



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER
BASIN COMMISSION

4423 N. Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17110-1788 | 717.238.0423 | srbc.net

NY ■ PA ■ MD ■ USA

April 12, 2021

TO ALL CONCERNED:

At the March 12, 2021, Commission meeting, the draft minutes of the December 11, 2020, Commission meeting were approved as written. Please attach this notice to your copy of the December 11, 2020, minutes.

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
4423 N. FRONT ST.
HARRISBURG, PA 17110

**MINUTES OF THE
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
March 12, 2021
#2021-01**

The meeting was held at the Susquehanna River Basin Commission in Harrisburg, Pa. Commission Chair Dorsey called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.*

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present

Dr. Suzanne Dorsey, Assistant Secretary, Maryland Dept. of the Environment (MDE) via conference call
Ms. Aneca Atkinson, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) via conference call
COL John T. Litz, District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District via conference call
Mr. James Tierney, Deputy Commissioner, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) via conference call

Alternate Commissioners Present

Mr. Saeid Kasraei, Program Administrator, Water Supply Program (MDE) via conference call

Staff Present

Mr. Andrew D. Dehoff, Executive Director
Mr. Andrew J. Gavin, Deputy Executive Director
Ms. Marcia Hutchinson, Director, Administration & Finance
Mr. Jason Oyler, General Counsel and Secretary
Mr. Gene Venio, Director, Governmental Affairs & Public Advocacy
Mr. John W. Balay, Manager, Planning & Operations

Mr. Todd D. Eaby, Manager, Project Review
Mr. Brydon Lidle, Manager, Information Technology
Mr. Jamie Shallenberger, Manager, Monitoring and Protection
Mr. Curtis Sebastian, Assistant Counsel

* The Commission is aware that the public lost audio connectivity to the meeting and connectivity was restored at 9:18 a.m., which was during Item 2 on the agenda, the Executive Director's Report.

Also Present

Mr. Matthew Marko, NYSDEC, Director, Region 7
via conference call

Ms. Valerie Cappola, USACE, North Atlantic
Division via conference call

Ms. Summer Kunkel, PADEP, Acting Director of
Water Resources Planning via conference call

Ms. Rhonda Manning, PADEP, River Basin
Program Coordinator via conference call

Anastasiya Kononova, USACE, Baltimore District
via conference call

1. Opening Remarks

Commission Chair Dorsey opened the meeting by outlining the rules of conduct for the meeting. She noted that a public hearing was previously held on November 5, 2020 and the written comment period was open until November 18, 2020. The Commissioners introduced themselves.

2. Executive Director's Report

Andrew Dehoff, Executive Director, provided some timely updates and other information pertinent to Commission operations and the business meeting agenda. Items included acknowledgement of 10 years of Continuous Instream Monitoring in the basin and future refinements, observation of the Commission's 50th anniversary, a proposed update to the basin's Comprehensive Plan and the expected focus areas, recent academic collaboration on climate change, operations under COVID, and recent hydrologic conditions.

3. Minutes of December 11, 2020, Commission Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner Atkinson, seconded by Commissioner Tierney the minutes of the regular business meeting of December 11, 2020, were approved as written by a vote of 4-0.

4. Proposed Rulemaking

Secretary of the Commission and General Counsel sought approval to release a proposed rulemaking for public comment. The proposal provides for changes to the rules related to grandfathered projects and the loss of grandfathering, groundwater withdrawals, and other rules.

By motion of Commissioner Tierney, seconded by Commission Atkinson, the vote to approve the release was unanimous.

5. Contracts and Grants

Ms. Hutchinson presented the following requests:

a. Interagency Agreement: Juniata River Flood Study (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has requested Commission assistance with data collection to support a FEMA flood study in the Juniata river basin in Pennsylvania. Commission staff will collect channel elevation data at up to 500 locations using a combination of RealTime

Kinematic and acoustic Doppler survey techniques. The study will provide updated hydrology and hydraulics for up to 500 cross sections along the mainstem Juniata River and tributaries.

An updated and cutting-edge hydraulic model will support development of new regulatory mapping and facilitate implementation of appropriate risk reduction measures to bolster community preparedness and resiliency in the face of changing climatic conditions and the associated increased flood risk. USACE will provide the total budget of \$92,000.

b. Early Warning System Enhancement – Spill Response (Harrisburg University)

Millions rely on surface water sources throughout the Susquehanna River Basin to meet potable demands for community health, welfare, and economics, but pollutant spills jeopardize this basic resource. Commission staff will collaborate with Harrisburg University to develop an improved spill tracking tool that is integral to the Susquehanna Basin’s Early Warning System.

Drawing upon existing sources of real-time river and streamflow data, and meteorological data, SRBC staff in partnership with Harrisburg University will develop a simpler and more spatially-precise user interface that’s underlain by machine-learning algorithms for more accurate predictions of pollutant time-of-travel.

Emergency response coordination efforts will be boosted by a dashboard that is simpler than the existing interface, allows more exacting entry of spill location information, and joins with advanced computational processes tied to real-time data. Harrisburg University will provide \$20,000 and the Commission will provide \$50,000.

c. Kehm Run Dam Removal Project (American Rivers)

The Kehm Run Dam Removal Project (the Project), is located in York Township, York County. The Project is currently managed by American Rivers, and involves completing the removal of an existing earthen dam, concrete spillway, and concrete weir. American Rivers completed Phase 1 of the project using funds provided by a Pennsylvania growing greener grant, and is seeking funding for completion of Phase 2 from the Commission. Funding for Phase 3 will be sought at a later date.

Phase 1 of the Project, which was completed in 2020, included breaching and draining the lake and removing the concrete weir. Phase 2 of the project includes dam removal and site stabilization. Phase 3 will include wetlands restoration and will address a stormwater deficiency.

Removing an unwanted dam restores river habitat and allows fish and wildlife to access crucial river habitats when needed throughout their life cycle. As the climate changes, river habitat conditions will also change, and fish and wildlife movements may need to change in response. Removing dams allows fish and wildlife to access the habitats they need as conditions change.

This project will eliminate one physical barrier on Kehm Run; restore free flowing conditions to approximately 1,200 feet of stream or 2,400 feet of stream bank; stabilize the streambank associated with the impoundment and accumulated sediment in the former impoundment; promote the re-emergence of natural wetlands (approximately 1 to 1.5 acres); and establish forested riparian buffer (approximately 5 acres; no less than 50 feet in width).

This Project is compatible with Section VI.D. of the *Consumptive Use Mitigation Policy*, specifically the goals considered under *Restoration of Wetlands and Naturally Flowing Waterways* and *Installation of Retrofitted Stormwater BMPs*. the Commission will provide the total budget of \$200,000 from the Water Management Fund.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tierney and seconded by Commissioner Atkinson to separate Item “a” from the items above and conduct a separate vote. The agreement was approved by a vote of 3-0-1. The representative from the Federal Government, Commissioner Litz, abstained.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tierney and seconded by Commissioner Atkinson to approve the remaining two agreements. The agreements were approved unanimously.

6. Designation of Agent Resolution

Ms. Hutchinson continued by presenting Resolution 2021-01 designating the Executive Director as the agent authorized to execute all required forms and documents for purposes of obtaining financial assistance for the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tierney and seconded by Commissioner Litz to adopt Resolution 2021-01 (Exhibit A). The resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

7. Docket Actions

Mr. Eaby presented a staff memorandum containing details and recommendations regarding the following list of project applications:

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| 1. Beech Resources, LLC (Lycoming Creek)
Lycoming County, Pa. (Exhibit B1) | 7. Village of Sidney (Well 2-88) Delaware
County, N.Y. (Exhibit B5) |
| 2. Geneva Farm Golf Course, Harford
County, Md. | 8. SUEZ Water Pennsylvania, Inc. (Schooley
Well) Luzerne County, Pa. (Exhibit B6) |
| 3. Greenfield Township Municipal Authority,
Blair County, Pa. | 9. Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc. (Well 4)
Steuben County, N.Y. (Exhibit B7) |
| 4. Hastings Municipal Authority (Mine
Spring Well 1) Cambria County, Pa.
(Exhibit B2) | 10. Weaverland Valley Authority (Well 4)
Lancaster, Pa. |
| 5. Montgomery Water Authority (Well 3)
Lycoming County, Pa. (Exhibit B3) | 11. Lycoming County Recreation Authority
(Well 2) Lycoming County, Pa.
(Exhibit D9) |
| 6. Renovo Energy Center, LLC, Clinton
County, Pa. (Exhibit B4) | |
- Highlight** = tabled.

Commissioner Atkinson moved and Commissioner Tierney seconded a motion that the Commission adopt the recommendations of staff for the 11 project applications, three of which were tabled. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Atkinson moved and Commissioner Litz seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Chair Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.*

June 17, 2021
Date Adopted



Jason E. Oyler
Secretary to the Commission

* After adjournment, the Commission heard public testimony from Eric Epstein, Three Mile Island Alert, Inc.

