

August 27, 2014

Memorandum #2014-111

TO: Directors of Utilities Committee

BY: Whitney Katchmark, Principal Water Resources Engineer

**RE: Directors of Utilities Committee Meeting – September 3, 2014
RSVP – September 2, 2014**

The HRPDC Directors of Utilities Committee will meet on **September 3, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.** in the **James Room, City Center, Fountain Plaza II, 700 Town Center Drive, Newport News**. The agenda and related materials are attached.

Please RSVP by September 2, 2014 so we may make appropriate arrangements. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

WSK/jc

Attachments

Directors of Utilities Committee:

Kofi M. Boateng, NN
Daniel G. Clayton III, WM
Scott Dewhirst, NN
Sonja Eubank, SM
Bryan Foster, PO
H. Reed Fowler II, NN
Arnie Francis, GL
Tyrone W. Franklin, SY
Frank Haltom, IW
Edward G. Henifin, HRSD
Bill Hopkins, SM
John Hudgins, YK
Julien Johnson, SH
David Jurgens, CH
Thomas M. Leahy III, VB

Kristen M. Lentz, NO
Stephanie Luton, JCSA
Jason Mitchell, HA
Albert Moor II, SU
Russell Pace, FR
Ralph Patterson, WM
Doug Powell, JCSA
Anthony Reyes, HA
Ellen Roberts, PQ
Everett Skipper, NN
Bob Speechly, PQ
Michael Stallings, WN
Peter M. Stephenson, SM
Erin Trimyer, PO
Brian K. Woodward, YK

Capacity Team:

Arnie Francis, GL
Edward G. Henifin, HRSD
Phil Hubbard, HRSD
Stephen K. Land, NN
Kristen M. Lentz, NO
Melissa Lindgren, IW
Stephen T. Motley, VB
Nick Nagurney, VB
Richard Nettleton, VB
Ralph Patterson, WM

Danny Poe, JC
Richard Stahr, Brown and Caldwell
Eric Tucker, NO
Kenneth Turner, NO
Rick Underhill, Greeley-Hansen
Stephen Williams, NN
Frank Wilson, PO
Craig Ziesemer, SU

Directors of Utilities Copy:

Lynn Allsbrook, HA
Joseph Durant, NN
David Fauber, Cape Charles
Donald Jennings, IW
Stephen Land, NN
Bob Montague, VB
David Morris, NN

Richard Nettleton, VB
Kenneth Sims, WN
Stephen Watson, FR
Shannon M. White, NO
Sherry D. Wright, NN
Craig Ziesemer, SU

HRPDC Staff:

Katie Cullipher
Rebekah Eastep
Julia Hillegass
Whitney Katchmark

Randy Keaton
Tiffany Smith
Jenny Tribo

**MEETING OF
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE
AGENDA
September 3, 2014
Newport News
1:30 P.M.**

1. Summary of the August 6, 2014 Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee

The summary of the August 6, 2014 meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee is attached for review and approval.

Attachments:

- 1A August 6, 2014 Meeting Summary
- 1B August 6, 2014 Meeting Sign-in Sheet
- 1C askHRgreen.org 2013-14 Campaign Update and 2014-15 Plan Highlights (presentation slides)
- 1D Salt Water Intrusion in Hampton Roads (presentation slides)
- 1E Staff Update: Affordability Research (presentation slides)

ACTION: Approve the meeting summary.

2. Public Comment

3. Management of Private Wells

The Committee will discuss proposed changes to the white paper describing policy proposals for managing the use of private wells and groundwater withdrawals less than 300,000 gallons per month. The following two revisions were suggested by Committee members:

1. Delete the following sentences: "Current withdrawals are causing declines in water levels, land subsidence, and saltwater intrusion. The Department of Environmental Quality has identified these three impacts as reasons for the state to respond with management policies to minimize future impacts to the aquifer system."
2. Eliminate the following recommendation "To capture more information about groundwater use, DEQ should lower the permit threshold from 300,000 gallons per month to 100,000 gallons per month."

ACTION: Approve white paper for inclusion in the HRPDC legislative agenda.

4. Groundwater Regulatory Update

The Committee will discuss DEQ's draft legislation amending the Ground Water Management Act to require:

- A ground water withdrawal permit for a subdivision in a groundwater management area that will result in total withdrawals of 300,000 gallons or more a month permitting; and
- Well drillers to register with the Department of Environmental Quality new wells constructed in ground water management areas.

The Committee will discuss ideas for a regional strategy to respond to DEQ's permit reduction targets. The HRPDC staff will brief the Committee on a draft white paper written for Mission H2O recommending an adaptive approach to groundwater management (Attachment 4A).

Attachment:

4A Groundwater Management Criteria

ACTION: Per discussion.

5. State Water Control Board Draft Order by Consent

The HRPDC staff will provide a summary of the comments received from Committee members through September 3, 2014. The Committee will have the opportunity to discuss and finalize comments.

ACTION: Per discussion.

6. HRPDC FY2015 Unified Planning Work Program – Water Resources

The Committee will discuss its priorities for HRPDC projects in FY15. The focus of this discussion is to identify major projects that are not recurring program elements.

In FY14, the following priority projects were undertaken:

- Memorandum of Agreement between HRSD and Localities for Wet Weather Management Plan
- Maps of HRSD treatment plant discharge rates and active groundwater withdrawal permits
- Groundwater quality whitepaper
- Creation of groundwater Subcommittee and participation in Mission H2O
- Rate structure outreach activities
- Affordability research

HRPDC staff recommends discussing and prioritizing the following projects for FY15:

- **Groundwater Policy Changes:** Continue membership in Mission H2O and continue participation in regulatory process, including DEQ's development of short- and long-term policy options.
- **Update Groundwater Mitigation Program:** Revisit the MOA and technical guidelines for evaluating mitigation claims.
- **Source Water Assessment Update:** Update map of likely sources of contamination and revisit recommendations in the regional plan.
- **Customer Assistance Program Models:** As a follow-up to the 2020 cost scenarios and estimates of impacted households, identify and evaluate customer assistance and subsidy program models, associated costs to utilities, advantages and detriments.

Committee members are encouraged to suggest other projects and identify regional needs that the HRPDC could address.

ACTION: Identify priority projects for staff to include in FY15 work program.

7. **Draft FY2016 Wastewater and Water Program Budgets**

The Committee will discuss FY16 budgets for Wastewater and Water Programs. Draft budgets will be distributed in a separate email. The locality proportion of the budget is primarily based on number of accounts. The HRPDC has not received the current number of accounts from everyone (data call is due September 15, 2014). When the number of accounts is updated, each budget may change slightly. The Committee will recommend changes per discussion.

ACTION: Per discussion.

8. **Staff Reports**

- **FY15 Water and Wastewater Rate Data:** The deadline for utility responses to the annual water and wastewater rate data call is September 15, 2014. The reported number of accounts will be used to finalize the FY16 budget. Please send responses to Tiffany Smith (tsmith@hrpdca.gov).
- **Affordability:** Utilities are asked to confirm the assumptions for the 2020 water and wastewater cost scenarios. Responses are still pending from most utilities. Please send responses to Tiffany Smith (tsmith@hrpdca.gov).
- **Chlorides Whitepaper:** Per the August 6, 2014 meeting, an executive summary was added. Upon receipt of technical clarification from USGS on one section, the revised draft will be circulated to the Committee for review and comment.

ACTION: No action.

9. **Other Business**