

TRIPLE DIVIDE WATERSHED COALITION
Gunzburger Bldg., Coudersport PA
February 10, 2016

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

John McLaughlin, Chairman, TDWC	Jim Clark, Penn State Extension
Darrell Davis, Genesee Water	Paul Heimel, Commissioner
Mark Stephens, DEP	Gareth Gockley, Coudersport Borough
Doug Morley, Commissioner	Will Hunt, PCPC
Dale Steadman, Genesee Water Auth.	Scott Blauvelt, JKLM Energy
Kirsten Williams, Ulysses Borough Auth.	Paul Heimel, Commissioner
Danielle Roslevich, PRWA	Fern Burdick, NTCH
Seth Loht, RCAP Solutions	Charlie Tuttle, Potter Co. GIS
Will Hunt, Potter Co. Planning/GIS	Jason Childs, PCCD

Impacts of Secretary Quigley's Resignation

Mark reported that, following the recent resignation of DEP Secretary John Quigley, most if not all of the initiatives instituted by Mr. Quigley have been placed on hold. Included is our effort to incorporate water supply recharge areas into DEP's permit review processes. Regional Director, Marcus Kohl has recommended to all of the sourcewater protection groups to request a face to face meeting with the acting secretary in an effort to convince him to continue with this project. The other coalitions appear to favor this approach, so Mark will coordinate this effort.

Small Water and Sewer System Grants

Jim Clark gave a short summary of a new funding source offered by the dept. of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Applications will be accepted from August 1 thru October 31, 2016 to fund small water and sewer system improvements. Jim also walked the group through a USGS website containing current drought information and explained how to use the site. A link to the site is:

<http://pa.water.usgs.gov/drought/indicators/composite.Operators> can refer to his site to help determine if and when they may need to implement conservation measures. John showed a document from DEP for systems to use to write or update their drought management plans, which are a part of emergency response planning. A link to this document can be found on the recent e-mail on drought warnings and watches send to all water operators.

Groundwater Mapping Project

John announced that Potter County was awarded a \$220,000 grant from DCED to prepare the groundwater characterization study, which we have discussed at previous meetings. USGS will contribute an additional \$75,000 to support the effort. USGS will be in charge of selecting the sample sites, collecting the samples and preparing the report. There followed a discussion on combining this project and our efforts to digitize residential well logs. Scott

stated that JKLM has hired a graduate student to digitize in excess of 2,000 additional well logs and stated his willingness to share his data with our group. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future to coordinate this data. Scott asked if we are still interested in JKLM contributing to this project now that the DCED funding has been secured. The consensus was that any additional funding could be utilized to further enhance the study and would be welcomed. JKLM is currently in negotiations with DEP legal staff to agree to a civil penalty assessment as the result of the release in Eulalia Township last October. Scott also explained that he holds monthly stakeholders meetings at the Coudersport Golf Club where he provided updated progress reports of JKLM drilling activities within the County. Scott may be contacted at: sblauvelt@emsip.com.

Monitoring Equipment Project Update

JKLM has been given an estimated cost for the monitoring equipment, which they, in turn are using during the aforementioned civil penalty negotiations with DEP. Mark stated that the DEP staff is looking favorably on this project. JKLM is going to bat for the Coalition in this matter and we are grateful for their efforts in our behalf.

GIS Mapping Update

Seth Loht gave a brief summary and update on the mapping projects. Seth stated that he has submitted requests for funding mapping for five water systems in Potter County. A decision on these projects should be made within the next few weeks. If funded Seth would begin the field work during the fall of 2017 at no cost to the systems.

County Planning and GIS Capabilities

Will and Charlie outlined several new initiatives being undertaken by the GIS and Planning Departments. Some applications will be available on the county website while others will require a nominal fee for access. Will promised support for the TDWC and, in particular, to the groundwater mapping project.

Stormwater Management

Danielle from Pa Rural Water Association passed out information related to stormwater management, followed by a general discussion of the problems associated with meeting mandates for removal of storm water from sanitary sewer systems.

Next Meeting

John suggested that the next meeting be scheduled for November 9, 2016 to maintain our normal schedule of meeting on the second Wednesday.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45.