

**MINUTES
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION/WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MEETING ROOM
September 9, 2019
1:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Williams at 1:30 p.m. Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 and the NJ Water Quality Management Planning Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15-9.3(b)7, have been complied with and are entered into the minutes of this meeting. A salute to the flag was observed prior to the start of today's meeting.

I. Roll Call

Attendance was as follows:

Khalid Anjum	Middlesex County	Present
William Robins	Borough of Dunellen	Not present
Theodore Chase, Jr.	Township of Franklin	Present
Freeholder Charles Kenny	Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders	Not present
Alan Godber	Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership, Inc.	Not present
Sewell Peckham	Borough of Helmetta	Not present
Dawn Mc Donald	Borough of Spotswood	Not present
Margaret Drozd		Not present
Michael Hill	Freehold Soil Conservation District	Present
Brandon Goldfine	Middlesex Water Company	Not present
Donald Newton	Borough of Sayreville	Not present
Dawn Corcoran-Gardella	Township of Piscataway	Not present
Jason Friedman	Middlesex County Planning Board	Not present
Siegfred Hubak	Township of Woodbridge	Not present
Alice Tempel	Borough of South Plainfield	Present
Brian Racin	Borough of South River	Present
Bryan Bidlack	Township of South Brunswick	Not present
Leigh Jones	Township of East Brunswick Water and Sewage	Not present
Ron Yake	Township of Plainsboro	Not present
Les Varga		Present
Lou Ploskonka		Present
Robert Noel	Monroe Township Utility Dept.	Present
Doriann Kerber	Borough of Milltown	Present
George Ververides	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Not present
Mirah Becker		Present
Laurie Sobel		Not present
Nicholas Tufaro		Not present
Lori Kahel		Present
Roma Patel		Present
Sharon Martens	Middlesex Cty. Office of Public Health –	Not present
Gary Rojek	Environmental Division	Not present
Ronald Sendner	Middlesex County Office of Engineering	Not present
Edward Kuchie		Not present
Kyle Clonan	NJ Water Supply Authority	Not present
Kevin Aiello	Middlesex County Utilities Authority	Not present
Wale Adewunmi		Present
Daria Ludas	Borough of Jamesburg	Not present

I. Roll Call (continued)

Allan Williams	Highland Park Environmental Commission	Present
Rick Lear	Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation	Not present
Michele Bakacs	Rutgers Cooperative Extension	Not present
Sara Malone	Rutgers Sustainable Raritan Initiative	Not present
Suzan Colon	Old Bridge Twp. Environmental and Open Space Committee	Not present
David Hall	Township of Old Bridge	Not present
Heather Fenyk	Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership	Not present
Alex Zakrewsky		Present
Bill Schultz	Raritan Riverkeeper	Present
Brandon Goldberg	City of New Brunswick	Not present
Scott Tarnoski		Not present
Joseph Meyer	SUEZ Water	Not present
Maximo Vazquez	City of Perth Amboy	Not present
Maritza Rodriguez		Not present
Bryan Cardenas		Not present
Edward Segotta	Borough of Carteret	Not present
Greg Remaud	NY/NJ Baykeeper	Not present
Tom Boccino	Somerset County	Not present
Steve Gottlieb	East Brunswick Township	Not present
Sean Kaplan	Borough of Middlesex	Not present
John Kranz	Middlesex County Mosquito Extermination Com.	Not present
Denise Marabello	Township of Cranbury	Not present
Chris Gianotto	Township of North Brunswick	Not present
Thomas Vigna		Not present
Bruce Samuel	Clark Farms	Present
Dan Busch		Present
Pilar Patterson	Delaware Engineering on behalf of Suez Water	Present

II. Minutes of the Meeting of May 13, 2019

Tabled.

III. Presentation -- Proposed Site-Specific Amendment – Clark Family Enterprises, LLC, Block 320, Lot 5.03 – East Brunswick

Ms. Becker presented the staff report for the Clark Farms project. The property is located on Block 320, Lot 5.03 in the Township of East Brunswick. The property consists of approximately 80.3 acres of undeveloped land to be subdivided into 12 residential lots, one stormwater management lot, and one existing residential/farm lot. Six single family dwellings are proposed along Lantern Lane and six along a new roadway, Winthrop Court. The property is zoned R-1 and R-3, or single-family rural residential and single-family suburban residential respectively.

The property is currently located in a septic area designated to be served by individual subsurface disposal systems with flows less than 2,000 gpd. The project will utilize potable water supplied by the Middlesex Water Company. Domestic wastewater will discharge to the Middlesex County Utilities Authority through East Brunswick’s conveyance system. The total projected daily wastewater flow for the development is 3,600 gallons per day (gpd).

