



# A-NPDC

## ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301

(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-4221

WEBSITE: [www.a-npdc.org](http://www.a-npdc.org)

### Minutes of the October 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, September 18, 2018 in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac, Virginia.

#### Members Present:

Elaine Meil  
Eugene R. Hampton  
Grayson Chesser  
Jim Belote  
John Salm  
John Coker, Chairman  
Michael Mason  
Paul Muhly, Vice Chairman  
Robert Meyers

#### Members Absent:

Charles Kolakowski  
Daniel Hershey

#### Others Present:

Carmie Savage, ESSWCD  
Curt Smith, A-NPDC  
Dirk Lynch, MSAPC  
Holly Porter, Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc.  
Janet Sturgis, Northampton Planning Comm.  
Jeff Poulterer, Eastern Shore Locavores  
Joe Valentine, Clean Water Council  
Jon Richardson, VDH  
Matthew Link, VDEQ-OWS  
Roberta Kellam, Northampton Citizen  
Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC  
Sue Mastyl, Clean Water Council



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1. Call to Order

Chairman Coker called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Public Participation

Sue Mastyl stated the importance of hard data for the Columbia aquifer, including the lack of documentation of problems stated in reference to sourcing the Columbia and the need for cost estimates for addressing those potential problems. She mentioned the well that is said to be in operation at the Pungoteague poultry facility.

Joe Valentine echoed Sue Mastyl's comments.

3. Review of the September 18, 2018 Minutes

The draft minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting were presented.

**Vice Chairman Muhly moved to approve the Minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting as amended. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Meyers, carried unanimously.**

4. FY 2019 Financial Status Report

The FY 2019 Financial Status Report was presented. Brief discussion ensued with regards to the way in which the budget Report is presented.

**Vice Chairman Muhly moved to approve the FY2019 financial status report. The motion, seconded by Chairman Coker, carried unanimously.**

5. Staff Update

The following staff updates were presented:

Committee Attendance Record

The FY2019 Committee Attendance Record was presented.

Environmental Reviews and Permits

Staff referred to the packet to report the current public notices from VDEQ.

Other Items

*Potential Legislative Initiatives*

Chairman Coker presented a brief summary of the Legislative Subcommittee meeting and activities since the September full Committee meeting. Discussion ensued. Some topics discussed were the need for cost-effective solutions to use of the Columbia, industrial uses should require Columbia test wells (which can be converted to production wells if viable), the need for consistent guidance, and concerns for the Columbia (including seasonal variability, which data does not show a concern, but temporal variability can occur due to iron oxidizing bacteria) which were tabled until the consultant presentation could address these concerns.



Staff is to look explore local authorities with regards to requiring test wells and use of the Columbia through County/Town ordinances.

Staff is to coordinate a Legislative Subcommittee meeting with VDEQ.

Staff is to refine the model, testing wells, and incentive/cost-share legislative options for discussion with our representatives for potential introduction during the 2019 General Assembly. The timeline for regulations, if passed, is about 18 months, whereas legislation is closer to 6 months to implementation.

### *Desalination Options*

Staff presented research on current relevant technologies and their costs. Committee Members instructed staff to fine the information and present to interested localities, specifically the Town of Chincoteague (including Mr. West and Supervisor Tarr).

### *Upcoming Events*

In addition to those listed in the packet, staff announced that VDEQ would be holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Coastal Plain Groundwater Stakeholder Information Exchange in mid-November and that Randy McFarland with USGS was invited to attend to present progress on the Eastern Shore hydrologic framework project. Mr. McFarland will be presenting results of the EM-logging during the November Ground Water Committee meeting as well.

## 6. Ground Water Consultant Report

The consultant gave two draft presentations:

1. Information on Columbia (Surficial) Aquifer Eastern Shore of Virginia (20 slides)
2. Research and Water Supply Development Considerations for the Columbia Aquifer (12 slides)

The first was a compilation of existing analysis he has presented over the last year, combined with some new data supplied by VDEQ just in the last week.

The second identified principal data gaps, incomplete GW-2 data, and well construction modifications that can improve Columbia well efficiency and eliminate issues like sand and potential short life span of wells (i.e. well diameter, wire wrap vs. slotted screens, pre-packed filter screens, etc.).

Questions arose and were discussed throughout each presentation. One idea was to create GW-2 form specific requirements for the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Management Area. There was discussion about VDPOR, the licensing agent for well drillers, acting as a complaint driven agency. Additionally, there was discussion about the 50+ wells (primarily residential)



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drilled into the Columbia since 2015, the lack of data on the accompanying GW-2, and potential inconsistencies in concerns with challenges in use of the Columbia and this successful use of the Columbia.

These presentations are still in draft form and will be updated further in the coming months as new data is processed. Once finalized, they will be made available on the A-NPDC website.

7. Other Matters:

None.

8. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjournment

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

Chairman Coker adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

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John Coker, Chairman

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Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary