



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER  
BASIN COMMISSION

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December 12, 2024

TO ALL CONCERNED:

At the December 12, 2024, Commission meeting, the draft minutes of the September 12, 2024, Commission meeting minutes were approved as written. Please attach this notice to your copy of the September 12, 2024 minutes.

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

**MINUTES OF THE  
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION  
September 12, 2024  
#2024-03**

The meeting was held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, 20 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland and Commission Chair Suzanne Dorsey called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present**

*Ms. Suzanne Dorsey*, Deputy Secretary, Maryland  
Department of the Environment (MDE)  
*COL Francis Pera*, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
(USACE) Baltimore District  
*Ms. Lauren Townley*, Chief, Watershed  
Management and Planning Section, New York State  
Department of the Environment via Zoom  
*Ms. Susan K. Weaver*, Program Manager,  
Interstate Water Resources Management  
Division , PADEP via Zoom

**Other Commissioners and Alternate  
Commissioners Present**

*Mr. Matthew Rowe*, MDE  
*Ms. Amy Guise*, USACE

**Staff Present**

*Mr. Andrew D. Dehoff*, Executive Director  
*Ms. Marcia Hutchinson*, Director Administration &  
Finance (via zoom)  
*Mr. Jason Oyler*, General Counsel and Secretary  
*Mr. John W. Balay*, Manager, Planning &  
Operations

*Mr. Todd D. Eaby*, Manager, Project Review  
*Mr. Brydon H. Lidle, III*, Manager, Information  
Technology  
*Mr. Jeremy Hoffman*, Manager, Compliance  
*Mr. Andrew Zerby*, Assistant Counsel  
*Ms. Stacey Hanrahan*, Communications and  
Outreach Specialist

**1. Opening Remarks**

Commission Chair Suzanne Dorsey formally opened the meeting by outlining the rules of conduct for the meeting. She noted that a public hearing was previously held on August 1, 2024, and the written comment period was open until August 12, 2024. The Commissioners introduced themselves.

**2. Executive Director's Report**

For the first report of the new fiscal year, Mr. Dehoff highlighted efforts for the coming year. In the midst of both dry periods and heavy rain, an ongoing focus is developing tools to both offer preparation and improved resiliency to droughts and floods. Another focus area is enhanced

water use and availability assessments, looking at potential water supply challenges and possible policy or technical measures that might be employed to enhance sustainability. On the monitoring front, staff is looking at both water quality and quantity monitoring and seeking to optimize data collection for coverage and utility for both internal programs and to enhance partner and stakeholder efforts. These efforts dovetail to address elements of drought and flood resiliency in our communities, to improve local waterways, and to contribute to Chesapeake Bay restoration, all under the umbrella of changing hydrologic conditions and environmental justice interests.

Mr. Dehoff announced the opening of year 2 of the Stream and Watershed Enhancement Grants, intended to support local organizations dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of local waterways. Eligibility extends to watershed groups, academic institutions, local governments and other non-profits, and the broad range of eligible activities include education, planning, water quality monitoring, debris management, and streambank efforts such as fencing and buffers. Eligible projects that offer an intersection between watershed support and engagement with Environmental Justice areas are given priority.

In closing, Mr. Dehoff welcomed Colonel Francis Pera to the SRBC team and expressed his eagerness to work together and continue the Commission's longstanding partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### **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 13, 2024 Commission Meeting**

On a motion by Commissioner Pera, seconded by Commissioner Susan Weaver, the minutes of the regular business meeting of June 13, 2024, were approved as written by a vote of 4-0.

### **5. Current Expense Budget for FY2026**

Manager of Administration and Finance Marcia Hutchinson presented Resolution 2024-06 adopting the proposed expense budget for FY2026, covering the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Marcia Hutchinson requested approval of Resolution 2024-06 which adopts the current expense budget for FY2026.

On a motion made by Commissioner Pera, seconded by Commissioner Townley, the Commission approved Resolution 2024-06 and was approved as written by a vote of 4-0.

### **6. Member Allocation for FY2026**

Manager of Administration and Finance Marcia Hutchinson presented the proposed member allocation needed to balance the budget for FY2026, which will cover the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Marcia Hutchinson requested approval of Resolution 2024-07 which adopts the member allocation for FY2026.

On a motion made by Commissioner Pera, seconded by Commissioner Townley, the Commission unanimously approved Resolution 2024-07 as written by a vote of 4-0.

## 7. Contracts & Grants

Manager of Administration and Finance Marcia Hutchinson presented the following grant amendments:

### a. **Grant Amendment: Chesapeake Bay Technical Assistance and Implementation Grant (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection)**

This grant amendment will extend assistance SRBC has been providing to PADEP in fulfilling its Chesapeake Bay Mid-Point Assessment tasks pursuant to its Bay restoration agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and its Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan. The amendment is for a one (1) year extension to the grant.

Staff will conduct model scenarios using the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST), analyze model output, and summarize findings to include evaluation of the probability for various strategic approaches to achieve Chesapeake Bay TMDL objectives. CAST model runs for counties and may be developed on an individual county basis or as regional groups.

SRBC will assist counties with updating CAST runs for two-year Countywide Action Plan Milestone progress reporting. Staff will also work with PADEP to develop and use county snapshots to summarize county progress, including current loads, planning targets, reduction progress, sector reductions, land use, and other data.

Staff will act as a technical advisor to PADEP by participating in a multitude of Bay issue-focused work groups, meetings, expert panels, and outreach activities and assisting with preparing materials and recommendations.

