



A-NPDC

ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
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Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Meeting

Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee

The meeting of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee was held at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. It was held in person at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's board room in Melfa, Virginia.

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
John Coker, Chairman	Charles Kolakowski	Britt McMillan / ARCADIS *
Calvin Washington Sr. / Vice Chairman	Mike Mason	Rita Chandler / A-NPDC
Sue Mastyl		Faith Lewis / A-NPDC
Daniel Hershey		
Paul Grossman		
Elaine Meil / A-NPDC		
Ann Hayward Walker		
Steve Sturgis		
Grayson Chesser		

**No Zoom available this meeting. Participated by telephone.*



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1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Coker called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

2. **Public Participation**

No public participation at this meeting.

3. **Minutes of the January 21, 2025 & February 18, 2025 Meeting & Committee Attendance**

Approval of the minutes for January 21, 2025 and the Committee Attendance Record were requested. Member Mastyl wanted a few corrections to the minutes before being approved. The corrections were noted.

Member Grossman moved to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2025 meeting and the Committee Attendance Record, as amended. Seconded by Member Mastyl, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Approval for the minutes for February 18, 2025 and the Committee Attendance Record were requested. Member Mastyl wanted a few corrections to the minutes before being approved. The corrections were noted.

Member Grossman moved to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2025 meeting and the Committee Attendance Record, as amended. Seconded by Member Walker, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

4. **Financial Status Report**

The February Financial Status Report was presented.

Member Grossman moved to approve the February Financial Status Report as presented. Seconded by Member Walker, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

5.. **March 18, 2025 Staff Report**

Old Business:

Residential Well Testing Update:

The residential well testing collection was a success. Results have been mailed out to the participants. There were two residential wells positive for E Coli. These residential wells should be retested. GWC Consultant McMillan agreed and asked if the wells could be resampled after the April meeting. This would benefit us in getting the samples to the laboratory in a timely manner on his way home.



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Member Grossman also asked if we had received a summary of the results. The GWC had received a list of the letters. GWC Consultant replied he would compile a summary report of the results from the testings by the April meeting.

Water Supply Planning

The register was submitted for the towns that chose to participate with the A-NPDC Water Supply Plan. All towns are required to have a Water Supply Plan.

New Business:

Term Research

The joint resolution was discussed. The appointed members serve a three-year term. However, if a second Supervisor served on the Committee between 1990 and today, it would have offset a term. This research would be time-consuming to first determine if a second Supervisor had ever served and, if so, then to determine which current member is serving in that seat. Discussion ensued.

Staff were directed to communicate with the counties with the measures to make adjustments that resolve the matter so that the Committee membership and terms would match the Joint Resolution. The current term of all appointed members terms would be from January 9, 2023 until January 8, 2026. All members agreed that staff could also communicate their interest in serving another term as well as this may make the matter easier to resolve.

Brady Farms Permit Letter

The Brady Farms Permit Letter was sent to DEQ Director Rioband on February 24, 2025. A reply letter from DEQ Director Rolband was received on March 11, 2025. Discussion ensued. GWC Consultant McMillan will draft a letter thanking DEQ for consideration in the matter and requesting to be informed of any actions taken in enforcement and compliance, as discussed in the letter. GWC Consultant McMillan was asked to follow up with information requests, as needed.

6. March 18, 2025 Ground Water Consultant Report

GWC Consultant McMillan received data from DEQ last week. They charged approximately \$160. He had processed some of the data and pulled together an initial information report of the root causes of the excess of amounts permitted in the critical areas around Perdue and Tyson. Discussion ensued about penalties for over withdrawal of permitted use. Currently, permitted users who are over their permitted usage receive a notice from DEQ and a request for correction of the withdrawn water amounts.

GWC Consultant McMillan presented a study of the permits coming due for renewal in the next 18 months. This information also shared yearly calculations and whether or not the facility exceeded the amount listed in the permit. Some of the permits might need to be flagged for future interest. No permits expire in 2025. CWC Consultant McMillan noted that DEQ's focus



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is on processing permits and renewals on time with priority given to new permits over renewals. Discussion ensued about how to prepare for permit renewals.

GWC Consultant McMillan was asked to complete three items. Member Grossman requested a list detailing items that need to be addressed by the upcoming permits. Member Hayward requested a list of drought years. Chairman Coker also requested a presentation of the Columbia well testing results for the next meeting. GWC Consultant McMillan stated that he may be able to get a listing of which aquifers permitted wells are pulled from by FOIA request to DEQ.

7. **Attachments**

8. **Other Matters**

Member Mastyl requested the matter of updating the website to be taken seriously and suggested consideration of hiring outside personnel to aid in completing this task. The website was not of good quality. Member Walker agreed the information is dated and not accurate at this time. The Committee discussed foundational documents being kept in one bucket, and while minutes and recent presentations might be another bucket that would only be available for a set period of time. The Committee wanted the GWC material to have easier access and clearer navigation.

The GWC is constantly fighting the misperception that the Columbia aquifer is not potable. The GWC needs to focus on correcting this interpretation. The website should reflect current data based on factual information. Member Mastyl stated there is no present information related to water quality in the Columbia available on the website.

Staff will seek quotes from outside sources that could aid and implement the process. It was also suggested we might want to get Google involved to get rid of the previous website.

9. **Scheduled Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting for the Ground Water Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's Board Room in Melfa, Virginia.

10. **Adjournment**

Member Walker made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Member Grossman, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

John Coker, Chairman

Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary/Treasurer