

Michigan Section AWWA Source Water Protection and Ground Water Committees Joint Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 19, 2006

MDEQ, Robert Danhof Conference Room - 2nd Floor North

Present at the meeting: Joel Annable, Deb Bailey, Martin Barnes, Mike Brennan, Brad Brogren, Elgar Brown, Brant Fisher, Dave Holtschlag, Kelly Hon, Wayne Kukuk, Joe Lovato, Ronda Page, Gail Peterson, David L. Rich, Ruth Kline-Robach, Scott Ross, John Savage, Paul Seegert, Tom Smith, Marc Wahrer, Andrea Zajac

Introductions and Agenda – Brad Brogren, MPHI, SWP Co-Chair

April 12, 2006 SWP Committee Meeting Minutes Approval – Deb Bailey, MDEQ

- **Deb Bailey** made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. **Andrea Zajac** seconded the motion. Motion passed.

February 7, 2006 GW Committee Meeting Minutes Approval – Joel Annable, Peerless-Midwest, Inc.

- **Joel Annable** made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. **Brant Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion passed.

MDEQ/MRWA Source Water Protection Program Update – Deb Bailey, Ronda Page, MDEQ; Paul Seegert, Kelly Hon, MRWA

- **Deb Bailey**
 - Reviewed articles in most recent SWP Newsletter.
 - Attended Friends of St. Joe River meeting. The group is looking to form as a Watershed Council.
- **Ronda Page** – WHP Grants - We have received around 20 grant applications so far. Budget issues might be to blame for lower turnout. (Update – final count at 43 grant applications, which exceeded our expectations.)
- **Paul Seegert** – Still working with Adrian and River Raisin area.
- **Kelly Hon** – Still working on completing WHP plans for communities.
- **Brad Brogren** – We are working to get watershed groups involved in SWP. He and Paul are working with Alpena to complete their SWIPP. Alpena is applying for DWRL funds.

SWP Committee Activities – Elgar Brown, MDEQ; Brad Brogren, MPHI

- **Elgar Brown**
 - Touched on the disconnect between groundwater and surface water programs. DEQ had hoped to create grant program for surface water intake communities modeled after wellhead protection grant program, but funding source had to be tapped for another program.

- Would like to develop workshop for watershed groups to explain what Source Water Protection is, and how they can be involved.
 - Concerns raised about getting the groups to a workshop (their funding is very tight to non-existent).
 - Deb has already started making contacts with the watershed groups in the state, and it might be more feasible to start with on-site visits, then expand to workshops with financial times are better.
- **Brad Brogren** – Gave background on SWP Committee. It was created as a spin-off from the Source Water Assessment Committee. Brad and Elgar are also members of the national AWWA SWP Committee.

GW Committee Activities, Joel Annable, Chair

- **Elgar Brown** – Would like to keep separate SWP and GW committees on state level, but nationally, EPA and AWWA are moving towards SWP only.
- **Joel Annable**
 - 2006 GW Conference was very successful. 131 Day 1 attendees, 116 Day 2 attendees. Committee will start brainstorming ideas for 2009 conference.
 - Exemplary WHP Award – Subcommittee met on May 24th to determine recommendation for winner. 6 applications (Davison, Brighton, Lansing BWL, Clare, Bangor, Cassopolis).
 - Davison recommended as winner by subcommittee.
 - **Joel Annable** moved to accept recommendation, **Elgar Brown** seconded. Motion Passed.
 - **Elgar** would like to highlight past winners at future WHP Conferences.

Michigan On-site Wastewater Program, Ric Falardeau, MDEQ

- Ric gave an overview of Michigan's On-site Wastewater Program.
 - No statewide Sanitary Code, but Michigan still has more structure than many other states. Local Health Departments provide onsite regulation.
 - 1 & 2 family on-site systems were not considered 'significant' use of state waters, and regulation was delegated to LHDs. This has resulted in 44 different local sanitary codes.
 - Michigan Criteria for Subsurface Sewage Disposal for larger systems.
 - EPA wants on-site systems to perform 'treatment' functions, not just disposal.
 - Estimated 1.4 million systems in Michigan.
 - 50% of new homes utilize on-site systems.
 - Septic tanks are #1 perceived cause of nonpoint source pollution.
 - 7 LHDs perform inspections at Time of Sale.
 - Governor asked DEQ to assemble task force and complete statewide Sanitary Code in 90 days (2004).
 - It's 2006 and we still don't have a statewide code.

- Septage Program (Part 117 amendments)
 - Land Application
 - Fee funded
 - Pushing haulers to be more technical with soil sampling, agronomic rates, cropping plans, pathogen, and vector requirements (injection).
 - <http://www.michigan.gov/deqseptage>
- **Andrea Zajac** notified committees about Energy Act, which requires all new underground storage tanks installed within 1000 ft. of a well or distribution system have double walled containment. 95% of Michigans USTs are already double walled.

Potential Joint Committee Activities, Elgar Brown and Joel Annable

- Three potential activities
 - Awards
 - We have Michigan SWIPP and WHP award, however we can only submit one per population group for the national award. Will have to decide how to proceed if both are in the same group.
 - Seminars
 - Conferences

GW Committee next meeting – possibly in Lansing area @ local watering hole. Joel will send email to committee to confirm date.

SWP Committee next meeting – August 23rd, 2006, 9:30am.

Committees will continue to meet jointly once per year.