

SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

JUNE 13, 2013

The meeting was opened at 7:35 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
Troy Orr, Branchville Borough
Jeffrey Butz, Vice-Chairman, Fredon Township
Carrine Kaufer, Hardyston Township
David Muscalo, Lafayette Township
Joe Pinzone, Sandyston Township
Annette Stendor, Sussex Borough
Michael Furrey, Vernon Township
Denise Webb, Wantage Township
Richard Gottemoller, At-Large
Kathy Little, At-Large
John Nugent, At-Large
Dennis Mudrick, Freeholder Liaison

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Eric Powell, Sparta Township
Eleanor Mensonides, At-Large
Howard Baker, Hopatcong Borough

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

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Florio, Food 2 Water
Mark Florio, Food 2 Water

MINUTES CORRECTION/APPROVAL:

A motion was made by David Muscalo to approve the Minutes of April 11, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by John Nugent. All were in favor, with abstentions from Troy Orr, Carrine Kaufer, Annette Stendor and Michael Furrey. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Carrine Kaufer to approve the Minutes of May 9, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by David Muscalo. All were in favor, with abstentions from Troy Orr, Joe Pinzone, Annette Stendor, Michael Furrey and Denise Webb. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Alice Brees reviewed the correspondence listed on the attached sheet.

A motion was made by Jim Landrith to amend the Agenda to New Business, A. The motion was seconded by Joe Pinzone and carried unanimously.

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Alice Brees said there is a possible plan amendment in Roxbury. There are one or two lots to be added to the MSA sewer service area.

For the Frankford sewer area at Ross' Corner, there will be a Memorandum of Understanding between DEP and Frankford relating to habitat for Savannah Sparrow, a Threatened/ Endangered Species. It was not designated as critical habitat on DEP Landscape maps, just potentially suitable habitat. Even if it is not documented that the Savannah Sparrow was actually there, DEP required Frankford to have a Memorandum of Understanding saying that they will be managing 19 acres elsewhere in Frankford as grassland habitat for Savannah Sparrow. This is an issue that may come up in the future for other towns if they want to add on sewer service areas in potential habitat areas.

Ms. Brees said now that the County has the approved sewer map, DEP said the Martin property in Fredon is no longer consistent with the County wastewater map and DEP cannot issue a final NJPDES Permit. Mac Blair, Aqueonics has been applying for the NJPDES on that property for Phase I, up to 20,000 gallons per day. It looks like Mr. Martin will be starting the process all over again and will have to come before PAC.

Alice Brees said she called the DEP Northern Enforcement office and is waiting to hear from Chris Kaushold, staff that inspected Bear Brook Golf Course. She will keep PAC up-to-date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. DEP APPROVAL FOR COUNTY FUTURE SEWER SERVICE AREA MAP:

Alice Brees said the County sewer map is finally approved and the text part of the County Wastewater Management Plan has already been started. She said she is using the DEP template from their website. A section of the draft wastewater plan should be ready for the next meeting. As part of the wastewater plan, County Planning will be working with DEP to do the build-out analysis. They want to run the Nitrate Dilution Model to check results by HUC-11 Watershed. For areas served by septic systems: under future build-out with new septic systems added, ground water quality should not exceed 2 milligrams per liter standard for nitrate. For sewer service areas: the DEP build-out model would compare the projected wastewater flow in the future sewer service area to the permitted capacity for the wastewater treatment facility.

B. WATERSHED UPDATES: UPPER DELAWARE, WALLKILL:

Chairman Butz reported that the Paulins Kill Pequest Watershed Association hired someone to write a flyer regarding hydro-fracking.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. FOOD 2 WATER PRESENTATION:

Frank Florio said he made a presentation before the SWAC about six months ago. He said this technology is a machine that liquefies all food waste into water within 24 hours. This includes anything from produce to bone and everything in between. This occurs through the use of a natural, plant-derived, micro-organism that mixes in with the food and water and liquefies any food it comes in contact with and goes down the drain. Mr. Florio said this water has been tested by a lab many times and it "passed with flying colors."

Mark Florio said their technology benefits the business owner by saving them from the costs of removing the food waste. It also keeps this waste out of the landfills. Since the food waste is contained in an enclosed environment indoors, the problems of outdoor containers attracting insects and rodents are eliminated. Currently, in some northern states (Massachusetts and Vermont,) there are some new mandates coming that will require business owners to minimize or eliminating all food waste going into commercial containers and landfills.

