



NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL MEETING

February 9, 2021 @ 10:00 A.M.

Microsoft Teams meeting

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

INTRODUCTIONS

Start of meeting- 10:05 am

Council Members: Tony McCracken, Russ Furnari, Jim Cosgrove, George Bakun, Amy Goldsmith, Maria Connolly, Harry Wozunk, Sandra Howland, David Kovach, Pamela Goodwin, Gary Brune, Ashley Kerr, Ryann Reagan

Members of the Public: Bree Callahan and Jennifer Coffee

NJDEP: Janice Brogle and Jennifer Feltis Cortese

APPROVAL OF MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- January 12, 2021- Motion Jim Cosgrove, second by Amy Goldsmith, approved.

DEP UPDATES

- Program Updates
 - We received comments from 27 organizations or individuals on the LTCPs. We are reviewing those and continuing to review the LTCPs.
 - We have also been reviewing the comments received from the Public Hearing and continue to develop our PFAS strategy and plan to develop a survey much like Colorado.
 - The FY2021 Annual Fee Report and Assessment of Fees proposal document and a notice of public hearing has been published in the February 16, 2021 New Jersey Public Register. The public hearing and the close of comment period is March 18, 2021. Planning for approximately \$19M NJPDES fee budget which is decreased by \$0.17M (0.9%) from last year's billing.
 - The Fees are based on current rules but working on rule changes to recalculate the fees and expect to do stakeholder meetings in the next few months.
 - The re-imagined reorganization has taken effect and our stormwater program is moving over to the Watershed and Land Management Program.
 - Question: Where is the WQMP program? Answer: *DWMS and WRM is coordinating closely with WLM as this is where that program has landed and nothing to share about possible rule changes.*
 - The Green Infrastructure rule will be effective March 2, 2021.

- Question: Will DEP be extending the deadline for ordinances? Counties are getting some but not all to review and not sure all will be ready by the deadline. Answer: *No, there is not a plan to do so.*

OLD BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2020 Public Hearing Discussion
 - Visit https://www.nj.gov/dep/cleanwatercouncil/public_hearing_recent.htm for submitted written testimony
 - Discussion:
 - The Council agreed that many of the comments had repeated themes.
 - DEP noted it was a very good hearing and we have heard good feedback. We are developing our own strategy and want to hear about Council's thoughts. We are planning to develop questionnaires similar to Colorado and Michigan to help determine where we should focus our efforts first.
 - Members of the council stressed that finding the source first and removing PFAS before it reaches the treatment plant is a viable option, but the methods for testing and data quality need to be approved.
 - Council members also expressed that it is important for EPA to publish and approve a method.
 - Amy suggested that there might be the possibility of connecting with Clean Water Action national expert on this issue. Also stressed that Site Remediation may also need to be coordinated with efforts to reduce the impact of PFAS in the waters of the state.
 - The Executive Committee (with Amy and George) decided that they would meet to discuss comments and draft a letter. DEP expressed that the DEP would like recommendations in addition to a summary of the hearing and comments received.
 - Council members gave kudos to DEP for the Public Hearing and how well it was attended for two reasons: 1. virtual allowed for more people to attend and 2. since DEP does not have a rule already, the hearing provided a real opportunity to provide feedback.
- Future Meetings
 - The Council would like presentations from DEP, possibly from the new Watershed and Land Use Program.
 - Presentation on EJ and the connection of EJ communities with CSOs, lead in drinking water, and stormwater.
 - Potential impact of NJPACT land use rules and climate change. Become more aware of everything to be proposed and what falls under the Council's purview.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting – March 9, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Amy Goldsmith, Second Jim Cosgrove, Adjourned.