### b. **Grant Amendment: Water Quality Protection and Pollution Prevention Grant (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)**

Through this grant, staff work to identify aquatic resources that need protection or restoration and coordinate with member state agencies on similar water resource management efforts aligned with the Clean Water Action Section 106 program. On-the-ground activities within the Basin include assessments and studies of small stream and large river systems, ongoing eel restoration efforts, dam removal impacts, abandoned mine restoration successes, and harmful algal bloom monitoring tools. Water quality, biological, and habitat data collected as part of these activities are provided to member state agencies and USEPA. Staff also coordinate source water protection efforts with member state agencies, assist member state agencies with data collection, use existing data as a resource to bolster new initiatives, and analyze data for climate change signals. Commission staff also participate in resource-agency-sponsored programs, coalitions, working groups, and public outreach and education events. This grant amendment is for a one (1) year extension.

### c. **Grant Amendment: 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 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water.

Data collected will be analyzed and presented in a website-based map with user friendly graphics used for local and regional comparisons. Results will also be compiled in a technical report for submission to NYSDEC for 305(b) reporting. Water quality data gaps will be identified and monitoring plans will be developed to fill the gaps.

Stakeholders will be connected to technical resources and contacts to support action plan development and submission to NYSDEC.

The presence of a regional collaborative that regularly communicates and keeps tabs on water quality conditions in a comprehensive manner through shared resources will provide an enhanced model for continuing to ensure resources are deployed in an efficient and effective manner, and will ensure that no certain area suffers from a lack of attention and as a result has degraded water quality conditions. The amendment is for a one (1) year extension to the grant.

**d. Grant Amendment: Monitoring, Assessment, and TMDL Support and Development (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection)**

This grant amendment modifies the scope of work and adds additional funding for the second year of the grant to select tasks.

1. Sediment and Nutrient Assessment Program (SNAP) – The Commission produces an annual SNAP report in the form of a web-enabled story map. The amendment adds an additional year of funding for this work.

2. TMDL and Advanced Restoration Plan Support – The Commission will continue to coordinate with DEP and core partners involved with the Chiques Creek Advanced Restoration Plan and the Octoraro Creek Restoration Plan. The amendment adds: an additional year of funding for this work, BMP inventory conceptual model development, and reporting from four (4) continuous instream monitoring stations.

3. Chesapeake Bay Non-Tidal Network (NTN) Monitoring Program – Staff will continue to collect, analyze and report non-tidal tributary monitoring data collected from 27 long-term locations throughout the Susquehanna River basin. The amendment adds an additional year of funding for this work.

4. TMDL Development, Monitoring and Assessment of Lakes; Monitoring and Assessment for Recreation and Potable Water Supply: Surface Water Monitoring at Continuous Instream Monitoring Stations. The Commission will assist DEP by performing TMDL development, monitoring and assessment of lakes, surface water quality monitoring and recreation use assessments of watersheds and potable water supplies. We will also perform PADEP's chemical, physical and biological data collection at nine (9) of our continuous instream monitoring stations. The amendment adds two (2) additional sites for Surface Water Quality Monitoring and Recreation Use Assessment.

On a motion made by Commissioner Pera, seconded by Commissioner Weaver, the Commission accepted the grant amendments.

## 8. Proposed Rulemaking for Procurement and Bid Protest Procedures

General Counsel and Secretary to the Commission Jason Oyler requested approval to adopt the rulemaking via Resolution 2024-08.

On a motion made by Commissioner Pera, seconded by Commissioner Townley, the Commission approved Resolution 2024-08 relating to procurement and other administrative items and was approved as written by a vote of 4-0.

## 9. Docket Actions

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

1. Amazon Data Services, Inc., Luzerne County, Pa.
2. Ashland Area Municipal Water Authority, Schuylkill County, Pa. **Environmental Justice Area**
3. Borough of Middletown, Dauphin County, Pa. **Environmental Justice Area**
4. Caernarvon Township Authority, Berks County, Pa. **Environmental Justice Area**
5. Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC, Sullivan County, Pa.
6. Clear Water Technology, LLC, Susquehanna County, Pa.
7. Dillsburg Area Authority, York County, Pa.
8. Greater Hazleton CAN DO, Inc., Luzerne County, Pa.
9. Jersey Shore Area Joint Water Authority, Clinton County, Pa.
10. JKLM Energy, LLC (Mill Creek), Tioga County, Pa.
11. JKLM Energy, LLC (Tioga River), Tioga County, Pa.
12. Municipal Authority of the Borough of Mansfield, Tioga County, Pa.
13. New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., Blair County, Pa. **Tabled**
14. Pennsylvania General Energy Company, LLC, Lycoming County, Pa.
15. The Proctor & Gamble Paper Products Company, Wyoming County, Pa.
16. Repsol Oil & Gas USA, LLC, Lycoming County, Pa.
17. Seneca Resources Company, LLC, Tioga County, Pa.
18. Shrewsbury Borough, York County, Pa.
19. State College Borough Water Authority, Centre County, Pa.
20. Strasburg Lancaster County Borough Authority, Lancaster County, Pa. **Environmental Justice Area/Tabled**
21. Table Trust Brands, LLC, Lebanon County, Pa.
22. UGI Development Company, Luzerne County, Pa.
23. Williamsburg Municipal Authority, Blair County, Pa.
24. XTO Energy, Inc., Clinton County, Pa. **Environmental Justice Area**


Commissioner Pera moved, and Commissioner Townley seconded a motion that the Commission adopt the staff recommendations for the 24 project applications, including two tabled projects. A vote of 4-0 approved the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Pera moved, and Commissioner Townley seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting, which passed with a vote of 4-0. Commission Chair Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

December 12, 2024

Date Adopted



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Jason E. Oyler  
Secretary to the Commission