III. Presentation -- Proposed Site-Specific Amendment – Clark Family Enterprises, LLC, Block 320, Lot 5.03 – East Brunswick (continued)

A letter of interpretation (LOI) for the wetland limits was obtained for the site. The project does not encroach into the wetlands. There are no threatened or endangered species on the property. There are no Category 1 water bodies or historic buildings on the project site. The NJDEP Division of Land Use Regulation determined that a Flood Hazard Area authorization is not required for the proposed activities, because it is not located within the flood hazard area or riparian zone of the Ireland Brook. The Freehold Soil Conservation District has further granted certification for the project development. All required NJDEP and local permits have been obtained for construction of the project.

Mr. Bruce Samuels and Mr. Dan Busch shared an exhibit showing the project. Mr. Busch stated that the project did receive approval from the East Brunswick Planning Board in June 2009. All conservation easements were filed at that time. In 2017 when the sewer extension permit expired, it was discovered that the project was not in the sewer service area. Mr. Busch entertained questions from the members.

Mr. Williams indicated that it appeared that the applicant had met all NJDEP and County requirements. A motion was made by Ms. Kerber, seconded by Dr. Chase. There were 11 votes in the affirmative and one vote in the negative to approve the Clark Farms Project Amendment.

IV. Review and Vote of WRA By-laws

This item was tabled at the request of Middlesex County Administration.

Mr. Noel asked that on page 4, last paragraph, d. Monroe Township Utilities Authority be deleted since the authority was dissolved approximately six years ago.

V. Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP)

No report.

VI. Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP)

Ms. Kerber gave a brief report on some of the LRWP activities. She has been busy distributing a map of the Lower Raritan watershed and curricula to area schools.

VII. Manalapan Brook Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Freehold Soil Conservation District)

Mr. Hill reported that FSCD is trying to close out Phase I. The restoration projects on two basins are doing very well. Signage has been ordered. In respect to Phase II, evaluations have begun and talks with Manalapan Township have started.

VIII. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions

- **South Central Middlesex County Flood Control Commission**

No report.

VIII. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions (continued)

- **Green Brook Flood Control Commission (Middlesex County)**

No report.

IX. NJ Water Supply Activities/Projects (NJWSA)

- **Raritan Basin Watershed Plan/Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance**
- **D & R Canal Tributary (Franklin) Project**
- **Cedar Grove Brook (Franklin) Project**

No report.

X. Raritan Riverkeeper

Mr. Schultz invited everyone to attend the Raritan River Festival which will be held on September 22 at Boyd Park.

XI. Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE)

Ms. Kerber stated that in two weeks, the Green Infrastructure Champion group will be meeting with Dr. Obropta to plan some municipal outreach.

XII. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative

No report.

XIII. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan

Ms. Becker provided a brief update on the Wastewater Management Plan. The plan is currently under review by NJDEP upper management. A few minor editorial revisions were requested by NJDEP. According to NJDEP, they want to go to notice in the NJ Register by the end of the year. A public hearing is planned for January 2020.

Mr. Varga stated that Plainsboro Township was able to obtain a copy of the draft plan. The plan was reviewed by both in-house staff as well as Suez Water. The township believes there are some inconsistencies that they would like to discuss with county and NJDEP staff. Mr. Williams asked that Plainsboro provide a written list of the inconsistencies to both the County and NJDEP prior to the meeting.

Dr. Tempel asked if the county had been notified about new noticing requirements. SWAC recently received a notice that under a recent Executive Order there are new noticing requirements. County staff will follow-up to see if these apply to the Wastewater Management Plan.

XIV. Status Update on NJDEP NJ Resilient Program and CRS/MS4 Group

Mr. Tufaro was unable to attend today's meeting. His report on activities was distributed with the additional meeting materials and was attached to the minutes of today's meeting.

XV. Correspondence

- **WRA Annual Report**

Ms. Becker stated that the WRA Annual Report was distributed. If anyone has any comments or suggestions for next year, please e-mail her.

XVI. Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed at today's meeting.

XVII. New Business

- Discussion and Recommendations for Speakers on Topics of Interest

Mr. Williams opened the floor to receive recommendations for speakers for future meetings. The following recommendations were made:

- Use of herbicides in the County Parks (policy on signage).
- What effect can invasive species have on succession.
- Climate change and the tidal effect on the Raritan River.

In light of the Destination 2040 project. Ms. Kerber recommended initiating talks about restoring the watershed. There is a lot of funding available to do restoration. Some local businesses and industry may also be willing to provide financial support for restoration projects.

- Legislative Bill – Municipal Infrastructure

Mr. Williams stated that currently there is a bill in the NJ legislature that would allow municipalities to sell off municipal infrastructure. Presently, a referendum is needed.

- Monroe Township Green Fair

Mr. Noel invited everyone to the Monroe Township Green Fair scheduled for September 28, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Monroe Township High School.

XVIII. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment at today's meeting.

XIX. Next meeting, date, time and place

The next WRA meeting will be held on November 4, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building. Ms. Becker stated that a new site-specific application will be heard at that meeting.

XX. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

lak

p/environmental sustainability/wra/minutes/2019/090919