

**Potomac River Basin
Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership**

Annual Meeting

November 4, 2005
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Meeting Notes

Photo of partnership members.....1:30

- 1) **Welcome** (Andrew Brunhart, WSSC) 1:40 – 1:45
- 2) **Passing of the gavel** (ICPRB - Fairfax Water)..... 1:45 – 1:50

Government chair: from ICPRB to EPA.

Utilities chair: from WSSC to Fairfax Water.

The chairing of partnership meetings rotated from the government chair to the utilities chair.

- 3) **Presentation of partnership strategy** (Fairfax Water) 1:50 – 2:00

The partnership's strategic plan was adopted at its August 9, 2005 meeting. The plan was drafted by the strategy subcommittee, chaired by Chuck Kanetsky of EPA.

Subcommittee members included Fairfax Water, DC, USGS, and ICPRB. The strategy outlines the goals of the partnership and specific steps towards meeting these goals. A copy is included in the meeting packet.

- 4) **Reports from workgroups** 2:00 – 2:45
 - a. Pathogens (Aqueduct/Fairfax Water)
 - b. Emerging contaminants (WSSC)
 - c. Early warning (ICPRB)
 - d. Disinfectant by-product precursors (WSSC)
 - e. Urban issues (Fairfax Water)

Copies of summary reports from each of the workgroups is included in the meeting packet. The reports were discussed at the meeting, and the workgroups will continue with their proposed activities, as outlined in the reports. The agricultural workgroup is not included in this list, and formal establishment will be postponed until more resources become available. However, the partnership will begin to explore ways to initiate a dialog with the agricultural community. KR Young of EPA will lead this effort and coordinate with the other workgroups in doing so.

5) **Reaching out** (EPA)..... 2:45 – 3:00

a. Draft annual report (Fairfax Water)

Fairfax Water will finalize and distribute copies of the annual report. Any comments should be sent to Traci Goldberg (tgoldberg@fairfaxwater.org) by December 2.

KR Young (EPA) summarized the importance of outreach, and identified some possible activities for the upcoming year, as outlined in the meeting packet document on reaching out. Partnership members felt that it was important to have a clear message before engaging the public on specific issues. However, the partnership will try to engage potential new members (particularly water suppliers) and to make the partnership better known throughout the watershed.

6) **Goals for upcoming year** (EPA)..... 3:00 – 3:15

Vicki Binetti (EPA) summarized the proposed actions summarized in the meeting packet. In addition to continuing the workgroup activities, a top priority for the upcoming year will be to review source water assessments from throughout the basin in order to develop a better understanding of water quality conditions. The workshops held this year were a useful, but resource intensive, means of sharing information. Less formal dialogue sessions will be arranged after partnership meetings, as speakers on priority topics are identified. This may be one aspect of expanded outreach activities for the year.

7) **Funding** (ICPRB)..... 3:15 – 3:30

Partnership activities have largely been accomplished through the staff resources of member water utilities and agencies. ICPRB’s role as partnership coordinator was funded by an EPA grant. Additional contracts with EPA and WV DHHR facilitated the workshops.

Funding for the next year’s activities is largely unknown. While some possible grant opportunities exist, they are for specific projects. A committee was created to explore options for funding the partnership’s core activities as well as specific projects. Representatives will include:

- Washington Aqueduct: Tom Jacobus
- ICPRB: Joe Hoffman
- PA DEP: John Hines
- VA DEQ: Scott Kudlas
- MDE: Saeid Kasraei
- WV DHHR: Bill Toomey (will coordinate with WV DEP)
- DC: Jerusalem Bekele
- EPA: Vicki Binetti
- Fairfax Water: Chuck Murray (?)

Tom Jacobus will take the lead on this funding committee, with assistance from ICPRB.