Minutes of the January 16, 2018 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, January 16, 2018 in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac, Virginia.

Members Present:

Daniel Hershey
Elaine Meil
Eugene R. Hampton
Grayson Chesser
Jim Belote
John Coker
Paul Muhly, Chairman
Robert Meyers

Members Absent:

Charles Kolakowski Mike Mason

Others Present:

Britt McMillan, ARCADIS Cole Charnock, ESSWCD Craig Nicol, VDEQ Curt & Whitt Smith, A-NPDC Dirk Lynch, MSA P.C. Drew Hammond, VDEQ Granville Hogg, Northampton County Citizen Jay Ford, VES Jon Richardson, ESHD Joseph Betit, Accomack County Citizen Ken Dufty, Eastern Shore COQ Mathew Link, VDEQ Richard Snyder, VIMS ESL Roberta Kellam, Northampton County Citizen Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC Sue Mastyl, CBES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Muhly called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. He welcomed all, particularly new Committee Member Mr. John Coker of Northampton County, and initiated introductions of all present.

2. Review of the November 21, 2017 Minutes

Committee Member Hampton moved to approve the Minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Meyers, carried unanimously.

3. Financial Status Report

The FY 2018 Financial Status Report and updated Exhibit B Work Authorization for the Consultant Contract were presented.

Committee Member Meyers moved to approve the FY2018 financial status and the Consultant Contract. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Hershey, carried unanimously.

4. 2017 Ground Water Award

Committee Member Meyers brought attention to Wallops for their environmental monitoring and attention to the Chincoteague wells. There was no other discussion. Members are to nominate candidates during the January 2019 meeting.

Committee Member Chesser moved to nominate John Lauer, the Accomack County Regulatory Compliance Specialist for the 2017 Ground Water Award. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Salm, carried unanimously.

Committee Member Meyers moved to send a letter of appreciation to NASA with regards to their action following discovery of compromised wells and their continued support and aid. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Hampton, carried unanimously.

5. Staff Update

The following staff updates were presented:

Committee Attendance Record

The FY2018 Committee Attendance Record was presented.

Environmental Reviews and Permits

VA Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program

Staff presented that there is to be a public information session and public hearing concerning the four VPDES for poultry operations on January 30, 2018 at Nandua High School.

Other Items

VDEQ Update: Chincoteague Wells, Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Compliance Initiative – Mr. Matthew Link of VDEQ provided an update. The first test well for Chincoteague had insufficient yield (about 40GPM). The new location to be looked at sources the Middle Yorkown-Eastover Aquifer, is near the first site, but has a higher diameter to increase the yield. The Compliance Initiative ended December 15th. There have were a total of 45 applications received, 39 of which were from poultry operations.

Drew Hammond, of the VDEQ Water Withdrawal Permitting Program, gave a presentation with regards to permitting and compliance. The presentation can be found on the <u>A-NPDC website</u>. Members presented VDEQ staff with questions during and following the presentation. Discussion concerning GW-2 forms was also had.

Informational Items

Research and News Articles

Staff presented an article titled *Desalination plan proved to be winning gamble for Cape May*, and presented population and demand similarities with the Town of Chincoteague.

6. Consultant Report:

The consultant provided information about legislation in the current General Assembly, including HB211, HB772, HB358, & SB520.

Committee Member Salm made a motion to write to our legislators indicating the Committee's agreement with the concept of HB358, but with statement of concern as to implementation. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Belote, passed unanimously.

Committee Member Salm made a motion to write to our legislators indicating the Committee's support of SB520 as a good step in the right direction for groundwater management. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Hampton, passed unanimously.

The Consultant will give his two presentations at the next meeting, as time was insufficient.

7. Other Matters:

None.

8. Public Participation:

Mr. Betit questioned VDEQ staff about identifying critical surface and if VDEQ is in need of additional observation wells.

Mrs. Mastyl questioned VDEQ about the number of poultry houses represented by the permit applications received. VDEQ focuses on total water quantity, so does not have that information.

Mr. Ford questioned VDEQ about the total anticipated amount of water use of all poultry houses.

Mr. Hogg discussed regulations and permits concerning water harvesting.

9. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for February 20th, 2018 at 10:00 AM in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac.

Chairman Muhly adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

	Paul Muhly, Chairman	
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	Elaine K. N. Meil. Secretary	