



Delaware River Basin Commission

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Steven J. Tambini, P.E.
Executive Director

Water Management Advisory Committee

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, June 22, 2017

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The DRBC Water Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) was called to order by Mr. Jim Mershon, Committee Chair. Information pertaining to the WMAC, including member listing and past meeting materials, is available at http://www.nj.gov/drbc/about/advisory/WMAC_index.html

ADMINISTRATION

- The highlights of the February 23, 2016 meeting were approved and will be posted on the WMAC webpage.
- Membership: All membership positions are filled and current. Ms. Sheila Eyler has filled the vacant fisheries sector position and Ms. Betty Tatum has renewed membership as the Civic representative. Ms. Sandra Howland, NJ Dept. of Agriculture, was introduced at the meeting; she will begin duties as the agricultural sector representative beginning July 1. Mr. Brian Oram was thanked for his service representing the agricultural sector.
- Upcoming WMAC meetings for 2017: **TUESDAY, October 24th**.

Note that the October meeting will be held on Tuesday rather than the usual Thursday to avoid a scheduling conflict.

UPDATES

Dr. Ken Najjar, DRBC Director of Water Resource Management, provided an update on DRBC activities, upcoming advisory committee meetings, Commission actions, and other items of interest, among them:

- At the June 14th business meeting, the Commissioners approved the FY 2018 budget and the funding apportionment among signatory parties along with 25 dockets.
- Implementing the annual fee structure approved in December, staff began water fee invoicing in March and wastewater fee invoicing in June.
- The FFMP expired May 31st. An unofficial operational agreement based on the FFMP will be employed as the parties continue negotiations.
- NJ has released its state-wide Water Supply Plan for public review and has asked for comments by July 21st.
- Natural Resource Damage (NRD) funds accruing from the PPL fly ash spill in 2005 will be applied to dam removal actions at Easton on Bushkill Creek through a coordinated effort of DRBC and the Wildlands Conservancy.
- In March, DRBC welcomed Elba Deck as the new Director of Finance and Administration; Robert Limbeck, Sr. Aquatic Biologist, will be retiring on August 1st after 32 years of service with the Commission. Dave Jostenski, PA representative on the WMAC, and Michael Holt,

NY representative to the WMAC retired earlier this year; John Brandt, DE representative on the WMAC, will retire on July 1st.

HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS REPORT

Dr. Hernan Quinodoz, Sr. Water Resource Engineer for DRBC Water Resource Operations, provided a report on basin-wide hydrologic conditions. Conditions continue to improve: rainfall is above normal for the year; state-declared drought declarations have been rescinded for all but one county in the basin; with few exceptions, stream flows are good; and water supply storage reservoirs are at or near 100% capacity. Dr. Quinodoz's presentation can be viewed at http://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/WMAC/06222017/Hydrologic-Conditions_DRBC.pdf. Weekly, monthly and annual hydrologic reports are archived at: <http://www.nj.gov/drbc/hydrological/reports/>.

WATER CONSERVATION

- **Green Tourism:** Ms. Ann Pilcher, Pocono Mountains Convention and Visitors Bureau and WMAC member for recreation, made a presentation about green tourism initiatives in the upper basin, including the multi-state, National Geographic initiative and interactive map for the Scenic, Wild Delaware. Ms. Pilcher's presentation is available at: http://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/WMAC/06222017/PoconoMtns_PMBV.pdf.
 - The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau website is <https://www.poconomountains.com/>
 - The NatGeo Scenic, Wild Delaware website is: <https://delawareriver.natgeotourism.com/>
- **Philadelphia District 2030:** Mr. Alex Dews and Ms. Katie Bartolotta, respectively Executive Director and Policy and Program Manager of the Delaware Valley Green Building Council, spoke to the WMAC about the *Philadelphia District 2030* partnership—which includes commercial property owners and managers, utilities, energy service companies, government, non-profit and civic organizations as well as design professionals—working together to achieve a 50% reduction in building energy use, water consumption and transportation GHG emissions by 2030. Philadelphia has the building density, the organizational interest, the data (benchmarking), and the institutional foundation—including the city's Green City-Clean Water initiative and Office of Sustainability—to position it for success. The presentation is available at: http://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/WMAC/06222017/Philadelphia2030_DVGBC.pdf
 - Information about the DVGBC is available at: <https://www.dvgbc.org/>

Members were reminded that the next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 24th**.

The meeting was adjourned at noon by Chair Jim Mershon.

WMAC Meeting Attendance – June 22, 2017			
SECTOR	WMAC MEMBER/ ALTERNATE	REPRESENTING	ATTENDANCE
Delaware	William Cocke (A)	DE DNREC	Webinar
New Jersey	Carolyn Olynyk	NJ DEP	Present
New York	Erik Schmitt (A)	NY DEC	-
Pennsylvania	David Gortner (A)	PADEP	Webinar
US Army Corps of Engineers	Laura Bittner	Phila. District	Webinar
US Env. Protection Agency	Katie Lynch	Drinking Water Protection	Webinar
US Geological Survey	Dan Goode	Water Science Center	Present
City of New York	Dana Olivio	NYC DEP	Present
City of Philadelphia	Hesson, Molly (A)	Phila. Water Dept.	Webinar
County Water Agency	Jan Bowers	Chester Co. WR Authority	Webinar
Water Resource Association	Preston Luitweiler (A)	WRA of the DRB	Present
Industry	Mershon, Jim (C)	Merrill Creek Owners Group	Present
Water Utility	Virginia Eisenbrey (A)	Artesian Water	Webinar
Agriculture	Brian Oram	BF Env. Consultants	Webinar
Civic	Betty Tatham	PA League of Women Voters	-
Environmental Organization	Mary Ellen Noble	Delaware Riverkeeper Network	Webinar
Watershed Organization	Golod, Pete	Upper Delaware Council	Webinar
Academia	Jerry Kauffman	University of Delaware	-
Recreation	Ann Pilcher	Pocono Mts. Visitors Bureau	Webinar
Fisheries	Brian Neilan (A)	DRB F&W Coop	Webinar
<i>(A) indicates Alternate</i>		<i>(C) indicates Chairperson</i>	
DRBC STAFF			
	Najjar, Ken	Water Resource Management	
	Pindar, Chad	Water Resource Planning	
	Rowland, Doug	Water Resource Planning	
	Sanchez, Jessica	WMAC Liaison	
	Hernan Quinodoz	Water Resource Operations	
	Ron MacGillivray	Water Quality Assessment	
GUESTS			
	Katie Bartolotta	Delaware Valley Green Building Council	
	Alex Dews	Delaware Valley Green Building Council	
	Sandra Howland	NJ Dept. of Agriculture	
	Eric Vowinkel	Rutgers University-Env. Science	

Approved: October 24, 2017