

CAPITAL REGION WATER BOARD (CRWB)
Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2009
Harrisburg Water Authority – Harrisburg, PA

The meeting was called to order at 1:05PM. Marshall thanked Chad Bingaman for once again hosting a meeting of the CRWB.

Paula Ballaron - SRBC
Chad Bingaman – City of Harrisburg Water Authority
Ed Carney – Dauphin County Planning Commission
Alex Chiarutinni – Stock and Leader
Marshall Goulding - CRWB
Jeff Hines – York Water Company
Steven Huntzinger – CET Engineering
Randy Hurst – Mette, Evans & Woodside
Walter Lyon - CRWB
Peter Robelen – GeoServices Ltd
Susan Boynton – CRWB Staff

TREASURER’S REPORT

Marshall reported the 2010 budget had been reworked based on input received from the CRWB Directors at the September business meeting. A figure of \$7,200 will be used instead of the original proposal of \$10,000. No indication has been received from United Water or PA American Water that they intend to pay past due membership dues or dues for 2010.

Motion/Second by: Ed Carney/Walter Lyon
Motion (Passed): To accept the 2010 fiscal year budget of \$7,200.

Marshall reported there will be a concerted effort made to include wastewater industry professionals in a membership drive being worked on. The CRWB brochure has been updated and will be included in the membership drive mailing. Randy Hurst asked if wastewater discharger entities dues would be calculated the same as would be for water companies. Alex Chiarutinni noted that there may be a conflict between water and wastewater policies/initiatives and that more discussion should be held on value of bringing in wastewater dischargers as members.

Marshall reported on the IRS’s reclassification of the CRWB to a Foundation. He noted that he contacted the IRS to describe the purpose of and services provided by the CRWB and subsequently received a letter from the IRS indicating a positive outlook for returning to a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Final determination on returning CRWB’s status would be given after IRS Form 8734 was received and processed.

Marshall Goulding needed to leave the meeting; Peter Robelen, Vice-Chair assumed facilitation of the meeting.

Minutes of the September 23, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved with one spelling correction. Peter Robelen requested comments on or approval of the minutes of the September 23, 2009 meeting. Chad Bingaman requested a spelling correction to his last name and to correct his employer to Harrisburg Water Authority.

Motion/Second by: Paula Ballaron/Ed Carney
Motion (Passed): To approve the September 23, 2009 meeting minutes with corrections as noted.

Ed Carney reported he attended a State Water Planning meeting at which the PA DEP gave a presentation. Part of the presentation included issues surrounding marcellous shale. A general discussion began regarding marcellous shale and the State Water Plan and critical water areas. Steve Huntzinger indicated a total of 139 staff would be leaving the PA DEP due to budget cuts or retirements.

Previously, the CRWB had testified before the Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee regarding substantive issues relevant to PA's citizenry. Thought was given to issuing a statement on the State Water Plan. Walter Lyon suggested that prior to the CRWB issuing another position statement, that the previous testimony be reviewed and determined to be adequate or in need of revisions. Randy Hurst suggested this topic would be appropriate for an educational event. The Board agreed that the January meeting will be a single issue meeting focusing on implementation of the State Water Plan. The Board will look specifically at the Lower Susquehanna Regional Committee's recommendations, identify issues raised by the Committee, and evaluate the Board's role(s) as they relate to implementation of the recommendations. Providing leadership and guidance related to implementation of the recommendations of the State Water Plan can assist CRWB in reassessment of its mission, provide an additional tool for recruitment of new members, and may provide a foundation for future CRWB-sponsored conferences or workshops.

Randy Hurst has agreed to outline the primary conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Committee so that we can use them as a springboard for discussion at the January meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Paula Ballaron reported the Commission is off cycle and there was nothing new to report on the Basin.

Paula reported the Groundwater Committee's ideas was to provide a map of regions and include all public water supply entities; identify critical water supply areas; consumptive water users; and major industrial users. Paula was also going to supply a list of pending SRBC applications.

Alex Chiarutinni reported she had talked to over 23 attorneys regarding development of a land/water model code; the idea was also presented to the Environmental Council of the Pennsylvania Bar). Everyone contacted had indicated they had no interest in working on developing a land/water model code noting they thought the system was fine as is or that the project was too major an initiative and unable to devote sufficient time to the project.

Walter Lyon reviewed a proposed Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy workshop. The consensus of those present indicated that the topic was valid, but that nutrients was not a public interest topic and that having a workshop would only serve to stall the movement and possibly cause heated arguments. In addition, no funding exists for litigation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jeff Hines indicated he would report on the status of the membership brochure revision at the January meeting.

The next CRWB meeting will be held on January 20, 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15PM.