Frank Florio said business owners can save 40-70% of hauling fees. Beth Israel Hospital in Newark is using this technology. They typically spent \$10,000.00 monthly and their hauling cost is now \$3,000.00. Mr. Florio said this technology has been in use for about seven years in Asia.

David Muscalo asked about the water testing. Mr. Florio said the water was tested for all types of metals, among other things. The effluent is basically protein-enriched water. The water can be used for agricultural purposes and they hope to use it as a

fertilizer in the future. Mr. Muscalo asked how the food is broken up. Mr. Florio said the inside of the machine has slowly moving paddles that mix the food with the water and enzymes which liquefies the food. The machine runs 24 hours a day. When asked if the machine will dissolve bone or fish scales, Mr. Florio said yes and a T-bone steak will be dissolved within 12 hours. The resulting water is grey water. When asked, Mr. Florio said the water can be discharged to a sewerage treatment plant and that they do not need permission from the utility to do so. This technology is currently being used in hospitals, nursing homes, supermarkets and universities. Alice Brees requested water testing results.

Mr. Florio said a South Korean company developed this process and that he has sole distribution rights to sell the product in the United States. Eco Labs is their service department. They repair and service the machines. The enzymes must be replaced once every six months. They currently have five different size machines which can be purchased outright or rented. The only costs to operate it are for about 20 gallons of cold water per day and 250 kilowatts of electricity per month. The enzymes will cost about \$1,000.00 per year but since they are a start-up company, they are currently including the enzymes for the lifetime of the machine. Mr. Florio said the machine is designed to dissolve food but if a foreign object, such as a ladle, gets put into it; it will not stop the machine. At the 3-month service visit, the object will be removed.

When asked about odors, Mark Florio said there are no odors because there are neutralizers in the enzymes which stabilize the odor. Also, since the food is broken down within 24 hours, it does not give it time to produce odor. He added that typically the food is put into a bin and once it is filled, the bin is emptied into the machine. When asked about gasses and vapors, Frank Florio said there are none. Mark Florio said the food is dissolved within a 24 hour period so the food does not get to the levels that would allow for methane gas to become a problem. Frank Florio said it is anaerobic as compared to aerobic and it doesn't give the food enough time to produce methane gasses. He added that both the water and air are tested.

John Nugent said that matter cannot be created or destroyed, it can only be changed. The fats, oils and grease that are in the food are going to the sanitary sewer and put loading on the treatment plant. Mark Florio said it does sound impossible but that the machine does dissolve the food into water and that the only way it can be proved is through lab results. Professionals, environmentalists and consultants have examined the machine. He added that there have also been tests done on the sewerage systems. The machine was not designed to have oil poured into the machine but the grease that is on the food, such as from a piece of steak, it can handle. Frank Florio said he will send Alice Brees some lab data. Ms. Brees said she will e-mail any reports she receives to PAC. Chairman Butz asked that this be put on next month's agenda under Old Business.

Troy Orr, Branchville Council said he has been reading in the Minutes about PAC's discussions on attendance. He said he feels the issues PAC deals with are complicated and that the knowledge the other members have on these issues does not compare to his knowledge. Also, he will only be on Council for six more months. He suggested that may be the reason why representatives don't attend the meetings. Chairman Butz said

he is the representative from Fredon and that he is not on the Fredon Town Council. This is the first position he was assigned to by Fredon and that he enjoys coming to the meetings. He does not work in the field but has picked up quite a bit of information and knowledge by attending the meetings. He reports what he learns back to the town. Jim Landrith said this group is an Advisory Committee to the Freeholder Board. John Nugent said this Committee gives people a chance to speak on behalf of their town. David Muscalo said the representatives do not have knowledge of all the issues PAC deals with, but by coming to the meetings over a period of time they learn. Mr. Orr said he did not volunteer to be the PAC representative, it was assigned to him. He suggested that it would be helpful to new members to get an explanation of what PAC is all about. Chairman Butz said there are many Counties in New Jersey that do not have a Water Quality Policy Advisory Committee and DEP makes all the decisions for those Counties. There were many mistakes on the Sussex County map that had to be pointed out to DEP. Denise Webb said that there have been numerous presentations by Consulting firms before this Committee and because of the input from the members, the Committee has received additional data that might not have been provided otherwise. The goal is to protect Sussex County watersheds from pollution.

There was some discussion on ways to familiarize new members with PAC's role, such as an orientation meeting, informational packets, etc.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Little. The motion was seconded by Jim Landrith and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.