Waterworks Advisory Committee Meeting

May 15, 2014
DEQ Piedmont Regional Office, Innsbrook

Chair: Elmer Handy, Vice Chair, Virginia Rural Water Association
Secretary: Mark Anderson, Virginia Department of Health
Timekeeper: Elmer Handy, Vice Chair, Virginia Rural Water Association
Members Present: Roger Cronin, American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia
Steven Herzog, Virginia Water Environment Association
Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality (on behalf of Scott Kudlas)
Grier Mills, Virginia Department of General Services
Ignatius Mutoti (engineering consultant)
Steve Shaw (on behalf of Jesse Royall), Sydnor Hydro, Inc. (Community waterworks owner)
David Van Gelder, Hanover County DPU (Class 1 operator)
Larry Wallace, Southeast RCAP (on behalf of Hope Cupit)

Guests in Attendance:
Jay Armstrong, Virginia Department of General Services
Susan Douglas, Virginia Department of Health
Howard Eckstein, Virginia Department of Health
Kenneth Eisenhart, Virginia Department of Health
Sarah Hinderliter, Virginia Department of Health
Steve Pellei, Virginia Department of Health

Minutes

Agenda Item: Call to order
Discussion: Mr. Handy convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
Conclusions: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: Introductions
Discussion: Mr. Handy introduced new member, Mr. Steve Herzog. He then asked attendees to introduce themselves and their organizations.
Conclusions: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: Agenda Adoption/Adoption of January 2014 Meeting Minutes
Discussion: There were two revisions that were discussed. There was a motion to adopt the revised minutes and that motion was seconded. Revised minutes were adopted unanimously. The DCLS update was added before new business.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: **Mr. Anderson to distribute January's minutes as approved.**

Agenda Item: Public Comment
Discussion: There was no member of the public in attendance.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: Chairman's Report

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Discussion: Mr. Handy revisited meeting frequency of the committee and venue preferences between in-person meetings versus meetings through Polycom. There was a motion to meet in-person every other month and that motion was seconded. The motion was adopted unanimously. No decision was made on the location other than it would be in the greater Richmond area

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: Legislative Update:

Discussion: Ms. Douglas reported that the revision of the definition of a "waterworks" authorized by Chapter 333 of the 2014 General Assembly (formerly HB 674) is in progress. The deadline to the Virginia Register is October 1, 2014.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: Regulatory Update:

Discussion: Ms. Douglas discussed specific topics for preliminary evaluation and input involving operator and staffing requirements, water supply and demand, surface water withdrawals and safe yield, and Groundwater Management Area well construction. She asked members to forward comments and questions to Ms. McGarvey.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: **Ms. Douglas to send electronic copies of the sections discussed to WAC members.**

Agenda Item: DWSRF Program Update:

Discussion: Mr. Pellei reported that for:

DWSRF 2014. VA has been notified that our allocation is $14,654,000 for the DWSRF capitalization grant. The Intended Use Plan was posted on the ODW web site, VDH held a public comment period and conducted a public meeting. No comments in opposition. We intend to finalize the grant application and submit it in June. EPA has reviewed the draft IUP and PPL and approved them.

DWSRF 2015. ODW received 35 applications for construction funds totaling $32.6 million in response to the Round 1 solicitation. ODW expects to have approximately $18 million available for construction projects. Priority ranking is underway and we will offer approximately $10M to the top 18 ranked projects. The Round 2 solicitation will be due by September 2.

There is concern that the current Administration's budget proposal looks to decrease SRF funding by about 16% from last year.

The Next EPA's National Needs Assessment will be initiated January 2015. The 2015 Drinking Water Needs Survey will be used to set every state's allocation/level of funding for the next four year period (2018-2021). The 20 year capital cost survey will be sent in January 2015 and due by November 2015. It was recommended that ODW send owners participating in the survey a letter on the importance in completing the survey.

Due to the Federal budget crisis EPA continues to strongly encouraging all states to:

1. Expedite project awards and commitments.
2. Reduce unliquidated obligations (drawdowns), VA is currently at 7.5% which is below the national average of 9.6% overall, and
3. Reducing grant performance periods (from 7 to 3 years).

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New Requirements: American Iron and Steel is now a requirement for all SRF projects.

Climate Change Mitigation, Extreme Weather Events and Green Projects. EPA's item of focus. Many tools developed by EPA workgroups. EPA wants to see states incorporate these into the discussion. Main thrust is for Clean Water to be innovative especially in the area of storm water. However there is a growing recognition of the cross-over potential for storm water/non point sources to impact drinking water sources and Clean Water Act and SDWA integration.

Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: **Mr. Pellei to send members e-mail links on where to find more information.**

Agenda Item: Training/Outreach Update
Discussion: Ms. Hinderliter reported on activities of the joint Work for Water Committee. Discussion followed on the initiatives undertaken by organizations to promote the hiring of Veterans and active service members who hold the water treatment specialist occupational specialty. Ms. Hinderliter cited specific activities that ODW had and were undertaking with the U.S. Army Quartermaster School. Mr. Anderson also reported on the recent Operator Certification Stakeholders Meeting the previous week.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: **Members interested in participating in a field trip to Fort Lee are to contact Ms. Hinderliter.**

Agenda Item: Safety/Security Update:
Discussion: Mr. Eisenhart described site visits that he doing that included site visits to waterworks to assess physical security concerns that waterworks might have. He briefly described the free cyber security assessments that ODW is offering through EPA's contractor. He provided details of a recent incident where a chemical supplier unloaded a chemical into the wrong storage tank. Lessons learned were shared with the members.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: DEQ Update
Discussion: Mary Ann Massie, attending for Scott Kudlas/DEQ Office of Water Supply, reported the following:

The State Water Resources Plan is under DEQ executive review.

