



NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 11, 2024 MEETING SUMMARY

INTRODUCTIONS

Tony McCracken called meeting to order at 10:02AM

Council Participants (10): Anthony McCracken, George Bakun, James Cosgrove, Sandra Howland, Maria Connolly, David Kovach, Amy Goldsmith, Krishna Jagannathan, Pamela Goodwin, and Ashley Kerr

DEP Participants (6): Susan Rosenwinkel, Jennifer Feltis Cortese, John Murray, Christine Enright, Kent Barr, and Daniel Hoy

Public Participants (4): Wale Adewunmi, Gerold T. Reiner, Aaron Stoler, and Jeanette Myers

APPROVAL OF MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- May 14, 2024 - Approved: James Cosgrove Moved, Maria Connolly Second.

DEP UPDATES - Provided by John Murray | DEP

- The DWQ continues to meet with Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) permittees in an effort to finalize draft permits for Bergen County Utilities Authority - the Borough of Fort Lee, the City of Hackensack, and the Village of Ridgefield Park and City of Camden, Gloucester City and Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority. Representatives attending these meetings from NJDEP include staff from the CSO Program as well as from the Municipal Finance and Construction Element. Topics for the meetings include, length of implementation schedules, funding opportunities, and use of an Administrative Compliance Agreement for schedules beyond the five-year NJPDES permit term.

Discussion: Council members asked about a timeline for finalizing all CSO permits. Three out of the eight systems have final permits and the others are in progress.

NEW BUSINESS

- Presentation on Water Supply Plan
 - Steven Domber, Assistant Director | NJ Geological and Water Survey | NJDEP
 - Kent Barr, Research Scientist | Bureau of Water Resources and Geoscience | NJDEP
 - Daniel Hoy, Environmental Specialist | Bureau of Water Resources and Geoscience | NJDEP

Discussion: Council and presenters discussed their interest in what the plan says about the impacts of climate change; PFOS/PFAS heat map and causes for fluctuation; reservoir status and drought conditions; the meaning of depletive use and consumptive use as it relates to aquifer status; and saltwater intrusion.

- Presentation on PFAS Updates
 - Sue Rosenwinkel, Assistant Director | Water Pollution Management Element | NJDEP

Discussion: Council members suggested the need for more data; target the removal of PFAS from products and processes; expressed the need to avoid large financial burden on WWTPs; and considering the full life cycle of PFAS and where to reduce exposure the most.

- Public Hearing
 - The executive committee met with DWQ staff to discuss possible topics. The Water PFAS cycle and the points of impact was presented as a potential topic for the public hearing. The idea is to explain how water fits in with the exposure with short presentations, potential panel discussion, public testimony and possibly an interactive round table discussion. DWQ will find out the Commissioner's availability for December. A public hearing subcommittee was formed and will meet in the upcoming weeks to discuss further and will bring ideas to the CWC at their next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Council Membership Renewal and Appointment
 - Please provide resumes by end of month. Also need letters from agencies recommending those individuals.
 - For seats that are vacant or turning over – how to notify agencies. Please go directly to them if want to stay or be considered.
- Ethics requirements
 - John will send around and DWQ will look into getting a short presentation from the Ethics Liaison Officer for an upcoming meeting.
- Subcommittee Updates
 - TMDL - George Bakun, James Cosgrove, Amy Goldsmith
 - No Updates
 - WQMP and Septic Management Plan - Tony McCracken, James Cosgrove, Sandra Howland, Ashley Kerr
 - There are a number of amendments that have been appearing in the Register.
 - Policy Committee - Maria Connolly, Harry Wozunk, Peggy Gallos
 - S286 permits utilities to offer reduced fees but has not been introduced.
 - S998 establishes a Water Center in higher ed was introduced in the senate but has not progressed.
 - Education - Amy Goldsmith, John Murray, David Kovach
 - No Updates
 - DRBC - Dave Kovach, George Bakun
 - Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Chlorides – Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Maria announced this is her last meeting but hoping to reapply with her new position.
- Next meetings:
 - September 10, 2024 (Tentative offsite meeting)
 - November 12, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn from James Cosgrove and second by Maria Connolly. Adjourned at 11:59AM.