

**INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN  
CO-OP SECTION**

**FIRST QUARTER 2017  
DECEMBER 6, 2016**

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

**FINAL MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Brakel called the First Quarter 2017 CO-OP Meeting to order at 8:33 AM on December 6, 2016. The following Commissioners, staff, and guests were in attendance in whole or in part.

**Commissioners**

**West Virginia**

Patrick Campbell (Alt. Commissioner)

**District of Columbia**

Willem Brakel (Chair, Commissioner)

Hamid Karimi (Commissioner)

Tiffany Potter (Alt. Commissioner)

**Maryland**

Virginia Kearney (Alt. Commissioner)

Robert Lewis (Commissioner)

**Virginia**

Scott Kudlas (Alt. Commissioner)

**United States**

Darryl Madden (Commissioner)

Robert Sussman (Commissioner)

BG William Graham (Commissioner)

Amy Guise (Alt. Commissioner)

**Staff and Guests**

**Staff**

Carlton Haywood (Executive Director)

Robert Bolle (General Counsel)

Bo Park (Dir, Administration)

Curtis Dalpra (Communications Manager)

Cherie Schultz (Dir, CO-OP Section)

Claire Buchanan (Dir, Program Operations)

Heidi Moltz (Assoc. Dir, Water Resources)

Alimatou Seck (Water Resources Scientist)

Sherry Zandieh (Administrative Coordinator)

**Guests**

Kelly Heffner (PA Commissioner)

Ronald Stanley (PA Commissioner)

Jennifer Orr (PA, Alt. Commissioner)

Jutta Schneider (Dir, Water Planning, VA DEQ)

Henry Gruber (NAD)

Heather Cisar (USACE, Baltimore)

Saeid Kasraei (MDE)

Ricardo Herrero (BG Graham Aid)

Thomas Jacob (Washington Aqueduct)

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Commissioner Karimi made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All were in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Kudlas made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Follow-up on June Action Items:** Commissioner Kudlas has been in touch with Loudoun Water on their decision to pursue a water withdrawal permit application amendment. Loudoun Water will make an assessment after today's joint meeting with ICPRB and the water suppliers.

**Section Quarterly Report:** Dr. Schultz summarized the Section's quarterly activities which can be found in Tab 3, Attachment 2 of the meeting book. A few activities were highlighted.

After this report was written, there was an Operations Committee meeting, where the water suppliers received a preview of the Alternatives Study. With the input from the meeting, some changes were made to the Study.

The CO-OP Section has been conducting daily drought monitoring in September and again starting on October 24 to the present time, as the weather has been dry. Additionally, the annual Washington metropolitan area drought exercise was conducted in October, with a focus on online data submissions by the water suppliers using CO-OP's updated online tool, which now automatically generates a daily monitoring report. Automated submission of hourly withdrawal data from the water suppliers still has not been implemented due to security concerns. Another focus of the exercise was integrating output from the real time flow prediction model into the daily drought operations tool. In addition, there was a demand prediction contest and stand-alone staff training exercises were developed and tested.

There was a meeting of the North Branch Advisory Committee yesterday in Luke, Maryland. This committee was established by the National Park Service in 2005 as a forum for stakeholders to provide input on operations and management of Savage and Jennings Randolph dams. Stakeholders include the CO-OP suppliers, whitewater rafters, fishermen, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

An undergraduate student from George Mason University is working with CO-OP and conducting a project to study small upstream municipal reservoirs and to what extent they mitigate upstream consumptive use.

Commissioner Kudlas added his concern that recent rains have not provided the level of anticipated streamflow and groundwater recharge, which is an indicator of very dry conditions. With a dry winter, the next summer season is a concern. He will coordinate with CO-OP if conditions worsen.

Commissioner Karimi was asked to brief executives in DC government on water supply and safety issues. Dr. Schultz assisted with preparation of material for the briefing.

Commissioner Kearney indicated that Maryland is considering a change in drought status based on identified parameters. Typically, the decision on drought status goes through the governor's office. Mr. Kasraei added that in central Maryland the groundwater levels and streamflow are extremely low which is triggering a watch status. One positive is that outdoor water usage is minimal at this time of the year.

**Financial Statement:** Mr. Haywood reported the financial statement for one month of the fiscal year. As there is not much to report, one item to emphasize is the \$20k that was pulled from the reserve account to offset the total budget.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Madden made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Karimi at 8:52AM. All were in favor.**

Minutes written by: Bo Park, Director, Administration

Reviewed by: Cherie Schultz, Director, CO-OP

Approved by: H. Carlton Haywood, CO-OP Secretary