

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #15: ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

A. DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The summaries of the July 8, 2015, August 7, 2015 and September 2, 2015 Directors of Utilities Committee meetings are attached.

Attachment 15-A1

Attachment 15-A2

Attachment 15-A3

B. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The summaries of the August 6, 2015 and September 3, 2015 Regional Environmental Committee meetings are attached.

Attachment 15-B1

Attachment 15-B2

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on July 8, 2015. The following items were discussed during the meeting:

- The Committee participated in a workshop-style discussion of groundwater levels in the Coastal Plain aquifer system and discussed whether the data indicates trends of water level decline or recovery in different portions of each aquifer. The Committee also discussed factors that influence aquifer response and noted the value of:
 - Additional calibration of the regional groundwater model with water level data to date; and
 - Model runs to develop water level predictions for the next ten years.
- The Committee discussed the membership of the state Groundwater Advisory Committee. The first tier of the Committee, which will focus on policy issues, consists of 24 members, including James City County Administrator Bryan Hill, Chesapeake City Manager James Baker, and legal counsel for the Western Tidewater Water Authority (City of Suffolk and Isle of Wight County).
- As follow-up to the November 12, 2014 meeting, the Committee revisited the idea of forming a subcommittee for integrated planning. At this time, the Committee is not ready to move forward with forming a subcommittee.
- The Committee was briefed on HRSD's two sewer system rehabilitation pilot projects that are underway to evaluate different planning approaches and project delivery methods.
- The Committee recognized Mr. Anthony Reyes, Hampton Public Works Director, for his service and contributions to the region with a resolution of appreciation.

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on August 5, 2015. The following items were discussed during the meeting:

- Ms. Christine Morris, Norfolk's Chief Resilience Officer, briefed the Committee on the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities initiative and the City's efforts to develop a strategy for social, economic, and physical resilience.
- The HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on Phase 2 of the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) grant program being offered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- The Committee discussed draft FY 2017 budgets for the Regional Water Program and the Regional Wastewater Program. Final budgets will be presented to the Committee for consideration at the September 2, 2015 meeting.
- The HRPDC staff reviewed the components of the customer affordability "data package" prepared for each locality, including the 2020 regional cost scenarios, socio-economic indicator data tables, and residential rates affordability assessment tool. The Committee directed staff to develop a presentation for the HRPDC Executive Committee.
- The HRPDC staff recommended that utilities coordinate with locality stormwater staff about anticipated requirements for localities to conduct sewer line inspections. The draft permits are also anticipated to have impacts on loose leaf collection activities.
- The HRPDC staff will compile information on utility policies and fees for service turn on/off, after hours and weekend service, tampering and illegal connections, and other services such as lab work.
- Staff reports included a summary of the July 22, 2015 State Water Commission Meeting, and update on the transition plan for online database management, and notice of the upcoming FY16 water and sewer rates data call.

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on September 2, 2015. The following items were discussed during the meeting:

- The HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on the askHRgreen.org **FY 2015 Annual Report** and highlighted program activities for HR WET and HR FOG, including media outreach, events and promotions, partnerships and research.
- The Committee members present at the meeting endorsed the FY 2017 budgets for the Regional Water Program and the Regional Wastewater Program. For localities not represented at the meeting, the HRPDC staff will contact Committee members to confirm that the locality is aware of and supports the program budgets.
- HRSD briefed the Committee on the results of Phase 1 of the Sustainable Water Recycling (Aquifer Replenishment System) – Concept Feasibility Evaluation. This study evaluates the feasibility of using clean water for aquifer replenishment to protect groundwater supplies, reduce nutrients discharged to the Chesapeake Bay, mitigate land subsidence and saltwater intrusion, and provide multiple other benefits. The Phase 1 Feasibility Study found that injecting clean water into the aquifer is technically feasible and provides significant benefits. The HRSD Commission approved additional funding for Phase 2 work at its [August 25, 2015 meeting](#).
- The Committee discussed the August 18, 2015 meeting of the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Advisory Committee. Suffolk Public Utilities led a discussion about a concept to address long-term aquifer protection while allowing utilities appropriate time to get value out of existing facilities and transition to alternative sources.
- Staff reports included an update on the transition plan for online database management and a reminder of the response deadline for the FY16 water and sewer rates data call.

MEETING SUMMARY
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Environmental Committee met on August 6, 2015. The following items were discussed.

- Mr. Clay Bernick, Virginia Beach, gave a presentation to the Committee on the city's Green Sea Blueway and Greenway Management Plan.
- Mr. Ed Heide, Suffolk, gave a presentation to the Committee on a stormwater best management practice retrofit project that the city is constructing to help meet its Chesapeake Bay TMDL nutrient reduction targets.
- Ms. Sara Kidd, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on a grant proposal to improve the regional green infrastructure plan using technical assistance from the Green Infrastructure Center.
- Mr. Benjamin McFarlane, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on the output from the regional team at the recently held Dutch Dialogues workshop.
- Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, led a discussion of the FY17 Draft Stormwater Budget.
- Several Committee members and guests provided status reports.

MEETING SUMMARY
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Environmental Committee met on September 3, 2015. The following items were discussed.

- Ms. Julia Hillegass, HRPDC, provided an update to the Committee on the regional native plants strategic planning project.
- