



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER  
BASIN COMMISSION

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NY ■ PA ■ MD ■ USA

September 19, 2023

TO ALL CONCERNED:

At the September 14, 2023, Commission meeting, the draft minutes of the June 15, 2023, Commission meeting minutes were approved as written. Please attach this notice to your copy of the June 15, 2023, minutes.

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

**MINUTES OF THE  
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION  
September 14, 2023  
#2023-03**

The meeting was held at the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Commission Chair Buchheister called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present**

*Ms. Bevin Buchheister*, Acting Deputy Secretary, Water Programs, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)

*Ms. Suzanne Dorsey*, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

*COL Estee S. Pinchasin*, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (USACE) Baltimore District via Zoom

*Ms. Lauren Townley*, Chief, Watershed Management and Planning Section, New York State Department of the Environment

**Other Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners Present**

*Ms. Sue Weaver*, Program Manager, Compacts & Commissions Support (PADEP) via Zoom

*Mr. Matthew Rowe*, Asst. Director, Water & Science Administration, MDE via Zoom

*Ms. Amy Guise*, Chief, Planning Division, USACE via Zoom

**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 Veno*, Director, Governmental Affairs & Public Advocacy via Zoom

*Mr. John W. Balay*, Manager, Planning & Operations

*Mr. Jamie Shallenberger*, Manager, Monitoring & Protection

*Mr. Todd D. Eaby*, Manager, Project Review

*Mr. Brydon H. Lidle, III*, Manager, Information Technology

*Mr. Curtis Sebastian*, Assistant Counsel

*Ms. Stacey Hanrahan*, Communications and Outreach Specialist

**1. Opening Remarks**

Chair Buchheister formally opened the meeting by outlining the rules of conduct for the meeting. She noted that a public hearing was previously held on August 10, 2023, and the written comment period was open until August 21, 2023. The Commissioners introduced themselves.

## **2. Executive Director's Report**

Andrew Dehoff, Executive Director, welcomed Ms. Buchheister as a newly appointed Alternate Commissioner representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Dehoff provided an overview of accomplishments over the past ten years, highlighting water use management and data efforts, a leadership role in improving water quality, improved drought and flood resilience for basin communities, and work to improve the natural functions of regional watersheds. He also announced two current solicitations for beneficial project proposals aimed at improving and restoring watersheds and water quality to benefit local waters and the Chesapeake Bay.

## **3. Hydrologic Conditions Report**

Manager of Planning and Operations John Balay provided an update on hydrologic conditions in the Susquehanna River Basin during the last quarter.

## **4. Minutes of June 15, 2023, Commission Meeting**

On a motion by Commissioner Townley, seconded by Commissioner Dorsey, the minutes of the regular business meeting of June 15, 2023, were unanimously approved as written.

## **5. Expense Budget for FY2025**

Director of Administration and Finance Marcia Hutchinson presented Resolution 2023-05 (Exhibit A) adopting the proposed budget for FY2025, which will cover the period July 1, 2024, to June 20, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Townley, seconded by Commissioner Dorsey, the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

## **6. Member Allocation for FY2025**

Ms. Hutchinson presented Resolution 2023-06 (Exhibit B) apportioning among the signatory parties the amounts required to support the Expense Budget for FY2025, which will cover the period from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

By motion of Commissioner Townley, seconded by Commissioner Dorsey, Resolution 2023-06 was unanimously adopted.

## **7. Contracts and Grants**

Ms. Hutchinson presented three grant agreements and one grant amendment to be ratified.

### **a. Grant Agreement: Water Quality Protection and Pollution Prevention (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA))**

Through this grant, staff will work to identify aquatic resources that need protection or restoration and coordinate with member state agencies on similar water management efforts aligned with the Clean Water Action Section 106 program. On-the-

ground activities within the Basin include assessing and studying small stream and large river systems, ongoing eel restoration efforts, dam removal impacts, abandoned mine restoration successes, and harmful algal bloom monitoring tools. USEPA will provide \$720,330.00 and SRBC will provide \$47,847.00.

**b. Grant Agreement: Hawk Run (Moshannon Creek/Osceola Mills Treatment Plant) Development Project Grant (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation )**

Due to its pollution impairment, Moshannon Creek's abandoned mine drainage restoration has always been considered unattainable. It is compounded by significant legacy coal and clay mining impacts broadly dispersed throughout nearly half of the watershed area. This view began to change in 2020 when the Commission and Moshannon Creek Watershed Association completed a watershed assessment considering the entire Moshannon Creek Watershed.

The project will identify discharges to convey to a centralized treatment plant site near the Borough of Osceola Mills, and will include a proposed location and estimated costs for design and construction of a treatment plant. PADEP will supply the total cost of \$148,665.00 for this project.

**c. Grant Amendment: Monitoring, Assessment, and TMDL Support and Development (PADEP)**

The Commission will implement PADEP's chemical, physical, and biological data collection protocols and quality assurance project plan (QAPP) at nine of the Commission's continuous instream monitoring stations beginning April 1, 2024, and continuing through November 20, 2024.

Data collection for continuous physicochemical data, in-situ field meter chemistry data, discrete water chemistry data, and wadeable riffle-run stream macroinvertebrate data will be performed and provided to PADEP. PADEP will supply the total cost of \$180,000.

**d. Grant Agreement: Southern Tier New York Susquehanna Basin Monitoring Collaborative (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation)**

The Commission will lead the Southern Tier New York Susquehanna Basin Monitoring Collaborative (Collaborative). The main goal of the Collaborative is to build a regional surface water quality monitoring coordinating body. Other members of the Collaborative include the Southern Tier Central and Southern Tier 8 regional planning boards, the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water.

The project will provide a strong, extensive baseline dataset from which to make trend determinations, which can be used to inform needed management decisions regarding changing climate conditions and any associated impact on the availability of water resources. This project will cost \$217,740.00, with NYSDEC providing \$136,734.00 and SRBC providing \$81,006.00.

## **8. Climate Change Resolution**

General Counsel Jason Oyler presented Resolution 2023-07 authorizing and empowering the Executive Director to undertake several actions regarding climate change.

A motion was made by Commissioner Townley and seconded by Commissioner Dorsey to adopt Resolution 2023-07 (Exhibit C), adopting procedures and plans to address a changing climate and enhance climate resiliency in programmatic and internal operations.

## **9. Artesian Water Maryland, Inc.**

Mr. Oyler presented Resolution 2023-08 (Exhibit D), allowing for a waiver of regulations for Artesian Water Maryland, Inc. and directing staff to continue to work on developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

A motion was made by Commissioner Townley and seconded by Commissioner Dorsey to adopt Resolution 2023-08. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

## **10. Settlement of Regulatory Violations – SWN Production Company, LLC**

Mr. Oyler presented a proposed settlement of regulatory violations from SWN Production Company, Inc. There were 30 violations detected across three projects. SRBC and the project sponsor agreed upon a fine of \$26,000.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Townley, seconded by Commissioner Dorsey, to accept this settlement offer. A unanimous vote ratified this agreement.

## 11. Docket Actions

Project Review Manager Todd Eaby presented a staff memorandum containing details and recommendations regarding the following list of project applications:

1. Bent Creek Country Club, Lancaster County, Pa.(Exhibit E1)
2. BKV Operating, LLC, Susquehanna County, Pa. (Exhibit E2)
3. Borough of Middletown, Dauphin County, Pa.
4. Coterra Energy, Inc., Wyoming County, Pa. (Exhibit E3)
5. Dillsburg Area Authority, York County, Pa. (Exhibit E4)
6. Eagle Lake Community Association, Lackawanna County, Pa. (Exhibit E5)
7. East Berlin Area Joint Authority, Adams County, Pa. (Exhibit E6)
8. East Cocalico Township Authority, Lancaster County, Pa. (Exhibit E7)
9. EQT ARO LLC, Lycoming County, Pa. (Exhibit E8)
10. Indian Hills Golf and Tennis Club, Northumberland County, Pa. (Exhibit E9)
11. Inflection Energy PA LLC, Lycoming County, Pa. (Exhibit E10)
12. Lucky Bear, Inc., Cumberland County, Pa.
13. Montgomery Water Authority, Lycoming, Pa. (Exhibit E11)
14. Nicholas Meat, LLC, Clinton County, Pa.
15. Repsol Oil & Gas USA, LLC, Bradford County, Pa. (Exhibit E12)
16. Repsol Oil & Gas USA, LLC, Bradford County, Pa. (Exhibit E13)
17. Seneca Resources Company, LLC, Tioga County, Pa. (Exhibit E14)
18. South Slope Development Corporation, Cortland County, N.Y. (Exhibit E15)
19. S.T.L. Resources, LLC, Potter County, Pa.(Exhibit E16)
20. T & C Mobile Home & Construction Service, LLC, Broome County, N.Y. (Exhibit E17)
21. Village of Hamilton, Madison County, N.Y. (Exhibit E18)
22. Village of Sidney, Delaware County, N.Y. (Exhibit E19)

Highlight = Tabled

Commissioner Townley moved, and Commissioner Dorsey seconded a motion that the Commission adopt the staff recommendations for the 22 project applications, including three tabled projects. The motion was approved unanimously.

## ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Townley moved, and Commissioner Dorsey seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Chair Buchheister adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

December 14, 2023

Date Adopted

Jason E. Oyler

Secretary to the Commission