

SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MAY 9, 2013

The meeting was opened at 7:32 p.m. by Chairman Butz. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 of 1975, as amended, and notice has been forwarded to the newspapers and posted on the bulletin board maintained at the Sussex County Administrative Center for public announcement.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Landrith, Andover Borough
Ruth Rhodes, Byram Township
Jeffrey Butz, Chairman, Fredon Township
Dave Hansen, Alternate, Hampton Township
Carrine Kaufer, Hardyston Township
Howard Baker, Hopatcong Borough
David Muscalo, Lafayette Township
Paul Baldwin, Town of Newton
James Benson, Stanhope Borough
Lisa Chammings, Stillwater Township
Richard Gottemoller, At-Large
Kathy Little, At-Large
Eleanor Mensonides, Vice Chair, At-Large
John Nugent, At-Large

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Joe Pinzone, Sandyston Township
Eric Powell, Sparta Township
Annette Stendor, Sussex Borough

STAFF MEMBERS: Alice Brees, Principal Planner
Antoinette Wasiewicz, Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: None

MINUTES CORRECTION/APPROVAL:

Minutes were not available.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Alice Brees reviewed the correspondence listed on the attached sheet and answered questions on Correspondence Numbers Three and Four.

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Alice Brees reported that PAC will be seeing another WMP Amendment for a project in Roxbury Township. Sussex County has jurisdiction as a designated Water Quality Management Agency over four towns in Morris County. One lot is being added to the MSA's sewer service area.

As notified in an e-mail, the field trip to see the Food 2 Water demonstration was postponed, and will be rescheduled. Ms. Brees reported that Frank Florio from Food 2 Water will make a presentation before PAC at the June meeting.

Ms. Brees also reported that Nathaniel Sajdak will do a presentation at the July PAC meeting on the stream restoration project along the Paulins Kill in Lafayette.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. **FINAL ADOPTION PROCESS FOR COUNTY FUTURE SEWER SERVICE AREA MAP:**

Alice Brees displayed the final version of the County Future Sewer Service Area map. She said it is not too much different from the last version. There were no new lots coming in or out of the sewer service area.

There were some minor corrections made in response to comments. The legend for Vernon was changed to show that it is served by both types of DEP permits: Discharge to Surface Water and Discharge to Ground Water. This was made a separate category on the map. Byram Township sent in a comment because they received approval last year as a Highlands conforming municipality. They wanted to make sure that was shown on the map. There is now a new footnote on the bottom of the map showing that Byram Township has a conforming wastewater plan. DEP permit numbers were added where available for some new permits and NJPDES permits that were issued. The four towns in Morris County are now labeled.

The sewer service area map will receive final approval from the Freeholders at their meeting on May 22. When DEP receives the Freeholder Resolution, they will issue their final approval letter within a month or so. This will then be published in the New Jersey Register. After that, the text portion of the plan will be worked on. The County is using a DEP template for this document.

B. WATERSHED UPDATES: UPPER DELAWARE, WALLKILL:

Jeffrey Butz reported that the Upper Delaware Watershed group is looking at the proposed National Blueway Designation for the Delaware River to offer their help and support.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. PROPOSED NATIONAL BLUEWAY DESIGNATION FOR DELAWARE RIVER WATERSHED:

Alice Brees said the National Blueway Designation System was established by the U.S. Department of the Interior last year to recognize larger river systems conserved with stakeholder partnerships. Some of the agencies involved are the Nature Conservancy and New Jersey Audubon. Ms. Brees said there is a presentation available and if PAC is interested, she can ask Eric Olsen from the Nature Conservancy to talk to PAC. There was some discussion on possible effects to property owners. Ms. Mensonides said PAC members can direct these concerns to Eric Olsen at the presentation.

Jeffrey Butz said Bear Brook Golf Course in Fredon Township has not been used as a golf course for more than three years. DEP sent them a letter advising that they would need to get DEP approval to reopen as a golf course. When the sewer treatment plant was approved for the housing units that are part of the Country Club/Golf Course area, the effluent from the sewer treatment plant was designated to be used to water the fairways. The fairways have not been cut or watered for almost three years. Mr. Butz questioned where the effluent is being sent. Is it being pumped to a disposal site or is it being discharged somewhere? He would like this item to be put on next month's agenda as "Unfinished Business." Eleanor Mensonides asked Alice to find out where the effluent is being discharged.

Lisa Chammings said Fairview Lake Camps in Stillwater is redoing their Minnisink Lodge and there was talk about the need for a NJPDES permit. She asked Ms. Brees if she has seen anything about that yet. Ms. Brees said she believes they do have a NJPDES permit. Ms. Chammings asked her to e-mail her any information she has on this.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eleanor Mensonides. The motion was seconded by Howard Baker and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.