

Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance Meeting
South Lebanon Township Office
Monday, September 26, 2011
2:00 pm

Minutes

- I. **Welcome/Introductions** – Present: Mike Booth, Robin Getz, Karl Kerchner, Angie Foltz, Steve Sherk, John Brenner, Steph Harmon, Cheri Grumbine, Sheila Wartluft, Michael Schroeder, Rich Brandt, Marie Tribioli, Curtis Kulp, Mike Booth
- II. **Meeting Minutes** – A **motion** was made by Getz/Kulp to approve the August 24th meeting minutes as distributed. Motion carried.
- III. **Gil Hirschel** – Gil works for the Dauphin County Conservation District and County of Dauphin as the Resource Planner for the County Stormwater Management Program. He reviewed his responsibilities as it relates to the MS4 Permit compliance for the County. He circulated some sample copies of advertisements, posters, and newsletters that he uses to comply with some of the MCM requirements.

Gil stated that his program is fully funded by the County.

- IV. **LCCWA Mission Statement** – Two versions of a possible mission statement were presented. The first was the consensus of the group from the last meeting and the second was penned by Michael Schroeder:

“The Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance is a coalition of local agencies and stakeholders interested in the conservation, protection and enhancement of water resources for the people of Lebanon County.”

OR

“The Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance is a coalition of local government agencies and community organizations that formed in response to the urgent need for a county-wide coordinating body to protect, conserve, and enhance the water resources of Lebanon County. This urgency derives in part from an unfunded federal mandate called MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System), part of the 1987 Clean Water Act, intended in part to reduce the flow of pollutants into the Chesapeake Bay. It is the mission of the LCCWA to help to coordinate the efforts of local government agencies and community stakeholders to comply with federal regulations and mandates based on the Clean Water Act, and to do so in ways that protect, conserve, and enhance Lebanon County’s water resources.”

There was considerable group discussion regarding the proposed mission statements. Majority of the group felt the second version is too long, with a few attendees indicating the first does not contain enough information. It was decided that those

with ideas of how to merge the two options, send them to Kris Troup for final discussion and decision at the next meeting.

- V. **LCCWA logo** – Robin Getz circulated the revised LCCWA logo, which was developed by the Lebanon Daily News. “Drains to the Bay” logo will be added to the stormwater inlet. She will have a final version available for the next meeting.
- VI. **October 14th Phase II WIP Workshop w/DEP** – It was reported that this workshop is by invitation only. Steph Harmon and Karl Kerchner were both asked to attend this workshop. In addition, Roger Powl (Palmyra Borough), and John Brenner (West Lebanon Township) both received invitations to be Municipal representatives.
- VII. **MS4 Permit Renewal** – Steve Sherk summarized the information from a September 21st email from Kris Troup. Items to note:
- a. Expiration Date Extended-DEP is again extending the expiration date of the current PAG-13 permits to now expire at midnight on March 15, 2013.
 - b. Renewal Application Deadline-Federal regulations require that MS4 townships must submit to DEP a complete application for NPDES permit renewal by September 14, 2012.
 - c. Municipal Training Included-The Department is extending this permit to provide additional time for DEP and EPA Region III to undertake municipal outreach on the revised permit and to provide municipalities time to prepare their renewal permit applications and supporting information. Part of this municipal outreach will be a series of training workshops in early 2012. PSATS will inform you of the dates and locations of those meetings once they have been finalized.
 - d. MS4s in Chesapeake Bay Watershed-Of particular importance to those townships within the Chesapeake Bay watershed is the additional requirement to prepare a Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan if located in and discharging to receiving waters that drain to the Bay.
 - e. The Department is also increasing the filing fee for PAG-13 from \$100 to \$500, payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Clean Water Fund.
- VIII. **Other Business** – Angie Foltz reminded everyone to send her their Estimated Annual Costs of Municipality MS4 Program Chart. Two municipalities have responded so far. Steve Sherk indicated he is working on costs for about 5-6 municipalities.

John Brenner asked if the group could discuss at a future meeting the scope of participation/structure in the group (municipalities versus non-profits, paying versus non-paying members).

