

Upper/Middle Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

May 26, 2005
Days Inn, Penn State
240 South Pugh Street
State College, PA 16801

DRAFT **Meeting Summary**

Attendance:

Committee members in attendance:

Tom Beauduy	Jennifer Means
Ed Bellis	Gary Petrewski
Mike Cavanaugh	David Snook
William Gerlach	Jerry Walls
Todd Giddings	Richard Wardrop
Drew Hadley	Harold Webster
Tim Horner	Uwe Weindel
David Kaufman	Dorne White
Bill Manner	John Yamona
Doug Manning	Adam Zakarian

Committee members not in attendance:

Frank Halderman	Roy Herlocher
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DEP

David Jostenski	Sue Weaver
Lori Mohr	Bob Yowell

Chairman Weindel began the meeting at 12:40 PM.

Administrative Items

Finalize February Meeting Summary

Jerry Walls made a motion to accept the February 17, 2005 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Mike Cavanaugh. Motion passed unanimously.

Statewide Committee Update – Gary Petrewski

Technical Expert Advisory Panel is being assembled by the statewide committee to provide advice on topics that may require additional expertise in subjects that

are not covered by the expertise of the members on the statewide and regional committees or on DEP staff. Taking recommendations until June 17, 2005. Reviewed the CWPA Process and criteria documents. Comments on the criteria document are still being accepted until May 31, 2005.

DEP Summary of Activities – Susan Weaver

Draft committee member biographies were distributed. DEP staff requested that committee members review their bio and provide any necessary revisions to DEP by the end of the meeting.

Dave Jostenski gave an update on population projections being assembled by DEP staff. Dave distributed draft projections for the entire state, broken down by county and municipality. Municipal projections for 2010, 2020, and 2030 are included, based on the year 2000 census. These projections will be sent to various planning agencies for verification. Jerry Walls suggested contacting county planning directors and ask them for their projections before this information is sent out. Tom Beauduy asked to have the population totals grouped by region.

Budget update given by Sue Weaver. State Water Plan was not granted the funding requested for 2005-2006. Continue to use the Clean Water Fund to fund committee meetings and USGS water budget tool project. Seeking federal funding for other activities.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Bob Yowell, NCRO Director, attended the meeting and introduced himself to committee members.

Todd Giddings – Spring Creek Watershed discussion. Ferguson Township enacted an overlay district zoning ordinance to protect well fields. First overlay district in the Spring Creek watershed to protect water resources in this manner. Uncommon overlay district method used to achieve the goal of capturing the mountain water runoff and recharge groundwater resources. Other municipalities are interested in enacting similar ordinances. Mike Cavanaugh asked Todd Giddings to get committee members copies of the ordinance.

State College Joint Municipal Authority (JMAA) – beneficial reuse project.

Distributed an invitation to PA Groundwater Association field conference event that will teach the proper construction of a water well. Field conference will be held on June 10, 2005 at Rock Springs, PA.

CWPA Process and Criteria Documents Discussion

Susan Weaver two documents: Process document and Criteria document. These documents will be merged into one single package that will be finalized by the Statewide committee and then will be sent through the DEP Technical Guidance process.

Received comments from all six regional committees on the Process document. Revised the former document to include an additional step that will allow the process to be simplified for entities interested in having a particular watershed put on a list for consideration for a CWPA. The regional lists will be prioritized and sent to the statewide committee for consideration of CWPA designation. "Nominating petition" will be used to present a watershed to the regional committee for consideration. Lead contact person is designated for the watershed. Petition will be sent to DEP for a completeness review and there is sufficient data for initial screening, the data will be forwarded to the regional committee.

Criteria document – surrogate initial screening criteria (percentage of Q 7-10) will be used by regional committee during its consideration for nominating an area for a CWPA.

Jerry Walls suggested that the "nominator" should be required to identify "potentially affected parties" on the application.

Tom Beauduy and other committee members expressed concerns over the process and recommended that the regional committee get to work on the substantive regional component and identify critical areas as a part of the regional plan component.

Jerry Walls recommended that the committee should devote the August meeting to a substantive discussion of the regional component of the State Water Plan.

Provide the draft list of the CWPA subcommittee of potential sites that may be considered in the future for designation as a CWPA.

SRBC will provide information on its methodology for identifying potentially stressed areas in the Susquehanna River Basin.

Registration and Reporting Regulations Discussion

Draft regulations went to the Statewide committee on May 4, 2005. These regulations eventually will guide our reporting and record keeping for the future. Comments must be submitted by June 15, 2005. The statewide committee will review the comments and, if appropriate, will revise the regulations based on comments. The regulations will then proceed through the DEP regulatory process, and will be presented to the Environmental Hearing Board for adoption in late fall/early winter.

Gary Petrewski requested that any committee member who submits comments to the statewide committee, please send a copy of the comments to him. May submit comments to the statewide committee as individual committee member.

Adam Zakarian and Uwe Weindel expressed concerns over having users who draw all of their water from a PWS to report. Concern for the possibility of "double counting" water use.

Drew Hadley expressed concerns over the amount of data being requested, i.e., metering information is excessive for our purposes. We just need a reasonable metering system or a reasonable estimate of water use. DEP explained that staff is tracking down where each requirement came from – i.e., SRBC, DRBC, Water Supply Reports, etc.

Uwe Weindel suggested that simplification of the reporting system will help us to increase registrations.

Richard Wardrop expressed concern over the definition of “system” and how it is applied in the document.

Regional Component Framework Discussion

DEP distributed a copy of the Delaware regional committee framework and asked the committee if they would like to model their regional component after the Delaware’s regional component. Any suggestions for revising the framework would be considered at the next meeting. A substantive discussion of the regional component will be scheduled for the August meeting.

Public Meeting/Hearing Discussion

Details of the Public meeting and hearing were discussed and the agenda was reviewed.

August Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held at the East Mountain Inn and Suites on August 18, 2005. The business meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the public meeting and hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m.