NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL
January 12, 2010
Meeting Highlights

Location:
NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ.

Attendees:
Members: George Bakun, Bob Breslin, Stan Cach, Jim Cosgrove, Russ Furnari (by phone), Amy Goldsmith, Pam Goodwin, Tony McCracken, Lou Neely, Jim Requa, Jessica Sanchez, Dan Van Abs, and Ray Zabihach.

Others: Helen Heinrich, Ellen Gulbinsky and Gerry Skrajewski.

The meeting was convened by Jessica Sanchez at 10:05 a.m. since Russ Furnari was participating by telephone.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER’S 2009 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:
November’s Minutes were distributed. Jim Cosgrove made the motion to approve the minutes, and Bob Breslin seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as distributed.

DEP UPDATES:
Stan Cach reported that Dennis Hart, Executive Director of the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, is retiring. His last day at the Trust will be January 22nd.

Stan hadn’t received any other updates to share with the CWC.

OLD BUSINESS:
Dan Van Abs had previously distributed copies of the NJCWC Water Infrastructure Financing Committee’s Ideas and Recommendations (attached). He summarized the document for the CWC Members. Dan said that the Ad-Hoc Committee had taken the initial core recommendations from the prior Public Hearing, and then the Committee had met twice, exchanged e-mails, etc., and that the results were incorporated into this draft document. The Committee discussed what is working well; what is not working well; and what is not working at all or is non-existent. They also discussed what sort of ideas could come out of the process to insure proper asset management and, also, to ensure the financing for that asset management. This document, NJCWC Water Infrastructure Financing Committee’s Ideas and Recommendations, is not the formal consensus of the Ad Hoc Committee. They have not gotten to that point yet. This is the latest document draft document prepared to the CWC for their information.
Dan recommended that the CWC be prepared to discuss this further at the CWC’s March meeting, and he would invite members of the Water Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee to come to that meeting. For now, Dan suggested that the Council send to him any questions, concerns, or ideas that you have for the Committee by February 1st. Then, his Committee will be responsive to your comments. Also, he recommended that as you are reading the Report, think about how you want the Council to proceed with the Report.

Jessica said that Dan and the Ad Hoc Committee did a great job preparing the NJCWC Water Infrastructure Financing Committee’s Ideas and Recommendations Report.

CWC Public Hearing – Climate Change: The transcript from the Public Hearing had not been received from the Court Reporter, yet. The CWC asked that in the interim of the Council getting the transcript, to please forward the previously submitted written testimony to the Council Members. Also, the Speakers’ Presentations will be put on the CWC Website.

Jessica asked if there were any volunteers to be on an Ad Hoc Committee regarding Climate Change. None of the CWC Members were able to volunteer @ this time. Amy said that many people talked about the problem, but not many solutions were received. The CWC will ask Dr. Marjorie Kaplan to come to February’s CWC Meeting to discuss the testimony and comments from the Public Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:
The Council needed to elect the new Chair, Vice-Chair and 2nd Vice-Chair for a 2 year period. A motion was made by Lou Neely to approve a full-slate of: Jessica Sanchez, Chair; Pam Goodwin, Vice-Chair; and Dan Van Abs, 2nd Vice-Chair, to a 2-year term. The motion was seconded by Jim Cosgrove and unanimously approved. Congratulations to all.

It was recommended to move March’s CWC Meeting up a week to March 2nd so that Ellen Gulbinsky and others from the Water Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee will be able to attend, because if the CWC meeting is held on the 9th, there would be a conflict for them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
None

ADJOURNMENT:
The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. with a motion from Lou Neely. It was seconded by Jim Cosgrove.

** The next meeting of the Clean Water Council will be on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, Building 6, Suite 201, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ. **