- IX. **Next Meeting** – A doodle survey will be sent to the group to schedule the next meeting. The next meeting will be hosted by South Lebanon Township.

Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance Meeting
South Lebanon Township Office
Monday, November 1, 2011
2:00 pm

Minutes

- I. Welcome/Introductions** – Present: Mike Booth, Robin Getz, Karl Kerchner, Steve Sherk, John Brenner, Steph Harmon, Cheri Grumbine, Sheila Wartluft, Marie Tribioli, Curtis Kulp, Mike Booth, Tony Matula, Kris Troup, JoEllen Litz, Jeff Whalen, Gordon Kirkessner
- II. Meeting Minutes** – A **motion** was made by Kulp/Harmon to approve the September 26, 2011 meeting minutes as distributed. Motion carried.
- III. LCCWA Mission Statement** – Three versions of a possible mission statement were presented. It was decided that a final determination on the mission statement needed to be made so that the group could move on to other issues. It was decided, by a majority vote of those present, that the LCCWA mission statement will be:
- “The mission of the Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance is to form a coalition of local agencies and interested stakeholders to partner together to conserve, protect and enhance the water resources for the people of Lebanon County.”*
- Robin Getz indicated that she would try to have the revised logo at the next meeting.
- IV. MS4 Cost Chart** – A copy of the MS4 cost chart, compiled by Angie Foltz, was shared with the group. Commissioner Litz indicated that she has shared this information with the PA County Commissioner’s Association. Gordon Kirkessner questioned whether or not the City’s cost estimate was received, since it did not appear on the chart. There was considerable discussion on this issue.
- V. LCCWA Structure** – Troup, Harmon and Kerchner suggested that the LCCWA form a steering committee containing a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary to assist with coordinating and running the meetings and to provide “back-up” if one person is not able to attend a scheduled meeting. Curt Kulp suggested that Troup be the Chairman, Harmon be the Vice Chairwoman and Angie Foltz be the Secretary. Hearing no objections, the steering committee was established, as presented.

Harmon, Kerchner and Troup also suggested limiting each municipality and/or organization to one vote a piece. This suggestion was not meant to limit participation or attendance, as everyone is encouraged to attend LCCWA meetings, but rather to provide equity during the voting process. There was considerable discussion on this topic. Commissioner Litz was concerned that this might limit the participation of

volunteer organizations. Gordon Kirkessner and John Brenner both expressed that only government agencies should have a vote. Steve Sherk indicated that we are presently making only policy decisions and he didn't see a reason that all meeting attendees shouldn't be able to vote. He continued by saying that if/when financial decisions need to be made, any municipal representative would need to have the approval of their governing municipal body before agreeing to spend funds. Curt Kulp questioned which municipalities are actually participating in the LCCWA. Sherk suggested that a letter be drafted and sent to each municipality requesting that the municipality draft a resolution committing to be a participating member (no financial commitment) of the LCCWA and requesting that they appoint an official delegate.

- VI. October 14th Phase II WIP Workshop w/DEP** – Harmon, Kerchner and Troup reported on the workshop. Copies of *“Reasonable Assurance and Pennsylvania’s Blueprint for Success”* were distributed to the group. This document is Pennsylvania’s description to EPA of how the state can/will meet its pollution reduction requirements to the Chesapeake Bay.

Also distributed to the group was the *“PA Chesapeake Watershed Implementation Plan – Lebanon County Planning Targets”*. This document provided specific pollution reductions, in the form of agricultural and urban/suburban BMP’s for 2010, 2017 and 2025. There was a lengthy discussion, by all present, regarding the legitimacy and accuracy of the BMP numbers identified for Lebanon County. Many of these numbers are difficult, if not impossible, to document. According to PA DEP, these planning targets are not regulatory at the County level. Everyone was asked to review the numbers provided and contact Andy Zemba at PA DEP if they felt any of the numbers were completely out of line. It was requested that a copy of any letters/emails sent to DEP also be sent to Kris Troup at County Planning so that he can keep a record of all comments from Lebanon County.

- VII. Other Business** – Robin Getz thanked Steph Harmon for her fantastic presentation at the Lebanon County Municipal Officials Convention.

