

Minutes of the May 21, 2019 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, May 21, 2019 in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac, Virginia.

Members Present:

Daniel Hershey
Elaine Meil
Eugene R. Hampton
Jim Belote
John Coker, Chairman
Michael Mason
Paul Muhly, Vice Chairman

Members Absent: Charles Kolakowski John Salm Taylor Dukes

Others Present:

Bill Savage, ESSWCD
Britt McMillan, ARCADIS
Curtis Consolvo, GeoResources, Inc.
Curt Smith, A-NPDC
Dirk Lynch, MSA PC
Janet Sturgis, Northampton Co PC
Jeff Poulterer, ES Locavores
Joe Valentine, Clean Water Council
Jon Richardson, ESHD

Joseph Betit, Accomack Citizen Ken Dufty, Exmore Resident Linda Cicoira, ES Post Nick Thomas, ESSWCD Roberta Kellam, Northampton Resident Sarah Linton, Tyson Foods Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC Sue Mastyl, Clean Water Council

1. Call to Order

Chairman Coker called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. Public Participation

Mr. Ken Dufty submitted a three-page fact sheet on desalination process, and reviewed several of his key concerns, including energy consumption, excess water use, health impacts, brine impacts, and costs. He also referenced the 54 poultry permits and the value of public participation.

Mrs. Sue Mastyl indicated 8.94MGD as the total withdrawal with the 2018 data. She pointed out that this doesn't include newer uses, drought, climate change, and cautioned the Committee against accepting the current use as "sustainable."

3. Review of the April 16, 2019 Minutes

The draft minutes of the April 16th, 2019 meeting were presented.

Vice Chairman Muhly moved to approve both the Minutes of the Aril 16, 2019 meeting and the 2019 Fiscal Report. The motion, seconded by Committee Member Chesser, carried unanimously.

4. FY 2019 Financial Status Report

The FY 2019 Financial Status Report was presented and no questions were raised. See motion above.

5. Staff Update

The following staff updates were presented:

Committee Attendance Record

The FY2019 Committee Attendance Record was presented.

Environmental Reviews and Permits

VDEQ will have three dates for the poultry facility Consent Order Public Hearings June 24, 25, and 26th. To be discussed further during the consultant presentation.

Other Items

VDH Septic & Well Services – Hardship Guidelines to be developed by July 1, 2019

Staff reported that there are still several remaining concerns, particularly with regards to the AOSE provider hardship for Northampton County. Staff is to develop a single page handout for the general public to supply to the Counties, so that they can insure residents have information about the issues and the contact information for VDH representatives in Richmond.

Vice Chairman Muhly made a retroactive motion to submit the comment letter (circulated to the Committee Members via email) to VDH concerning the Hardship Guidelines. The motion, seconded by Chairman Coker, carried unanimously.

Committee Member Belote made a motion to have staff draft a comment letter to VDH and including Senator Lewis and Delegate Bloxom as recipients and have for Committee review, edits, and approval during the June meeting. The motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Muhly, carried unanimously.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Staff reported that the Regional Facility should be in place in early July and open to the public by August 1, 2019. Staff reported that they intend to submit a new application that will include additional support to Accomack and Northampton County for the first year of operation of the Facility and a new project on behalf of the Town of Chincoteague for emergency water planning.

Research & Publications

Staff included three publications concerning desalination, ES Microbes, and Hampton Roads wastewater-to-aquifer recharge.

7. Ground Water Consultant Report

The consultant presented an initial review of the draft poultry facilities groundwater withdrawal permits. The presentation (14 slides) can be found on the website at the following link. http://www.a-npdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Poultry-Draft-GW-Permit-Summary.pdf

VDEQ Presentation

Following the Ground Water Consultant Report, Mr. Scott Kudlas, Director of the Office of Water Supply Planning, gave a presentation concerning the process and next steps in managing the new water withdrawal permits that were developed from the Consent Order for poultry facilities on the Eastern Shore. He was assisted in the presentation by Mr. Joseph Grist, Water Supply Planner in the same Office of VDEQ.

He indicated that of the 54 facilities included in the consent order, 49 draft permits were published. The remaining 5 will not be published, as they do not believe that they will exceed 300,000 gallons in any given month. VDEQ will monitor their use to ensure they do not exceed that threshold. Mr. Kudlas explained the special conditions associated with many of the draft permits, including testing of the surficial aquifer quality and yield and chloride sampling for a few facilities. Mrs. Kellam, a resident of Northampton County, indicated the need to include environmental justice screenings for the areas of impact for all permit applicants. Currently there is no environmental justice screening done.

8. Other Matters:

None.

9. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for June 18th, 2019 at 10:00 AM in the A-NPDC Conference Room of the Enterprise Building in Accomac.

Chairman Coker adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Copy test:	John Coker, Chairman
	Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary