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Draft Meeting Minutes

White Clay Creek Watershed

Management Committee

June 12, 2002, 1-3PM

London Britain Township Building

London Britain Township, PA

Attendees:

Louis Kirkaldie	Bob Chartowich	Fred Muller	John Kimmel
Christina Medved	Kristen Travers	Fran Rupert, Jr.	Rick Mickowski
Robert Lansdorf	Shandor Szalay	Andy Urquhart	Judith Shuler
Dorothy Miller	John Goodall	Martin Wells	David Harper
Jan Bowers	Jerry Kaufmann	Thomas A. Zawislak	David Hawk
Chuck Barszcz	Antoinette Jett		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 04/09/2002

- *A Motion was made by Dorothy Miller and seconded by Louis Kirkaldie to approve the minutes of April 9, 2002 with minor amendments by Lou Kaplan. The Motion was unanimously approved by those members in attendance.*

WCCWMC FY02 FUNDING PROPOSAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

The Committee discussed the Minutes of the *Funding Subcommittee* dated May 7, 2002 which included a proposal for dividing Fiscal Year 2002 Watershed Management Committee funding. Chuck Barszcz indicated that the total funding for this fiscal year would be \$58,000 and not the figure of \$45,000 that the Funding Subcommittee used. The proposal included funding a local river manager. The Committee then debated where to add the additional \$13,000.

→ *A motion was made by Rick Mickowski and seconded by Judy Shuler to divide available FY02 funding as follows: Local River Manager Position \$15,000; Education Subcommittee \$15,000; Fish & Wildlife Subcommittee \$8,000; Trail Guide Subcommittee \$10,000; and Open Space Subcommittee \$10,000 . The Motion was unanimously approved by those members in attendance.*

The Committee then discussed the name of the "Funding Committee." At the May 7 meeting the Funding Subcommittee approved a name change for this Subcommittee to "Executive Committee."

Judy Shuler stated that she did not agree with the make up of the membership of the "Executive

Committee" and felt that if the Funding Subcommittee was to broaden its scope that the membership should include the chairs of the other subcommittees.

- *A Motion was made by Fred Muller and seconded by Sally Cheyne to change the name of the Funding Subcommittee to Executive Subcommittee and to broaden its membership to include all of the chairs of the other subcommittees. The Motion was unanimously approved by those members in attendance.*

LOCAL RIVER MANAGER POSITION:

Judy Shuler wanted clarification of the *local river manager* position. Judy indicated that this position should not be a "Riverkeeper" position. Fred Muller stated that the local river manager position was to assist with the efforts of the Management Committee and that it would not be affiliated with the national "Riverkeeper" network. There was discussion about where the position would be housed. Originally it was suggested that the position would be affiliated with the White Clay Creek Watershed Association. Chuck Barscz stated that on other wild and scenic rivers that he is associated with that similar positions have been located within watershed associations. Judy stated that by locating the position within the Watershed Association that a conflict of interest may occur when issues arise and the Watershed Association and the Management Committee may have differing positions.

Jerry Kauffman suggested that the local river manager may be housed within the University of Delaware. Jerry stated that in the past he has used graduate students for this kind of position, it would depend ultimately on the role and duties of the position.

→ *The Executive Subcommittee will work on developing the roles and duties of a local river manager position.*

PA DCNR GROWING GREENER GRANTS – UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

It was noted that the State of Pennsylvania will be conducting pre-application workshops for *Growing Greener* grants program. Two workshops are scheduled for our area **Conshohocken July 24 and Pottstown July 25.**

PRESENTATION – JAN BOWERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHESTER COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY:

Jan Bowers gave a presentation on "*Watersheds – An Integrated Water Resources Plan for Chester County, Pennsylvania and Its Watersheds,*" a recently released draft plan that was prepared by the Chester County and the Chester County Water Resources Authority.

Jan noted that **Watersheds** was developed to support the implementation of **Landscapes**, within Chester County and to assist governments and other entities to more effectively integrate water resources and land use decisions. It provides scientifically-sound goals, objectives and strategies for accommodating existing land uses and planned growth while maintaining the integrity of Chester County's watershed resources.

Watersheds is divided into the following major sections: A Call to Action; A Primer – What is a Watershed; A Snapshot – What We Learned; Goals and Objectives – Achieving the Vision; Priorities for Watershed Management –Where to Begin; Planning for Future Water and Wastewater Needs – Integrated Water Resources Planning; Stakeholder Roles – Opportunities for Stewardship; Strategies for Implementation; and Watershed Indicators – Measures of Progress.

The **Watersheds** plan indicates that there are problems with water quality within the White Clay Creek watershed. The plan states that **77% of the streams within the White Clay Creek watershed are impaired**. Impaired streams are defined as "a stream or other surface water body determined by field assessment to no longer meet the state water quality standards for its designated protected use." In fact, White Clay Creek streams account for **20%** of the total impaired streams in Chester County. The **Watersheds** plan ranked White Clay Creek as the highest priority for water quality restoration.

Jan indicated that the water quality problems within the White Clay Creek watershed probably stem from a combination of agricultural and development sources. Nutrients, pesticides and sediment are all contributing to the water quality problems. Jan also stressed that stormwater management was a critical issue that needed to be addressed in a comprehensive fashion.

Jan noted that **Watersheds** had many recommendations for all levels of government, municipal, county, state and federal. In addition a "Individual Action Plan" for the White Clay Creek was created as part of the **Watersheds** process.

NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP – ARTESIAN WATER CO. NEW WELL:

The issue of a new ground water well that is being proposed in New Garden Township by the Artesian Water Company of Delaware was discussed. All of the facts about the new well are not clear but apparently Artesian Water recently purchased the well from Charles Wilkinson Builders and would like to increase the output of the well. Originally as permitted the well served some 38 homes and had an output of approximately 22,000 gallons/day. Artesian would like to increase the output to 800,000 gallons/day. Artesian would serve customers in Pennsylvania and Delaware. The controversy over the well arose from the large increase of the withdrawal and the fact that Artesian may when necessary export water from this well to customers in Delaware.

Many members of the Committee raised questions about the impacts of such a large withdrawal on the baseflow of Broad Run and the White Clay Creek. Members also questioned what the limits were for the existing permits for the well. Some thought that the original Wilkinson permit from DRBC allowed the well to pump up to 600,000 gallons/day.

- *The Committee decided to invite Artesian Water Company to the next meeting of the Management Committee to discuss the well in New Garden Township.*

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:

Chuck Barszcz raised the issue of cooperative agreements with the National Park Service to implement the work of the Watershed Management Committee. Chuck noted that the National Park Service has existing cooperative agreements with the University of Delaware Water Resources Agency, Natural Lands Trust and River Management Society. Chuck stated that for this fiscal year 2002 that it may be easier to amend these agreements to include the work of the Watershed Management Committee rather than creating new agreements. New agreements would have to be finalized by July 15. The organization that enters into a cooperative agreement with National Park Service will need to be able to process third party payments, such as to the local river manager. Jerry Kauffman noted that the Water Resources Agency would be able to process third party payments. David Harper indicated that Natural Lands Trust was willing to enter into an agreement with the National Park Service for the White Clay Creek. Chuck noted that River Management Society charged a fee of 5% to cover their administrative costs for managing the cooperative agreement. There was a discussion about how much money to place in each existing cooperative agreement.

➔ *A motion was made by Jerry Kauffman and seconded by Dorothy Miller to have the University of Delaware Water Resources Agency (WRA) and the Natural Lands Trust (NLT) assist the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Committee in implementing the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Plan by amending existing cooperative agreements with the National Park Service to add: 1) \$40,000 to the WRA agreement for managing the Education Subcommittee projects, Trail Guide Subcommittee projects and funding the local river manager position; and 2) \$18,000 to the NLT agreement for managing the Open Space Subcommittee and Fish and Wildlife Subcommittee projects. The Motion was unanimously approved by those members in attendance.*

THE NEXT WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE:

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2002

LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP BUILDING

LONDON GROVE, PA

The meeting was adjourned at 3PM.