discussed a revised Draft list of regional priorities to committee members. A few more comments were made, and Richard agreed to revise the document and send it to Uwe Weindel by the end of March. The "final" Draft list will be used at the public meeting/hearing in May.

Public Meeting/Hearing Discussion

Leslie Sarvis reviewed the draft agenda for the public meetings/hearings. The committee decided that, if possible, two public meetings/hearings should be held in the basin, and they should coincide with their regularly scheduled May and August meetings. Suggested locations for the May public meeting/hearing were the State College Middle School Auditorium or Penn Valley Area High School. Luzerne Community College was suggested as a location for the August public meeting/hearing. Leslie Sarvis will check into the availability of these locations.

The business meeting will begin at 12:30pm and ending at approximately 4:00pm. The public meeting activities will begin at 5:30pm. The formal public hearing will start at 7:30 PM. The public meeting portion will focus on a general overview of Act 220 and on the regional priorities developed by the committee.

Finalize Comments on Regional Framework

If any committee members have comments, please send them to Uwe Weindel before February 28, and he will forward them onto the Statewide Subcommittees.

Follow-up/Next Steps

The next meeting, public meeting and hearing will be held on May 26, 2005. The location will be announced later. The meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

Motion made by: David Snook

Second by: Bill Gerlach