All regulatory actions related to the Ground Water Management Act of 1992 have been completed. This resulted in (1) a comprehensive revision to the withdrawal regulation and (2) the expansion of the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area. As a result DEQ and VDH staff developed a list of over 350 water systems in the expanded area that potentially need a permit. DEQ staff provided notification in January, conducted Existing User Application Workshops around the expanded area in February and March, conducted a second round of notifications (for those whom had not replied to date) in April. DEQ staff are now following up via phone with all potential applicants to assist in completing the application packages. Complete existing user applications are due (via statute and regulations) by June 30, 2014 or the user waives their right to claim an existing user permit. As of May only 13 existing user applications have been received. (DEQ is expecting between 100- 150 existing user applications).

DEQ Office of Water Supply groundwater staff have also been working with VDH

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regarding the VDH Waterworks Regulations, guidance related to wells for geothermal use, consolidation of well construction forms (UWWCR - GW-2), GPS policy memo and Working Memo #878 for process coordination. *Conclusion*: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: DHCD Update:

Discussion: No DHCD representative in attendance.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: SE-RCAP Update

Discussion: Mr. Wallace reported on the recent Water is Life Conference in Roanoke. Workshops are part of the conference and he reported that Mr. Eisenhart had made a presentation. Attendance was over 200. Virginia Optimization Program Award ceremony is part of the Water is Life activities.

Mr. Wallace also updated the committee on the Virginia Department of Social Services, SERCAP job training and job placement services for eligible Temporary Assistance for Needy Families participants in the Roanoke Valley area who are interested in a career as public water or wastewater system operators. Fourteen students are enrolled at Virginia Western Community Colleges. He is working with Mountain Empire Community College to expand the program into other areas. In discovering a weakness in math, SE-RCAP will be providing additional math instruction to better prepare the students.

SE-RAP is orchestrating a tabletop exercise for the Town of Fries. Mr. Eisenhart volunteered assistance.

SE-RCAP is providing funding assistance to the Piedmont Housing Alliance for installing water and sewer connections for 40 units in Greene County.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: **Mr. Anderson to provide copies of the ODW math manual for the math review.**

Agenda Item: VRWA Update

Discussion: Mr. Handy reported that on the annual VRWA conference that was held in Roanoke. In August, VRWA is hosting its exhibition in Fisherville. He stated that the focus is more maintenance related than operational. Staff is exploring the development of more fee training to offset the loss of federal funds.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: VA AWWA Update

Discussion: No VA AWWA representative in attendance.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: VT Update

Discussion: No VT representative in attendance.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: DCLS Update

Discussion: Grier Mills introduced Jay Armstrong, Principal Scientist in our Inorganic Nonmetals

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Group. He will join me at the meetings and will stand in as the DCLS representative when needed, so we will have better coverage.

- Dr. Tom York is retiring from Virginia State Service, but is serving as our consultant Director of DCLS for one week each month until June. Dr. Denise Toney is the acting Director of DCLS during the interim. A search committee is working on a new DCLS Director.

- On Friday, May 2nd DCLS received two water samples from the James River taken by Henrico WTP close to where they draw their raw water supply. This was in response to the oil spill from the derailed train in Lynchburg. We ran VOC's and semi-VOC's on the samples and found no evidence of oil contamination. DEQ, in the meantime, had taken 12 water samples at different locations on the James over the weekend and we are currently analyzing these samples for semi-VOC's.

- DCLS is currently validating and testing a new Laboratory Information Management System Version 10, conducting case studies, parallel testing, and verifying data. DEQ testing was completed two weeks ago and VDACS testing is ongoing.

- The former regulation, 1VAC30-40, "Regulations for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water", was repealed and replaced with 1VAC30-41, effective May 1, 2014. Chapter 41 has the same title as the former regulation.

A copy of the new regulation in .pdf format is available for download from the DCLS / Drinking Water web page located at www.dgs.virginia.gov/dcls. The web page also has links to the EPA documents which are incorporated by reference into Chapter 41.

Key changes to regulation:

- Incorporates by reference the most recent EPA Manual for certification of drinking water laboratories and federal regulations on drinking water test methods
- Requires all certified laboratories to pay fees; removes exemption for government laboratories.

Mr. Mills fielded a question about the testing of "unknown" samples and he explained that many services are available from DCLS for law enforcement and for State Agencies. DCLS has a Memorandum of Agreement with the Office of Drinking Water to assist with health hazards and investigations. DCLS also tests for chemical and biological agents of terrorism and poisonings.

Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

<u>Agenda Item: New Business</u>
Discussion: There was no new business.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

<u>Agenda Item: Update member Contact Information</u>

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Discussion: A reminder was made to notify Mr. Anderson or Ms. Hewlett, ODW, of changes in members' contact information.
Conclusions: None
Action items: None

Agenda Item: Next Scheduled Meeting

Discussion: The next WAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 17, 2014. Meeting will be via Polycom.
Conclusions: None
Action items: **Mr. Anderson to notify members of broadcast locations.**

Agenda item: Adjournment
Discussion: There was a motion to adjourn and that motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 p.m.
Conclusions: None
Action items: None

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Mark C. Anderson, Secretary

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Elmer Handy, Vice Chair

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