

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting

March 14, 2022 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – DRAFT Minutes

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Staff Liaison Miranda Reid, DEP (miranda.reid@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation	
	Yes	No		
Ken Bawer, Public-at-Large	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cherie Schultz, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin 	
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	X			
Bob Buglass, Public Agency, WSSC	X			
Michael Carmel, Public-at-Large	X			
Andrew Der, Public-at-Large		X		
El Hadji Fall, Academic/Scientific		X		
Michael McAvey, Public-at-Large	X			
Pamela Rathbone, Co-Chair, Public-at-Large	X			
Miranda Reid, DEP	X			
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific	X			
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X			
Tim Stemann, Business	X			
Amy Stevens, Public Agency, DEP	X			
Mark Symborski, Public Agency, MNCPPC	X			
Allison Wright, Environmental	X			

Agenda Item	Major Points
I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair Tracy Rouleau.
II. Reading and approval of the minutes.	Minutes of the February 7, 2022 were presented. Linda Silversmith made a motion to approve the minutes and Keith Brooks seconded. The minutes were approved as written.
III. New Business.	<p data-bbox="618 720 1427 760"><u>a. Water Supply Report</u></p> <ul data-bbox="618 810 1427 1875" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="618 810 1427 1018">• Cherie Schultz the Director of the Cooperative Operations on the Potomac (Co-Op), Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB), gave an overview of the 2020 Water Supply Report in the Metropolitan Washington area.<li data-bbox="618 1068 1427 1276">• The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin is an interstate compact commission addressing water supply and water quality issues in the Potomac River basin. The Commission has no regulatory powers.<li data-bbox="618 1327 1427 1535">• In the 1960's and 1970's, there were concerns about the water supply for DC and its surrounding jurisdictions, In 1966, the Potomac River had a historic low flow of 400 million gallons per day (mgd).<li data-bbox="618 1585 1427 1875">• In the 1960's, there were forecasts of water shortages in the DC area and the Corps of Engineers proposed 16 major dams in the Potomac basin. Only one was built in western Maryland and West Virginia – the Jennings Randolph Dam. It takes 9 days for water released from this dam to reach the metropolitan area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1978, a Low Flow Allocation Agreement was signed by the local jurisdictions and the federal government requiring an environmental flow-by of 100 mgd.• In 1982, a Water Supply Coordination Agreement was signed by the water suppliers – Washington Aqueduct, WSSC and Fairfax County Water Authority. Technical and administrative support to be provided by a special section of the ICPRB.• In Montgomery County, the Little Seneca Reservoir was built by WSSC. WSSC also has reservoirs on the Patuxent River and Fairfax County has a reservoir on the Occoquan River.• The Potomac River supplies 78% of the region’s water supply. ICPRB issues a Washington Metropolitan Area water supply study every five years.• Recent demand models indicate that water demand has dramatically been reduced since the 1960 forecasts. Demand has been flat since 1990. Population has increased, but demand has dropped. Demand has dropped due to water saving appliances and fixtures since the 1970’s.• It is expected that due to climate change, extreme droughts and floods will increase.• The 2020 Water Supply Report included four options – (1) Baseline; (2) Baseline plus operational changes; (3) Baseline plus operational changes plus the Travilah Quarry reservoir in Montgomery
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	<p>County and (4) Baseline, operational changes plus Travilah plus a Loudon County reservoir.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed Travilah Quarry reservoir would store river water (9 billion gallon capacity) and not ground water. • The sediment at Little Seneca Reservoir has not been as bad as originally anticipated. <p><u>b. WQAG Annual Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pamela Rathbone has completed the WQAG Annual Report. It will be submitted to the County Executive and the County Council in the next week. <p><u>c. Draft Stream Restoration Sub-committee Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracy Rouleau said the draft will be forwarded to all members of the WQAG for review in the next week or two. Discussion at the April WQAG meeting. Topics included: (1) types of stream restoration; (2) communications; (3) performance and evaluation and (4) engagement of private sector.
<p>IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>V. Reports of Special Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VI. Special Orders.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.</p>	<p>a. Update Priority Speaker Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miranda Reid will schedule Alan Soukup of DEP to discuss the Water & Sewer Plan update once it has been released.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DEP to discuss climate change impact on water quality and quantity in Montgomery County.
VIII. Adjournment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next meeting is set for April 11 2022.• The next notetaker, in alphabetic order, will be Mike Carmel• The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

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