

Groundwater Committee Meeting  
Boones Prime Time Restaurant, Suttons Bay, MI  
August 5, 2005

Members Present: **Annable, Joel; Berkin, Ray; Brennan, Mike; Fisher, Brant; Lovato, Joe; Savage, Tom; Thompson, Scott**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Thompson, Chair
2. Introductions
3. Approval of February 9, 2005 Minutes
4. Approval of Agenda
5. GW Conference by Research & Technical Practices Committee - (Thompson)
6. GW Seminar by MWEA - (Thompson)
7. Subcommittee Report on Wellhead Award – (Annable)
8. Tri-annual GW Conference at Kellogg Center (Thompson)
9. MDEQ Report on Wellhead Funding – (Fisher)
10. New Business

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Meeting called to order** by Thompson at 11:15 am.
2. **Introductions:** Brown, DeVries, Hon, Rich, and Wahrer not present. Starting from Thompson, committee members went around the room and introduced themselves.
3. **Approval of February 9, 2005 minutes:** DeVries never issued minutes, so we could not discuss them. Since DeVries was absent, Annable reluctantly volunteered to do the minutes for the present meeting, just this one time.
4. **Approval of Agenda:** We automatically approved agenda and moved onto discussion.
5. **GW Conference by Research & Technical Practices Committee:** Thompson mentioned that he received email from Gary Logsdon about an October 27 GW

Conference sponsored by the Research & Technical Practices Committee at the Best Western in Lansing. Annable mentioned that he had been contacted by them to do a talk on wells and pumps. Annable said that he had to decline the invitation due to time constraints. Much debate ensued about joining forces on the October 27 conference or just letting them do their own thing. We even discussed encouraging them not to do their conference and joining up with us on ours instead. Brother Ray (Berkin) suggested telling them “Good luck, God bless, and tell your folks about our upcoming conference in March”. Fisher said something about “We been drinking and thinking”. To conclude the lengthy discussion because it was eating into our play time, Annable motioned that we have Thompson ask Brown talk to Khalil Atasi and workout the details about how we could or should be involved with their conference, and vice versa. Berkin seconded. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**6. GW Seminar by MWEA:** None of the MWEA Groundwater Committee members were present, so Thompson brought to our attention that they have a GW Seminar on November 10. Did not record where that was going to be held. Thompson said that Wahrer is also on the MWEA Groundwater Committee and wanted us to co-sponsor this event. Someone suggested having Eric Way tell MWEA we would not co-sponsor since they had an agreement with us not to compete with our Tri-annual GW Conference. It was concluded that Thompson would follow up with more discussion with MWEA about whether we should co-sponsor. No vote was taken.

**7. Subcommittee Report on Wellhead Award:** Annable reported that his subcommittee, consisting of Annable, Berkin, Savage, and Wahrer, had met at MDEQ on May 25 to review all 4 submittals. The 4 submittals were Big Rapids, Clare, ??, and Waterford Township. The subcommittee recommendation was Waterford Township. Much debate ensued over issuing 1 award or 2, and whether to call it a Wellhead award or a Source Water award. We finally decided upon 1 award called Wellhead. Annable motioned to accept Waterford Township (despite the fact that Peerless-Midwest had nothing to do with this one). Lovato seconded. *Motion carried unanimously.*

As a follow-up discussion, Thompson mentioned that he would not be present at the Section AWWA Conference to make the presentation. Annable volunteered to make the presentation, as he had also done it at the 2004 AWWA Conference.

**8. Tri-annual GW Conference at Kellogg Center:** Thompson began discussion on topics and speakers for this event. He said we needed about 18 topics. A suggestion was made to have a short presentation by a representative from each of the following groups: AWWA, MWEA, MRWA, MCWC, MDEQ, and Michigan Farm Bureau (or another agricultural agency). Other topics and speakers mentioned were as follows:

Regulatory Overview – Elgar Brown

Great Lakes Charter – Stanley Pruss

Water Legacy Act – Jim Cleland

Update on Motor Wheel Project – Bill Maier

Water Song – Tom Savage and Ray Berkin (perhaps with Ed)

Ice Mountain Spring Water / 3 years after – Greg Foote

ASR – Ron Hohlstein (Retired Lansing BWL)  
Subject to be named – Peerless-Midwest  
SCAADA System for Wellfield Control – Waterford Township  
Abandoned Well Program – Jim McEwan  
6 slots on GW Mapping Project and GW Conflict topics – Possible panel and others

We will try to finalize the Conference agenda at our next GW Committee meeting.

**9. MDEQ Report on Wellhead Funding:** Fisher passed out a sheet detailing Wellhead Grants for past 3 years. In 2004, 67 applications were approved for a total of \$857,800. In 2005, 57 applications were approved for a total of \$848,143. In 2006, 50 applications were approved for a total of \$690,480.

There are now 295 PWSS's in Wellhead (approximately 65% of all PWSS's in Michigan). These represent almost 90% of the State's population which is reliant on PWSS groundwater.

Currently, MDEQ has approved 135 Wellhead Programs (compared to 119 at this time last year). There are 75 more completed and approved WHPA delineations that have not yet completed the whole Wellhead Program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Fisher gave the GW Mapping Website as <http://gwmap.rsgis.msu.edu>
2. Berkin recommended that we put an article in the Water Works News. Fisher and/or Lovato will write the article and submit it.
3. Thompson said that our GW Conference has been set for March 14 & 15, 2006 (Tue/Wed)

The next Groundwater Committee meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 29, 2005** in Constitution Hall at 10:00 am. Thompson thanked those in attendance for their participation. The meeting was adjourned at about 1:00 pm.

Submitted by,  
Joel Annable