

TRIPLE DIVIDE WATERSHED COALITION
Gunzburger Bldg., Coudersport PA
February 11, 2015

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

John McLaughlin, Chairman, TDWC
Dale Steadman, Genesee Water
Jim Clark, Penn State Extension
Mark Stephens, DEP
Doug Estes, CCMH
Kirsten Williams, Ulysses Borough
Darrel Davis, Genesee Water
Melvin Blake, CCMH
Lou Karija, Coudersport Borough
Don Muir, PRWA

Bev Morris, Coudersport Borough
Susan Kefover, Commissioner
Jason Childs, PCCD
John Oliver, Austin Borough
Helene Nawrocki, PC ED Council
Jim Clark, Penn State Extension
Doug Morley, Commissioner
William Krog, Coudersport MA
Gareth Gockley, Coudersport Borough

Upgrading Website

Don Muir from PRWA using his laptop was able to project the new website and demonstrated the various pages now available on the site. John expressed thanks to Jeff Martin from PRWA for all of his assistance in setting up the site. Each member has its own page which was copied from the old web site. This data is a couple years old and John asked everyone to review the information and relay any changes needed to him so the information may be kept current. John emphasized that the consumer confidence information on most of the system tabs is out of date and that each system should verify that this is correct. The address is: <https://goh2o.net/TripleDivideWatershed>. John explained that all of the past meeting minutes are located under the tab entitled "Downloads". The tab entitled "Neighbors" contains the listings of contact information for all of the water systems in Elk, Cameron, Potter, Clearfield and Jefferson Counties. Jim expressed an interest in also including Tioga County on this listing. For security reason the tab containing a spreadsheet with detailed information on each system has been password protected. Don had a problem with entering this information on the web site. John stated that he would forward the user name and password to each of the member systems after the problem has been corrected.

GIS Mapping Project

Bev Morris, the new Manager for Coudersport Borough, explained that the Borough as hired two college students at a rate of \$10.00 per hour to locate and map various infrastructures over the last two years. Bev stated that both students demonstrated a good working knowledge of the mapping process and that they will return this spring to begin mapping of the water and sewer systems. We will invite them to attend our next meeting to see if they would be interested in mapping the other systems in the County. John Oliver from Austin expressed interest. Mr. Oliver then entered into a discussion regarding some of the issues Austin is facing in educating his customers concerning water conservation. Bev suggested using the TDWC website and/or placing an article in the local newspapers to explain the

dilemma created for the water supplier meeting demand when people allow their faucets to run to prevent freezing.

Monitoring Equipment Project Update

Helene Nawrocki, from the Potter County Education Council, passed out copies of the Summary of Potential Grant Proposal prepared for submission to DECD. Helene stated that her office has been in contact with DCED and that they were informed that the new administration has decided not to extend funding for the Small Water and Sewer Grant program for 2015. Despite this setback the Ed Council will continue to seek funding through DCED as well as other possible sources to fund the project. Mark again explained the justification of the project and stated he would continue to work with the three additional systems in Tioga County who have not yet submitted their letters of support. John stated that he had received letters of support from Knoxville and Tioga Boroughs and that Westfield Borough council would discuss participation during their meeting on February 11th. After some discussion, Helene suggested that the Coalition compose a letter to the newly appointed Secretary of DEP, John Quigley expressing our concerns regarding funding of this and similar project. John, Mark and Paul Heimel agreed to collaborate on the letter. Melvin Blake suggested that our legislators also be copied on the letter.

PRWA Emergency Calling System

Don Muir gave a brief presentation on the capabilities of the Swift 911 auto-dialing system. This auto-dialing provider is independent of PRWA, but is endorsed by them. Don stated that this company appeared to provide the best service for the small water systems in Pa. Don passed out brochures and gave a description of the services available. More information on this service can be found on the PERWA web site: <http://prwa.com>.

Updating Sourcewater Plans

John stated that all of the member's sourcewater protection plans were written between 1999 and 2001 and therefore none of the plans have been updated for around 15 years. John expressed concern that the validity of the plans could be questioned due to their age alone. Mark agreed and discussed how systems in Lycoming County had recently hired a college student to update their plans utilizing funding from WREN (League of Women Voters of Pa.). After some discussion Commissioner Kefover suggested to poll the systems present for approval for the TDWC investigate applying for funding for the updates through WREN. Representatives from all systems present- Ulysses, Coudersport, Cole Hospital, Austin and Genesee- answered in the affirmative. Mark and John will look into the grant procedures and will prepare an application if the project seem fundable under the WREN project guidelines.

Misc.

John announced that the next water operator training class will be held in Coudersport on April 15, 2015. The class will be on distribution systems.

Jim Clark explained that Professor Dr. Terry Engelder from Penn State, a renowned expert on Geology and gas drilling activities will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Potter County Natural Gas Resource Center. The meeting will be February 17th in the Great Room of the Gunzburger Bldg. beginning at 7:00 PM.

Next Meeting

John stated that a combined meeting with all five of the county SWP groups is being scheduled for some time in May in the Williamsport Regional office of DEP. John will forward the details of this meeting to the members when it is available from Mark. The next meeting of the TDWC will be held on Wednesday May 13th at a location to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45.