

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN

**FIRST QUARTER 2017
BUSINESS MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2016**

**JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY COUNTY CAMPUS
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM, ROCKVILLE, D**

FINAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sussman called the First Quarter 2017 Business Meeting to order at 9:01AM on December 6, 2016. The following Commissioners, staff, and guests were in attendance for all or part of the meeting.

Commissioners

West Virginia

Patrick Campbell (Alt. Commissioner)

District of Columbia

Hamid Karimi (Commissioner)

Willem Brakel (Commissioner)

Tiffany Potter (Alt. Commissioner)

United States

Robert Sussman (Chair, Commissioner)

Darryl Madden (Commissioner)

BG William Graham (Commissioner)

Amy Guise (Alt. Commissioner)

Maryland

Robert Lewis (Commissioner)

Virginia Kearney (Alt. Commissioner)

Virginia

Scott Kudlas (Alt. Commissioner)

Jackson Miller (Commissioner)

Pennsylvania

Kelly Heffner (Commissioner)

Jennifer Orr (Alt. Commissioner)

Ronald Stanley (Commissioner)

Staff and Guests

Staff

Carlton Haywood (Executive Director)

Robert Bolle (General Counsel)

Bo Park (Dir, Administration)

Curtis Dalpra (Communications Manager)

Claire Buchanan (Dir, Program Operations)

Cherie Schultz (Dir, CO-OP Operations)

Heidi Moltz (Assoc Dir, Water Resources)

Alimatou Seck (Water Resources Scientist)

Sherry Zandieh (Administrative Coordinator)

Guests

Henry Gruber (NAD)

Ricardo Herrero (NAD, BG Graham Aid)

Jutta Schneider (VA DEQ)

Heather Cisar (USACE, Baltimore)

Saeid Kasraei (MDE)

Charles Murray (Fairfax Water)

Jamie Hedges (Fairfax Water)

Gregory Prelewicz (Fairfax Water)

Steve Edgemon (Fairfax Water)

Joel Thompson (Fairfax Water)

Thomas Jacobus (Washington Aqeduct)

Carla Reid (WSSC)

James Langley (WSSC)

Roland Steiner (WSSC)

Thomas Hilton (WSSC)

Dale Hammes (Loudoun Water)

Tom Frederick (Loudoun Water)

Mark Peterson (Loudoun Water)

Chairman Sussman recognized new commissioners, Jennifer Orr and BG William Graham, with an ICPRB pin.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Mr. Haywood added a briefing on the recent spill during lunch on the agenda. **Commissioner Kudlas made a motion to approve the agenda with the change, seconded by Commissioner Stanley. All were in favor.**

AUGUST 30, 2016 DRAFT MINUTES: **Commissioner Stanley made a motion to approve the August 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Madden. All were in favor.**

SUMMARY FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL: Commissioner Kudlas made a minor edit to delete “chair” next to his name, as his chair term expired on September 30.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director’s Report: Mr. Haywood summarized the activities at the Commission for the last quarter.

- Commissioner: Merrit Drucker from DC resigned, but replacement has not been named. Del. J. Randall Minchew replaced Del. Ramadan. Jennifer Orr replaced Lori Mohr as alternate commissioner for Pennsylvania, as well as on the Audit Committee that Ms. Mohr served.
- Financial Statements: With only one month to report, there are no significant activities to report. There were no withdrawals from the reserve account. And all jurisdictions were billed for the current dues.
- Grants and Contracts: MDE watershed model project started on October 1. The EPA 106 grant continues its two-year grant. The EPA 117 grant is on the last year of a six-year grant. EPA has released an RFP for the 117 grant, and ICPRB has submitted a grant proposal.
- Executive Director’s activities have been highlighted in Tab 6, Attachment 1.
- Project Status Report: Not much has been reported as it is too early in the fiscal year.

Comprehensive Plan Update: Mr. Haywood informed that the second meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on December 1 to discuss major water resources challenges in the basin that should be included in the Comprehensive Plan and also to discuss a vision statement. At the first meeting in September, a workgroup was established to flesh out the list of challenges. Last Friday, a proposed vision statement and list of challenges were sent out to all the commissioners. Once approved, these documents will be posted on the ICPRB website. **Commissioner Heffner made a motion to approve the vision statement and list of challenges and to post them on the website.** Commissioner Karimi seconded the motion. Commissioner Lewis urged that the Plan include the concerns of climate change. Commissioner Brakel noted that the proposed vision statement addresses this concern with the language, “the plan will be based on best available science and data.” Mr. Haywood has made attempts to include federal representation on the Advisory Committee. Commissioner Guise and the Baltimore District offered to assist the committee. Commissioner Guise added that COE had provided detailed comments on the initial draft chapters and they can continue to facilitate feedback as needed. Mr. Haywood said that he had also approached the EPA and would follow-up to identify the appropriate point of contact. **Commissioner Kudlas made a motion to modify the agenda to include approving the Comprehensive Plan vision statement and challenges. Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Additionally, Commissioner Heffner’s motion was approved unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

FY2017 Budget Amendment #2: Mr. Haywood informed that there were changes made after the meeting book was sent out. The last revised budget was sent to the commissioners last week by email. The changes were due to couple of projects that fell through. In the latest budget for approval, there is a

deficit of \$149k as ICPRB is not anticipating a payment from the federal government and the remaining 10% cut from Maryland's dues. The Comprehensive Plan is a project that is not being supported by a contract or grant, and it is an internal cost of more than \$150k. Additionally, as an investment for the future, recruiting will be done to address the impending staff turnover. The hiring will occur overlapping with the incumbent for a smoother transition.

Commissioner Guise added that the COE may be able to provide some assistance with the Comprehensive Plan as a project for COE that could be funded internally. ICPRB would need to submit a project plan for COE's consideration. Mr. Haywood will follow-up with Commissioner Guise for further advice.

Commissioner Stanley made a motion to approve the FY17 Budget Amendment #2, which was seconded by Commissioner Heffner. All were in favor.

Date and Location for March Meeting: The March meeting will be held at the ICPRB office in Rockville, Md on March 7, 2017. Maryland has offered to host the June meeting, which will be for two days. Additional details about the June meeting, such as specific location have not been determined yet. **Commissioner Kearney made a motion to accept the March meeting location, which was seconded by Commissioner Kudlas. All were in favor.**

At this time, the session moved to a joint meeting with the Washington Metropolitan Area water utilities.

Representatives from each jurisdiction and water utility gave a brief introduction of their agencies and water supply concerns.

Dr. Schultz presented the findings of the "Washington Metropolitan Area Water Supply Alternatives Study." The study's objective is to assess the ability of planned and potential alternatives to help maintain the reliability of the WMA water supply system. It provides a preliminary evaluation of effectiveness of alternatives to help meet future water demands and withstand the potential impacts of climate change. The WMA currently relies primarily on the Potomac River for water supply, with additional water provided by local reservoirs in the Patuxent and Occoquan watersheds.

The study evaluates four structural alternatives and six operational alternatives. The structural alternatives are: (1-3) future use of three retired hard rock quarries for raw water storage (Vulcan Quarry in Fairfax County, Virginia, the Luck Stone quarries in Loudoun County, Virginia, and Travilah Quarry in Montgomery County, Maryland) and (4) construction of a reverse osmosis water treatment plant on the Occoquan Estuary. The operational alternatives are: (1) improvements in river flow forecasts, (2-3) cooperative use during droughts of two Loudoun Water storage reservoirs, (4) increased and more stringent water use restrictions during droughts, (5) reduction in upstream consumptive use, and (6) use during droughts of Jennings Randolph Reservoir water quality storage for water supply purposes.

Available climate change projections for our region have a wide range of potential impacts on water resources, including both much higher and much lower average river flows and reservoir inflows. Study findings indicate that, without any structural or operational enhancements, there is an unacceptable risk that the current system will be unable to meet water demand in 2040 during a severe drought without triggering emergency water use restrictions and/or water shortages. Draft results presented at the meeting indicate that most of the evaluated enhancements will be required to reliably meet demand in 2085.

Chairman Sussman asked that each group consider what the next steps should be. The utilities commended the CO-OP staff for an excellent analysis. For all parties involved, there needs to be a coordinated effort going forward to address the needs in the future. The ICPRB provides for a good forum

for further discussions. However, as of now, the general consensus from the utilities is that the information must be discussed with their boards prior to making any commitments for further actions.

Mr. Haywood proposed that ICPRB staff will work on those tasks that can be done by ICPRB. From the discussion it emerged provisionally that these tasks might include: providing information, conducting technical studies and policy analyses and facilitating further discussions or negotiations that would help build support for and contribute to the implementation of several or all of the structural and operational alternatives considered in the Water Supply Alternatives Study. He will be in contact with appropriate commissioners to further discuss the suggested next steps made at this meeting. Regarding possible reviews of the regional water agreements in place, Mr. Haywood proposed to have further discussions on identifying the scope and methods for those reviews.

Briefing on Recent Oil Spill: During the lunch period, ICPRB staff and several utility managers provided an update on a spill of lubricating oil from the NRG Dickerson Power Plant, near Whites Ferry, Maryland, that was first detected on November 27. The spill was less than 150 gallons, but raised concerns because of its proximity to several WMA intakes and the time it took to definitively identify the source and correct the problem. Stepped-up water quality monitoring and precautionary measures taken by the utilities ensured that drinking water supply was not affected. ICPRB participated in the emergency response by providing information on predicted travel times.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Karimi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 PM, which was seconded by Commissioner Kearney. All were in favor.

Minutes Draft By: Bo Park, Director, Administration

Minutes Reviewed, Approved, Submitted by: H. Carlton Haywood, Recording Secretary