



Minutes of the February 21, 2017 Meeting Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee

The meeting of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee was held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac, Virginia.

Members Present:

Daniel Hershey
Elaine Meil
Eugene R. Hampton
Granville Hogg, Chairman
Jim Belote
John Salm
Mike Mason
Paul Muhly, Vice Chairman
Robert Meyers

Members Absent:

Grayson Chesser

Others Present:

Cole Charnock, ESSWCD
Curt Smith, A-NPDC
Jon Richardson, VDH
Matthew Link, VDEQ
Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC



1. Call to Order

Chairman Hogg called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

2. Review of the January 17, 2017 Minutes

Committee Vice Chairman Muhly moved to approve the Minutes of the January 21, 2017 meeting with the amendment adding Committee Member “Daniel Hershey” to item 2. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Hershey, carried unanimously.

3. Financial Status Report

Committee Member Salm moved to approve the financial status. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Meyers, carried unanimously.

4. Staff Update

The following staff updates were presented:

Committee Attendance Record

The FY2017 Committee Attendance Record was presented.

USGS Electromagnetic Logging Data Analysis

Curt Smith presented on presentation to Accomack County Board of Supervisors.

Environmental Reviews and Permits

Staff reached out to DEQ’s Julia.Wellman@deq.virginia.gov by phone at 804-698-4326 to get additional details. Staff is to request an extension to the public comment period so that this can be discussed during the March meeting. [Link to DEQ public notice](#) Concerns about lack of details about the flood hazard zone, proximity to Holdens Creek, lack of a Stormwater Management Plan, etc. were expressed.

Annual Poultry Update

Staff presented the information supplied to Accomack County staff for their annual PC/BOS poultry update. DEQ’s Matt Link reported that April will begin DEQ’s Compliance Initiative Program.

Plans & Reports

Staff presented the [Annual Water Quality Monitoring Plan 2016](#) with 11 stations in Accomack and 7 in Northampton County, all ambient long-term trend program. Discussion ensued about additional waterways, such as King Creek.

[Reduction of Toxics in State Waters Report](#) (biennially) January 2017

Informational Items

[Deep groundwater aquifers respond rapidly to climate variability.](#) - Matthew Carroll, Penn State



Other Items

EVGMAC – During the March 14 Curt Smith will relay the top three issues decided upon by the Committee that need to be resolved by the EVGMAC. Details in the Consultant Report.

Nutrient Trading Program – Staff reported that Aqualaw will hopefully soon be done drafting the Tyson/Tangier Agreement.

Public Workshop & Outreach – Second Annual Well & Septic Forum will likely be held in conjunction with the Clinic *Kickoff Meeting* (AREC, early Oct.) or the interpretation meeting (mid-Nov.). Details about the Water Clinic (Oct. 11th) were discussed.

Northampton Watershed Festival – Tuesday April 18th staff will have a booth.

2016 Ground Water Award – Staff reported that Chairman Hogg and Vice Chairman Muhly presented the award to Chesapeake Commonwealth on Thursday February 16 at 1pm and the press release and photo will be submitted to papers.

HB2477 – Staff presented that this bill has passed both the Senate and the House.

Indoor Plumbing Program – Elaine Meil presented that there have been about 125 sites documented, but that additional research is needed on the seaside of Accomack County, and on the Bayside of both counties, as initial bayside efforts focused on specific suspected ‘hot spots.’

HHWC – Date set for Saturday, May 6, 10am-2pm. At the Birdsnest and Painter Convenience Centers. Staff is confirming third site in Accomack County with DPW.

Research Needs List – Staff presented a copy of a list of research needs to each Committee Member to review and add to and bring to the March meeting. Discussion concerning potential additional items such as phragmites, climate change (impacts on long-term conditions, inundation rates, surficial aquifer water table, etc.), and even effects of convenience center waste. Discussion continued surrounding the Bayview Convenience Center and the negative impacts to the watershed and potential retrofit options.

5. Consultant Report:

The Consultant presented three draft issues, and details for all three, that may reflect the opinion of the Committee for Curt Smith to present during the March 14 EVGMAC meeting.

Committee Member Hampton moved to approve the three issues with agriculture added to item (b.) and (c.) of issue (3.). The motion, seconded by Committee Member Belote, carried unanimously.

6. Other Matters:



Discussion ensued concerning form GW2 required from property owners following well installation. Committee Member Meyers expressed difficulty in obtaining the necessary information from a local well drilling company.

Curt Smith suggested adding the Committee research needs list into the update for the SET/CEDS plan. This was well received and efforts to make this integration will be made.

7. Public Participation:

None.

8. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac.

Chairman Hogg adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Granville Hogg, Chairman

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Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary