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Meeting Minutes

**White Clay Creek Watershed
Management Committee**

January 15, 2003, 7-9PM

City of Newark Municipal Building

Newark, Delaware

Attendees:

Chuck Barscz	Fred Muller	Bill Zimmerman
Joseph DiNunzio	John Houghton	Peter Demicco
Bill Romanoth	McKenna	Heather Rose
Robert C. Chartowich	Edna J. Bente	Paul Bente
Martin Wells	Judith Shuler	Tom Gardner
Jerry Kauffman	Nicholas Lutwyche	Sally Cheyne
Lynda Farrell	Nancy Parker	Dorothy P. Miller
Bruce Carter		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 09/18/2002 & 11/13/2002

Jack Stefferud noted that the minutes of November 13 did not adequately reflect the Natural Lands Trust involvement with the Critical Areas project that is being done by the Open Space Subcommittee. The November 13, 2002 minutes will be revised to indicate that Natural Lands Trust and Brandywine Conservancy are jointly working on the Critical Areas project.

- *A Motion was made by Fred Muller and seconded by Jack Stefferud to approve the minutes of September 18, 2002 and November 13, 2002 with the above noted revisions. The Motion was unanimously approved by those members in attendance.*

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Open Space Subcommittee

It was mentioned that Natural Lands Trust was selected as a recipient of a \$700,000 grant from PA DCNR for land acquisition activities within the White Clay Creek watershed. This grant will match another grant that Natural Lands Trust already received from Chester County.

Recreational Trails

Jake Michael (Chester County Planning) reported that he has met with all but one municipality within the watershed to gather information about trails. There are not many trails within the watershed on the Pennsylvania side. Jake is working with Avondale Borough and West Grove Borough and New Garden Township to analyze possible trail linkages. Jake asked if the Management Committee would be interested in assisting these efforts with some monetary contribution.

- *It was the consensus of those members present that the Management Committee would support a monetary commitment to assist with local trail efforts.*

Education

The Education Subcommittee has put together the criteria for a local "mini-grant" education program. The Executive Committee is reviewing this proposal and will make comments.

Fish and Wildlife

No report from the Fish & Wildlife Committee.

PRESENTATION ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY-NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP WELL:

Joe DiNunzio, Bruce Carter, John Houghton, and Nancy Parker from Artesian Water Company and their consultants Peter Demicco and Bill Romanoth gave another follow-up presentation about their New Garden Township well.

It was noted that the Cockeysville marble formation on the Pennsylvania side of the watershed is about 700 acres in size. It was noted that there is no connection between the Pennsylvania and Delaware Cockeysville marble formations.

Artesian's studies and monitoring wells have shown that the New Garden well has a minor impact on adjoining wells. The New Garden well pumps at 600 gallons per minute. The cone of depression within 1000 feet of the well indicates that there is 2-3 foot draw down at that distance which indicates a minor impact on surrounding wells.

Artesian stated that the designated service area for the New Garden Well is the Broad Run Subdivision. The depth of the well is 150 feet, with a casing depth of 70 feet, water is reached at 90-100 feet. The aquifer is confined by overburden.

Artesian opened the discussion up for questions:

Is this well a back up for drought? No.

Are there any provisions to take water from this well back to Delaware? No there are no provisions to

take water from Pennsylvania back to Delaware.

Will operation of your well affect other local wells? *No the operation of our well should not affect the operation or flow rates of other adjacent wells, private residential wells in the area will not see any difference in their operation and they will not run out of water.*

Is it true that some residential wells were affected by the operation of your Hockessin well? *Yes a few homes did experience some adverse affects and problems. Pumpage regulations were different when we started use of that well, we were allowed to pump 3-4 million gallons per day, the Cockeysville Marble could not sustain that amount of withdrawal. We learned from that situation and now we are allowed to pump at 1.9 million gallons per day up to 3 million in any 24 hour period.*

Who owns the water? *Artesian does not own the water, the State owns the water, it is the Doctrine of Equitable Apportionment.*

What is Artesian's intention for the New Garden Well? *Artesian's intention is to provide another source of drinking water in New Garden Township and the surrounding area in Pennsylvania.*

Does New Garden Township welcome you? *Artesian has had a number of discussions with New Garden Township.*

Are there any affects on streams from the Hockessin well? *Do not know, perhaps 10% of groundwater gets captured and does not go into Mill Creek.*

Where is the water coming from for the New Garden Well? *It comes from rain, groundwater and surface water. There is a 2.5 square mile recharge area for this well. Infiltration rates average about .5 million gallons per day per square mile of drainage area, so that equals about 1.25 million gallons per day for this well recharge area.*

Is well pulling water in from stream? *Not according to our monitoring well, did not have a cone of influence from greater than 2000 feet.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9PM.