

**MINUTES
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION/WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MEETING ROOM
January 13, 2020
1:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Williams at 1:40 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:

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
Theodore Gassman	Middlesex Water Company	Present
Donald Newton	Borough of Sayreville	Not present
Gail Lalla	Middlesex County Planning Board	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	Present
Leigh Jones	Township of East Brunswick Water and Sewage	Not present
Ron Yake	Township of Plainsboro	Present
Les Varga		Not present
Lou Ploskonka		Not present
Robert Noel	Monroe Township Utility Dept.	Present
Heather Fenyk	Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership	Not present
Doriann Kerber		Present
George Ververides	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Present
Mirah Becker		Present
Laurie Sobel		Not present
Nicholas Tufaro		Not present
Lori Kahel		Present
Alex Zakrewsky		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	Present
Wale Adewunmi	Middlesex County Utilities Authority	Present
Daria Ludas	Borough of Jamesburg	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
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
Barbara Rogers		Present
Chris Gianotto	Township of North Brunswick	Not present
Thomas Vigna		Not present
Joe Slomian	Public	Present

I. Minutes of the Meeting of November 4, 2019

The minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2019 were distributed prior to today’s meeting.

Mr. Williams recommended a correction on page 3, Section III, paragraph 2, the second sentence should read, “50 to 100-foot transition areas”. A motion was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Noel and approved to adopt the minutes as amended with abstentions from Messrs. Yake and Klonan.

II. Presentation – Gail Lalla - “The Relationship Between Water, Energy and Resiliency”

Mr. Williams introduced Ms. Gail Lalla who made a presentation on The Relationship Between Water, Energy and Resiliency. Highlights of her presentation included the definition of resiliency, approaching hazard mitigation planning, looking at risk and mitigation, asset management, mapping, and the importance of communication and outreach. See attached PowerPoint for more details.

III. Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP) (Alan Godber)

No report.

IV. Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP)

Ms. Kerber presented an overview of 2019 LRWP activities (attached). The LRWP announced that within the next few weeks a frame will be installed at Boyd Park as part of the #lookfortheriver campaign.

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

Mr. Hill reported that the rain gardens are doing well. The South Jersey RCD completed setting up the accounts for the next phase. The first quarterly report was submitted to NJDEP. Princeton Hydro is continuing their work. A meeting will be held about the next phase of the project on January 27.

VI. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions

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

Mr. Ververides stated that the focus is in Middlesex Borough. The Army Corps received \$5 million from the federal government. The impacts of the recent devastating fire in Bound Brook will be discussed at the next meeting.

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

No report.

VII. 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**

Mr. Klonan presented a brief report on NJWSA activities. Two basin retrofits are planned for the Cedar Grove Brook Project in Franklin. Monitoring is continuing on those basins. In terms of the Raritan Basin Watershed Plan, it is hoped to begin a mitigation plan for invasive species on the basin.

VIII. Raritan Riverkeeper

Ms. Becker asked Mr. Schultz to speak about the Perth Amboy CSO issue. The local officials are overwhelmed, and public engagement is difficult. The meetings are too technical for the audience. The public engagement group was recently combined with the SWIM Group.

IX. Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE)

Mr. Kerber stated that the Green Infrastructure Champions Program begins on January 17. Registration is \$150.00.

X. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative

No report.

XI. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan

Ms. Becker provided a brief update on the Wastewater Management Plan. The plan is under review by NJDEP. There is a portion of the plan where one of the towns and the county do not agree. NJDEP is working on a resolution of a methodology disagreement.

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

Ms. Becker provided a brief update on the NJDEP NJ Resilient Program. A kick-off meeting was held, but everything has come to a stand still because NJDEP is having a problem bringing a consultant on board.

XIII. Correspondence

- **NJ Proposes Stringent Drinking Water Standards for PFOA and PFOS**

Ms. Becker distributed a handout on NJ's proposed stringent Drinking Water Standards (attached). NJ has come out with a maximum contaminant level limit for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). The state standards will become effective following NJDEP's review of comments and final rule adoption.

- **Destination 2040**

Ms. Becker distributed two handouts (attached) which included a schedule of Phase 2 of the Destination 2040 planning process and the outline of the plan. The schedule expects the plan to be completed by December 2020.

- **Green Infrastructure Champion Project**

Ms. Kerber stated that within the next two years she will need to pick a project to study in a specific town.

XIV. Old Business

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

XV. New Business

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

XVI. Public Comment

Dr. Rogers stated that she enjoyed participating in the Destination2040 Stakeholder Workshop at Middlesex County College. However, she found it difficult to follow up and comment on statements that were made since the statements were written on cards and collected at the end of the sessions. Ms. Becker assured everyone that the comments were added to the topic briefs. Once the topic briefs are put on-line, she recommended that everyone review the topic briefs that interest them to be sure their concerns are adequately addressed.

XVII. Next meeting, date, time and place

The next WRA meeting will be held on March 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building.

XVIII. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

lak