

STATE WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 1, 2008
MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Members/Alternates: Emery Cleaves, Dave Duree, Senator Roy Dyson, Shannon Lucas, Terry Matthews, Ed Merrifield, John Scarborough, Mark Symborski, Karen Wiggen, Frank Wise, Steve Witt, Victoria Woodward

Excused Absences: Mike Clar, Jan Graham, Fred Jacobs, Neil Jacobs, Mat Pajeroski, Anne Pearson, Nancy Pentz, Edwin Singer, Burt Sklar, Bill Stack

Others: Secretary John Griffin (DNR), Jay Sakai (MDE), Sherm Garrison (DNR), Matthew Stover (MDE), Jay Prager (MDE), Jim George (MDE), Chris Thomas (MDE), Chris Trumbauer (citizen), George Jett (citizen)

Victoria Woodward opened the meeting with introductions at 9:30 a.m. **Motions** to approve the June 5, 2008 minutes - **approved**.

News from MDE – Jay Sakai (*attachment*)

- **Stormwater Management Act**
 - Public stakeholder meeting held yesterday, July 30, 2008
 - Well attended over 100 attendees
 - Issues talked about:
 - Update on workgroup working on new stormwater regulations
 - Redevelopment Policy – lot of broad-range opinions
 - Core principles
 - Schedule is to have this wrapped up by the end of year - Chapter 5 rewrite and regulatory
 - Final regulations probably promulgated around September
- **Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Funds**
 - Solicitations are out
 - \$6.4 million of NPS money to MDE
 - Information on grant applications is on website
 - Closing deadline is the end of August
- **CAFO Permitting**
 - In formal regulatory process
 - Finalized and published in Maryland Register
- **General Permit for Construction Activities**
 - Group meeting monthly
 - Hoping to have a more open and transparent process
- **Wetland Fee Bill**
 - Became effective July 1, 2008
 - Will generate a significant amount of revenue
 - In the process of increasing staff - current staff size will be doubled

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- **Groundwater Symposium**
 - Will be held on September 25, 2008 at Martin's West
- **Governor's Advisory Committee on Management & Protection of State's Water Resources**
 - Issued final report
 - Department is working with Governor's Office on announcement strategy
 - Identifies host of water supply issues/concerns
 - List whole series of recommendations and how to address problems
- **Mining Program**
 - Updates on McDonald Mine AMD Impacts

News from DNR – Sherm Garrison (*attachment*)

- **Deep Creek Lake**
 - SWQAC retreat in Frostburg had brief presentation by Carolyn Mathews on Deep Creek Issues; group was taken on tour around the lake.
 - Significant activities in watershed:
 - 1,000 acre golf course going in
 - Wisp is expanding its resort area
 - Workgroup created at DNR is:
 - helping develop a water quality plan for the Lake Planning Board
 - looking into things like shoreline controls
 - providing technical support to lake manager
 - limiting excess lake use through keyhole developments
 - hoping to put together a water quality report and get it to SWQAC
 - MDE is monitoring for phosphorous TMDL and will be evaluated by end of year
- **Third Annual Chesapeake Watershed Forum**
 - Scheduled for October 2-4, 2008 in Shepherdstown, WV
 - Registration can only be done online and limited to first 35 registrants
- **DNR Regulations**
 - Fisheries, wildlife and hunting updates
 - Draft regulations – non-native crayfish species
 - Prohibiting crayfish being caught and used
 - Rusty crayfish are very aggressive
- **Tributary Wade-Ins**
 - Are Open to the public

SSA Administration – Matt Stover

- **Triennial Review**
 - Currently being reviewed by Attorney General's office
 - Final edits by next week
 - Final review and briefing with Secretary
 - Hope to have a formal proposal by next month

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- John Backus will forward date it goes for Public Hearing
- **Tier II**
 - Updated all maps online
 - Hoys Runs still in negotiation
- **Integrated Report 303D list of impaired waters**
 - Final version sent to EPA
 - Awaiting approval

Conversation with Secretary John Griffin of DNR

- Some issues talked about:
 - SWQAC's role with DNR
 - Deep Creek Lake
 - Sustainability
 - To achieve functional goals that cut across the units
 - Track performance
 - 6 goals – measures of success
 - Effective use of energy/resources
 - Citizen stewardship
 - Vibrant communities and neighborhoods
 - Long-term economic prosperity
 - Land use and planning are significant issues – recommends SWQAC meeting with the Secretary of Planning
 - Governor's Executive Order creates partnership with children/nature
 - K-12 grade education – much more environmentally literate
 - Opportunities for children to connect with nature

Presentations

TMDLS – Jim George of SSA (powerpoint attached)

Subcommittee Reports

Watershed Subcommittee – Shannon Lucas

- Draft letter on Chapter 5 issues for review

Water Resources – Frank Wise

- Governor's Advisory Committee finalized report
- Ask MDE for recommendation/action plan once report is released to public

Wastewater – Dave Duree

- Continues to be initiative to certified on-site wastewater operation and maintenance providers, and to stimulate program - systems need regular follow up
- Mixing zones – will be reporting on in future

Data – Steve Witt

- Presentation at June meeting by George Harmon
- They are gathering private well information and data
- Integrated about 13 counties into database

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- They are recipients of 2 EPA grants
- In the process of developing webpage product

Miscellaneous

Elections – Vote moved to October meeting

Membership – Dave Duree

- Members need to get alternates in order to avoid not have a quorum
- Submit resumes for prospective alternates to Chris, Dave and Victoria

Open Meetings – Victoria Woodward

- Complainant filed another letter in response to the Department's response
- Department followed up with a response to that letter
- Decision has not come down yet

Sludge Regulations

- Meeting in late August
- Ed Dexter will get date to SWQAC
- Cannot be officially on committee, but can attend meetings

Next Agenda

- Richard Hall, Secretary of Planning – overview of growth trends
- Ed Dexter – Update on sludge regulations
- Herb Sachs – Governor's Advisory Committee final report

Meeting Adjourned 12:45 p.m.