

New Jersey Clean Water Council

November 10, 2015

Location:

NJEIT, 3131 Princeton Pike, Building 4, Suite 216, Lawrenceville, NJ

<b>Members Present:</b>	
George Bakun – NJ Business & Industry Jim Cosgrove – NJ Society of PEs Dan Van Abs – General Public Stan Cach – NJ Dept. Environmental of Protection James Requa – NJ Dept. of Community Affairs Mohammad Ali- NJ Dept. of Agriculture Jessica Sanchez - DRBC	Russ Furnari – NJ Chamber of Commerce Anthony McCracken- General Public Lou Neely – League of Municipalities Jennifer Coffey – Water Supply Advisory Council Amy Goldsmith – General Public Pamela Goodwin – General Public Chris Sturm – General Public
<b>Others:</b> Helen Heinrich – NJCWC Advisor Maria Zazzera – NJBPU Jon Hurdle – NJ Spotlight Fred Sickels – FASickels Environmental Mgmt. LLC	<b>NJDEP Staff:</b> Michele Putnam, Director - Div. of Water Quality Breana Whittaker - Division of Water Quality Kimberly Cenno – Bureau Environmental Analysis Restoration Standards Barbara Greenhalgh-Weidman- Office of Water Resource Coordination

Meeting Called to Order: Chair Dan Van Abs at 10:01 AM.

The motion to approve the October 13, 2015 meeting highlights was made by James Cosgrove and seconded by Russ Furnari. Pamela Goodwin, Jessica Sanchez, and Chris Sturm abstained.

**Public Hearing:**

The Council began the meeting discussing the upcoming December 10, 2015 public hearing. Dan Van Abs had previously emailed the purpose and potential questions. The Council accepted the purpose developed by Dan and the questions developed by Stan with a few minor revisions. It was determined the Chair and Vice Chair would select a speaker. The Council suggested selecting a speaker from one of the following groups: William Penn Foundation, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Coopers Ferry for Camden, Harbor and Estuary Program, or Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The notice for the public hearing was set to be disseminated the following day, November 11, 2015, via the Department's email blast and each Council member reaching out to their constituents. The Council would welcome testimony from representatives from the boating and economic industries as well as a municipal utility authorities. The Chair requested the Council members to solicit their respective members to attend the public hearing.

Upon the Council's recommendation, the Public Hearing's Notice title and purpose was revised (see attached final notice).

**DEP Updates:**

The Council discussed the Department's October 19, 2015 New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Rule Amendments and the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Rule Proposal. Jim Cosgrove developed the attached handout summarizing the proposed changes.

The Water Quality Management Planning rules at N.J.A.C 7:15 represent one component of the New Jersey's Continuing Planning Process (CPP). The Department has restructured New Jersey's CPP to serve as an easily accessible planning tool, to be used not only as a listing of current Department programs and rules pertaining to water quality, but as a resource for planning entities and members of the public on current policies and technical guidance on water quality issues. The CPP provides a useful overview of how the Division's activities 'fit' within the larger framework of Water Quality Management and protection.

Department Representatives Barbara Greenhalgh-Weidman and Kim Cenno provided an overview of the CPP which included the table of contents and toolbox. Certain tools are still under development. The Department requested assistance from the Council in finalizing those tools. The Council requested a list of priority tools and a timeline from the Department in order to allocate appropriate members on each initiative. The tools are not expected to be a regulatory requirement and should be viewed as aspirational goals.

**New Business:**

Dan Van Abs two year term as Council's Chair ends in January, 2016. Jim Cosgrove will move up to the Chair, Jessica Sanchez will move to Vice Chair. The Council will elect a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

Chris Sturm announced the New Jersey Urban Water Conference scheduled on December 10, 2015 at NJIT.

DRBC has updated their procedure timeline and now an extra month will be added between the public comment period and final decision making.

There will be no December 8, 2015, Council meeting with the upcoming December 11, 2015 Public Hearing.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 pm.