



MINUTES
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION/WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MEETING ROOM
November 13, 2017
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:

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
Will Sigle		Not present
Sewell Peckham	Borough of Helmetta	Not present
David Hall	Township of Old Bridge	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	Present
Stephen Pospiech	City of Perth Amboy	Not present
Leigh Anne Hindenlang		Not present
Andrew Toth		Not present
William Kurzenberger		Not present
Donald Newton	Borough of Sayreville	Present
Dawn Corcoran-Gardella	Township of Piscataway	Not present
Vincent Martino	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		Not present
John Katerba	Monroe Township Utility Dept.	Not present
Ryan Herkert		Not present
Doriann Kerber	Borough of Milltown	Present

I. Roll Call (continued)

George Ververides Mirah Becker Laurie Sobel Nicholas Tufaro Lori Kahel Alex Zakrewsky Jessica Alvarez	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Present Present Not present Present Present Not present Not present
Sharon Martens Gary Rojek	Middlesex Cty. Dept. of Public Health – Environmental Division	Not present Not present
Richard Wallner Edward Kuchie	Middlesex County Office of Engineering	Not present Not present
Ken Klipstein Bob O’Neil	NJ Water Supply Authority	Not present Present
Richard Fitamant Kevin Aiello	Middlesex County Utilities Authority	Not present Present
Daria Ludas	Borough of Jamesburg	Present
Doug Robertson Glenn Sandor	Township of North Brunswick	Not present Not present
Allan Williams	Highland Park Environmental Commission	Present
Rick Lear	Middlesex County Parks and Recreation Department	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
Heather Fenyk Brian Kempf	Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership	Not present Not present
Bill Schultz	Raritan Riverkeeper	Present
Keith Jones	City of New Brunswick	Not present
Joseph Meyer	SUEZ Water	Not present
Gregory Ploussas Larry Pantirer	Valencia Gardens	Present Present
Matthew Smith	Food & Water Watch	Present

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – September 11, 2017

The minutes of the meeting of September 11, 2017 were distributed prior to today’s meeting. A motion was made by Mr. O’Neil, seconded by Mr. Racin and approved to accept the minutes as presented.

III. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan – Review of Proposed WQMP Amendment Application

Valencia Gardens – Block 2101, Lot 11.02 – Piscataway Township

Mr. Larry Pantirer and Mr. Gregory Ploussas made a presentation on Valencia Gardens. The project is located at 93 Old New Brunswick Road in Piscataway Township. The site has been zoned Affordable Housing 2 by the municipality. It consists of 110 apartment units with 88 free

III. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan – Review of Proposed WQMP Amendment Application

Valencia Gardens – Block 2101, Lot 11.02 – Piscataway Township (continued)

market and 22 affordable units. The site received preliminary and final site plan approval from the township on September 13, 2017. The project will consist of three buildings, a recreation center, and a swimming pool. The project will cover five acres with an estimated flow of 24,865 gallons per day (GPD).

Ms. Becker distributed an information packet for the members' review. She noted that there were no environmentally sensitive areas on the site. The application indicated that there were Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for which the applicant disagreed with the DEP's environmental data. A LOI has been obtained for these wetland areas. There is sufficient capacity at MCUA to handle the project. The packet also contained an endorsement letter from Mayor Brian Wahler. The Piscataway Planning Board resolution granting preliminary and final site plan approval was also distributed.

Mr. Williams asked if Piscataway had a tree ordinance in place. Mr. Pantirer responded affirmatively. The ordinance has been complied with. Mr. Schultz asked about the stormwater management system. Mr. Ploussas replied that there are two underground detention basins and three pre-treatment facilities planned. The stormwater management plan complies with the current NJDEP standards. Dr. Chase added that he assumed that NJDEP took the project area out of the SSA because of the wetlands, but the proposed project does not disturb any of the wetland areas. Mr. Ploussas added that he distributed handouts which showed the site plan and outlined the wetlands areas, a wetlands location map, an existing condition map, and the proposed additional sewer service area. Mr. Schultz asked if the applicant considered pervious asphalt for the parking areas. The applicant did not feel it was feasible. Mr. Tufaro asked if the applicant applied for transition area averaging since some of the construction areas appeared very close to the 50 foot wetlands buffer. Mr. Ploussas indicated that transition area averaging was used.

Mr. Williams indicated that it appeared that the applicant had met all NJDEP and County requirements. A motion was made by Mr. O'Neil, seconded by Mr. Racin, and approved to endorse the Valencia Gardens Amendment. The amendment will be forwarded to the Middlesex County Planning Board for their consideration.

IV. Presentation by Matthew Smith, Food and Water Watch

Mr. Matthew Smith, an organizer with Food and Water Watch made a presentation about the work the organization is doing to educate citizens, policy makers, and other stakeholders. Highlights of the presentation included New Jersey's water infrastructure, the crisis in Flint, Michigan, key risks of water privatization, and New Jersey's Water Infrastructure Protection Act.

A copy of Mr. Smith's presentation is attached to the minutes of today's meeting. Also attached are handouts on The WATER Act, Public-Public Partnerships, and The State of Public Water in the United States. Information on Food and Water Watch can be found on their website at:

<https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/state/new-jersey>.

V. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan

Ms. Becker presented an update on Wastewater Management Plan activities. The second quarter progress report was submitted to NJDEP along with the Wastewater Capacity Analysis. The analysis showed that the Middlesex County Utilities Authority (MCUA) had sufficient capacity. Mr. Aiello added that MCUA data and the model still has capacity to expand within the County. The next element to be completed will be the nitrate dilution analysis. PRIME Consulting will be coming to the WRA Meeting to speak about this part of the plan.

Mr. Aiello added over the years, industrial users have left the area or made substantial strides in trying to reduce their loading on the plant. Many industrial users now pre-treat before sending flows to the plant. After Superstorm Sandy, industrial users looked at ways to save water and have instituted contingency plans to reduce discharge if needed.

VI. Manalapan Brook Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Freehold Soil Conservation District (FSCD)/Middlesex County)

Mr. Hill stated that a different NJDEP representative has been named to work on the project. Work will begin in the spring.

VII. Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP)

Ms. Kerber mentioned that some clean ups were being planned.

VIII. Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP)

Ms. Becker reminded everyone that the Green Infrastructure for Coastal Resilience Workshop will be held on Friday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. A copy of the agenda was distributed to the members. There were a few registration slots available.

IX. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative

No report.

X. 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 on the projects listed above.

XI. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions

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

No report.

XI. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions (continued)

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

Mr. Ververides stated that work is continuing in Middlesex Borough. Bound Brook has been completed. Middlesex County is working closely with Somerset County as far as maintenance.

XII. Correspondence

There was no Correspondence presented at today's meeting.

XIII. Old Business

- **Proposed Revision and Amendment Procedures for All Sewer Service Applications Coming Before the WRA**

Ms. Becker gave an update on the proposed Revision and Amendment Procedures that were discussed at the last WRA Meeting. The procedures are being reviewed by Administration and staff has been addressing their concerns. It looks like Administration will agree to keep the process in place as recommended by the WRA. There is some concern about the amount of staff time spent on arranging and holding public hearings for all amendments. Ms. Becker is waiting for guidance from Administration regarding holding public hearings. Mr. Aiello recommended setting up criteria to determine when a public hearing is needed. Holding a public hearing should not be subjective.

XIV. New Business

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

XV. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment at today's meeting.

XVI. Next meeting, date, time and place

The next WRA meeting will be held on January 8, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building.

XVII. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

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