

RESOLUTION FOR THE MINUTES

A RESOLUTION for the Minutes recognizing Kenneth J. Warren for his 25 years of service to the Delaware River Basin Commission in the role of General Counsel.

WHEREAS, the attributes of American rivers most valued for their natural resources—those designated as “Wild & Scenic”—are known as “outstandingly remarkable resource values” or “ORVs;”

WHEREAS, if a river basin management agency, like a river, can be said to have outstandingly remarkable resource values, then for the past 25 years, one of the Commission’s *most* outstanding ORVs has been our General Counsel, Ken Warren;

WHEREAS, Ken came to the Commission in 2001 with superb credentials that included highest honors from Penn Law, leadership of the environmental law practice at a distinguished Philadelphia firm, and perhaps less obviously relevant, a Bachelor of Arts in history from Brown University;

WHEREAS, drawing on his undergraduate training, Ken dove into the role of General Counsel by reading the dozen or more binders of primary source materials on the Commission’s origins that had been moldering in a cabinet, and by digesting an academic 1972 case study on the Commission’s efforts to restore dissolved oxygen in the Delaware Estuary;

WHEREAS, as soon became evident, this level of preparation is a Ken Warren “M.O.”;

WHEREAS, from the outset, Ken has impressed Commissioners and staff with his capacity to listen, take in new information, and see to the heart of a complex problem such that consensus on a path forward emerges with relative ease;

WHEREAS, Ken has helped the Commission navigate difficult and at times existential legal questions; think: For which purposes might DRBC be a federal agency? Shouldn’t DRBC water quality standards or EPA TMDLs based on them apply to land-based clean-ups? When should pre-Compact entitlements be extinguished? How might we devise a narrative effluent limit for PCBs? How does a *state* of emergency under Section 3.3 of the Compact differ from a *water supply* emergency under Section 10.4? How could the process known as high volume hydraulic fracturing not be “for” the utilization of water resources? And how can one tell a dwarf wedgemussel from a common Eastern elliptio? to name just a few;

WHEREAS, Ken has consistently offered valuable insight while keeping the Commission focused on what matters most: *“Will it make a difference in the river?”*;

WHEREAS, in his interactions with Commissioners, staff, and the public, Ken’s integrity, professionalism, courtesy, intellect, eloquence, and low-key sense of humor have elevated the tone of proceedings and earned him the deep respect, appreciation and affection of all who have been privileged to work with him;

WHEREAS, after 25 years of extraordinary service to the DRBC, Ken will step down from his role as the Commission's General Counsel on November 1, 2026;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Commissioners and staff of the Delaware River Basin Commission hereby thank Ken Warren for his outstandingly remarkable contribution to joint stewardship of the Delaware River Basin over his two-and-a-half decades as DRBC General Counsel and wish him continued good health and good times on and off the water. We will miss him!

BY THE COMMISSION

Adopted: September 2, 2026