- VIII. Next Meeting** – A doodle survey will be sent to the group to schedule the next meeting. It was suggested that the next meeting be held in early January 2012 since everyone is exceptionally busy between now and the end of the year with budget preparation and the holidays. The next meeting will again be hosted by South Lebanon Township.

- IX.** The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance Meeting
South Lebanon Township Office
Tuesday, January 24, 2012
2:00 pm

Minutes

- I. **Welcome/Introductions** – Present: Mike Booth, Steve Sherk, Steph Harmon, Curtis Kulp, JoEllen Litz, Jeff Whalen, Don Umberger, John Poff, Dean Patches, Jen Harding, Kris Troup
- II. **Meeting Minutes** – A **motion** was made by Kulp/Booth to approve the November 1, 2011 meeting minutes as distributed. Motion carried.
- III. **EPA Urban Waters Grant Program** – On December 14, 2011, Troup, Harmon and Angie Foltz viewed the EPA webinar explaining the Urban Waters Grant Program. Technically, there is no minimum grant amount, however, EPA recommends that grant proposals be between \$40,000 and \$60,000. Additionally, the administrative portion of the grant will be quite involved. It was determined that this particular grant program is not very well suited to assist with future LCCWA outreach/education initiatives.
- IV. **Joanne Throwe – University of Maryland** – In November 2011, Poff and Harmon attended an MS4 Workshop in Lancaster County, where they met Joanne Throwe who is the Director of the University of Maryland’s Environmental Finance Center. Ms. Throwe would be willing to provide a presentation for the LCCWA and local elected officials. She specializes in assisting new groups find some direction and also discusses funding sources. Commissioner Litz suggested including Ms. Throwe’s presentation in a future Commissioner’s Workshop; held every Wednesday afternoon at 1 pm. With Ms. Throwe’s presentation being approximately two hours in length, this may be too much for a Commissioner’s workshop. Poff is working with Ms. Throwe on some available dates in late February or early March.
- V. **PSATS MS4 Workshops** – The Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors is holding a series of MS4 workshops. Patches, Poff and Harding attended the PSATS workshop in Berks County on January 5th. They indicated that some of the EPA and DEP information seemed to be contradictory, and very few concrete answers were given to questions. Future PSATS workshops in the Lebanon area will be held in Lancaster on February 8th and Mechanicsburg on February 29th. There is no cost for the workshops, but pre-registration is required.
- VI. **Phase II Draft Watershed Implementation Plan** – the public comment period for the Phase II Draft Watershed Implementation Plan closes on January 30th. EPA’s formal comments on the Phase II Draft WIP are due by February 15th. The Final

Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan will be submitted to EPA on March 30, 2012.

- VII. Lower Susquehanna Center for Land & Water** – the Lower Susquehanna Center for Land & Water (LSCLW) is an organization formed by approximately thirty stakeholder groups to focus on water related issues in Dauphin, Lancaster and Lebanon Counties. The group completed a strategic plan in 2009, but has been dormant since that time. The leader of the group, Matt Royer, is now working for Penn State in Middletown and is re-vitalizing the LSCLW. Matt lives in Lebanon County (Mt. Gretna). Penn State will serve as the host organization for the LSCLW. Matt will be permitted to devote half of his time to LSCLW projects. He is also applying for a college intern to assist him with this effort during the summer of 2012. Going forward, the LSCLW could prove to be a valuable resource to the LCCWA.
- VIII. Chesapeake Commons** – Chesapeake Commons is a computer model, under development at Penn State, which would allow laypersons to enter BMP data in the field and the program would compute the amount of nutrient reduction to the Chesapeake Bay.
- IX. Other Business** – Steve Sherk brought a water testing kit that his firm recently purchased. The kit was purchased from Ben Meadows for approximately \$500.
- There was also considerable discussion about the difference between an MS4 TMDL Plan (to meet Waste load allocations) and a Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan and how these two required plans differ, but may overlap.
- X. Next Meeting** – A doodle survey will be sent to the group to schedule the next meeting. The plan is to attempt to coordinate the next LCCWA Meeting with Joanne Throwe’s presentation in late February or early March.
- XI.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 pm.