



WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2002

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Froehlich	Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
William Gast	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Dr. Bruno Mercuri	Mercuri & Associates, Inc.
Debbie Lord	Pompeston Creek Watershed Association
John Mello	U.S. EPA, Region II
David Milan	Superior Water Company
Joseph Miri	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Bob Molzahn	Water Resources Association
Mary Ellen Noble	Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Howard Neukrug	Philadelphia Water Department
Frank Schaefer	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Ronald Sloto	U.S. Geological Survey

OTHER ATTENDEES

Dave Jostenski	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (noted as alternate for Bill Gast)
Scott Laird	URS Corp.

DRBC STAFF PRESENT

Bob Tudor	Deputy Executive Director
Lance Miller	Acting Branch Head, Planning and Implementation
Jessica Sanchez	Basin Planner
David Sayers	Planning and Implementation Branch

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mercuri at 9:30 a.m. Lance Miller of DRBC staff announced that he will be leaving the commission and this meeting would be his last. On behalf of the committee Chairman Mercuri thanked Lance for his input over the last year.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the December 2, 2001, meeting were reviewed. Attendance by George Kunkel from PWD at the last meeting was noted. Chris Crockett from PWD is acknowledged as alternate for Howard Neukrug. Mary Ellen Nobel made a motion to accept the minutes. Dave Froehlich seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted.

**Discussion of the IRP**

Jon Zangwill presented an update on the IRP document following legal review by Pennsylvania. Copies distributed today showed those changes. Changes also included those made by DRBC internally (discussed at this Committee's last meeting).

Lance Miller stated that DRBC approved the IRP with the aforementioned changes.

Input and approval from this committee was requested. Subject to clarification of a minor issue by Bill Gast during the lunchtime break, a motion was made by Mary Ellen Noble to present the IRP document to the Commission. Dave Milan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**2. Comprehensive Plan - Goals Document and Update on Progress (Sanchez)**

The Commission will be looking at the draft document and voting on a resolution to send that document on to the Advisory Committees for their review for the development of the management strategies to support and help reach the objectives, develop cost estimates, and indicators of progress for reaching objectives.

The handout contained the matrix of Issues and Responsibilities/KRA Goals and Advisory Committees Involvement. The Water Management Advisory Committee has the lead on two major areas: Sustainable Use Management and Land Use & Management. A subcommittee will be set-up for Land Use Management.

A suggestion given was for this Committee to review this information and to lay out a work plan. A three-page matrix plan was given (which expands on the first matrix and lays out the objectives).

Support will include facilitators, consultants for the management strategies and DRBC Staff. Funds available for technical reports (if necessary) were given. Preliminary work plans are due by May. Final document should be finished around October.

Discussion involved development of the subcommittees (to the Council), as well as who will be asked to join and/or volunteer for these subcommittees.

- KRA #1 - Sustainable Use Management - Bill Gast and/or alternate, Anthony Bonasera, Chris Crockett (alternate for Howard Neukrug), Joe Miri, Ron Sloto.
- KRA #3 - Land Use & Management - Bill Gast and/or alternate & Howard Neukrug, Joe Miri.

Suggestions to improve the process included a master schedule of all meetings and on all e-mails a number system should be used (i.e. 1.1 or 1.2) for a clearer understanding of what will be discussed at that meeting.

The role that Resolve will play in the process was explained. Jessica Sanchez is in the process of composing a short list of available consultants (when completed this will be e-mailed to the chairs of all the Committees). DRBC Staff will help develop some of the Management Strategies. The use of the GSA and their involvement

was discussed.

### **3. Water Accountability and Loss Management (Sayers)**

David Sayers attended a conference in Las Vegas, also attended by George Krunkel (Philadelphia Water Department), and Chair of the Leakage Detection and Water Accountability Committee of the American Water Works Association.

This was an informal meeting of the sub-group of the American Water Works Association which is currently looking to adopt a new policy to address the issues of leakage management and leak detection and how water use accounting and management can be improved.

A paper will be produced shortly that will reflect work done on leakage management outside of the United States. A project is underway to take this work from an international study and focus it on the U.S. David Sayers presented examples (handout given) on the shortcomings of the widely used but simplistic percentage approach to quantifying water loss. From a regulatory perspective this is not a useful performance indicator. Joe Miri questioned the need for regulators to focus on unaccounted for water noting that it is primarily a question of operational efficiency for the purveyor. Howard Neukrug and others responded that for some systems this may be true, but in others, particularly where distribution systems cross watershed boundaries, it can have important consequences for water resources management.

The committee agreed that this was a relevant issue for discussion later in the Comp Plan process when management strategies are being developed.

### **LUNCH 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

### **4. Retail Water Pricing (Resolution 99-2) - A Case Study (Sayers)**

David Sayers gave a presentation on the issue of retail water pricing to encourage conservation (Resolution 99-2). A case study was used to review the effectiveness of the conservation pricing resolution and point out its shortcomings. David Sayers raised concerns that the language of the resolution is far from prescriptive and may not be having its intended effect - meeting the wording of the resolution is easy without meeting the 'spirit'. The committee responded to the presentation noting that with issues involving rate structures the DRBC may purposefully not want to be too prescriptive. For investor owned purveyors and those municipals operating outside their political boundaries rate setting is also an issue for the relevant Public Utilities Commission (or similar entity). DRBC can not work alone on this issue.

Bill Gast noted that the Commissioners had not asked the Committee to consider this issue at this time. Although it was noted that the Executive Director of DRBC is charged with reviewing the effectiveness of the retail water pricing activities annually. It was suggested that DRBC staff acquire more analysis and make suggestions on what should be changed and then let this committee react to this information.

Based on that information, this Committee may recommend to the Commissioners that they charge the WMAC with looking into this issue, and perhaps coming up with revisions or amendments to the resolution to strengthen it.

### **5. Other Business and Next Meeting**

There was no other business to discuss at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Water Management Advisory Committee will be held on Friday May 3, 2002, at 9:30 a.m.

*Questions?*



*[David Sayers](#), DRBC Water Resources Analyst, ext. 236*

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