

TRIPLE DIVIDE WATERSHED COALITION  
Gunzburger Bldg., Coudersport PA  
August 5, 2015

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES**

John McLaughlin, Chairman, TDWC  
Dale Steadman, Genesee Water  
Jim Clark, Penn State Extension  
Doug Morley, Commissioner  
Mark Stephens, DEP  
Danielle Roslevich, PRWA  
Elizabeth Hensel, Coudersport Borough  
Charlie Tuttle, Coudersport Borough  
Darrel Davis, Genesee Water  
Bev Morris, Coudersport Borough  
Lou Karija, Coudersport Borough  
Gareth Gockley, Coudersport Borough  
Joe Pagano, Potter Co. Redevelopment Authority

**Combined Coalition Meeting in Williamsport**

Mark provided a brief summary of the combined SWP meeting held in May in Williamsport. It is noteworthy that most of the Regional Program Managers were in attendance. Marcus Kohl spoke for 30 minutes and then answered questions for another 15 minutes. During Mr. Kohl's presentation he suggested that the SWP groups attempt to schedule a meeting with the newly appointed Secretary of DEP, John Quigley to acquaint him with our SWP activities. Following Mr. Kohl's presentation, there was some discussion followed by a general agreement to attempt to set up a meeting with the Secretary. Consequently we contacted the Secretary's office and have scheduled a meeting to be held on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM in Harrisburg. Each SWP group will send one representative with the agreed upon topics being: 1) Inclusion of SWP recharge areas into DEP permit reviews: 2) Establishing better communications between DEP Emergency Response teams and water suppliers: 3) the discontinuance of funding for WREN and 4) permitting issues between DEP and SRBC. John stated that he would be unable to attend the meeting, but that Commissioner Paul Heimel has agreed to represent the TDWC in his stead. John will provide the TDWC membership with a summary of the meeting. John announced that delineated recharge areas are now included in the revised Oil and Gas Regulations. There was a brief discussion of several challenges to DEP's authority to write regulations. Mark and Commissioner Morley added their insights.

**Tioga County SWP Video**

Mark played the new SWP video produced by the Tioga County SWP group using a WREN Grant. John stated that he has forwarded a link to this video to Secretary Quigley's office for him to view prior to the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **GIS Mapping update**

Bev Morris, the Manager for Coudersport Borough, introduced Elizabeth Hensel and Charlie Tuttle, who have been working in the Borough over the last couple years mapping all of the facilities owned and or maintained by the Borough. Elizabeth gave a description of the types of points they are mapping and how the data is incorporated into maps. This summer they are working on mapping the sewer system. John explained the TDWC ongoing mapping project and their relationship with Tioga County. The girls said that they could assist other systems with water system mapping. Elizabeth can be contacted at: [bizhensel@gmail.com](mailto:bizhensel@gmail.com). Charlie can be contacted at: [ctcharlietuttle@gmail.com](mailto:ctcharlietuttle@gmail.com).

## **Monitoring Equipment Project Update**

John stated that DCED could not accept our application, because the funding appropriation for the grant monies we requested was terminated December 31, 2014. Mark has made several inquiries regarding other potential funding sources, but has not found any viable options so far. John stated that we will continue to seek funding and will contact all of the participating systems whenever a potential funding source is located. Joe Pagano stated that securing any type of grant funding is very difficult at this time.

## **PRWA Staff Changes**

Mark introduced Danielle Roslevich, a new Sourcewater Protection Specialist for PRWA. Danielle will be working closely with Mark assisting water suppliers to develop, implement and update SWP plans throughout the State. Danielle has a background in planning and developing ordinances. John again emphasized the need to update all of the sourcewater plans in the County in order to make them more defensible. There followed a discussion on what types of activities could be regulated through local ordinances. Danielle has agreed to attend the November meeting to discuss the use of ordinances to effectively protect our recharge areas.

## **Groundwater Mapping Project**

A college student from Penn State has been working on converting all of the private well records donated by Coudersport Well Drilling into a database and importing the records into ArcGIS software. This work should be completed by September. A second student from Lock Haven will be downloading groundwater and streamflow records from USGS and combining them with the well records to quantify any changes from historical levels. He will also compare these records to data from other sources to look for changes in groundwater levels. John stated that Potter County again has applied to DCED for a groundwater characterization grant. This is the same grant we applied for last year and were turned down. Mark stated that he contacted DCED and was told that last year's application was fine, but a large portion of the money allocated for this program was taken and put into another category. The Commissioners passed another resolution supporting this year's application and also provided the \$100.00 application fee. The grant will be for \$350,000 and will be used for thorough analysis of at least 70 private water wells in the County. John stated that he hoped that the groundwater mapping project already underway will gain an advantage for our application the eyes of DCED.

## **Misc.**

Jim Clark announced that the Drug Take Back program has been reinstated and that September 12<sup>th</sup> will be the next collection day. Drugs may be dropped at the state police Barracks or at the Coudersport Borough Police Dept. Jim also announced that he will be conducting a blue-green algae pond workshop on August 6<sup>th</sup> at the Bucktrail Rod and Gun Club outside Emporium. Jim also stated that the Cameron County Conservation District office and his office in Smethport are now equipped with microscopes and can analyze water samples for the presence of blue-green algae. Many species of blue-green algae are toxic to both humans and animals.

## **Next Meeting**

Jim Clark pointed out that the second Wednesday of November which would be our normal meeting date will fall on Veteran's Day. Therefore we will schedule the next meeting for Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45.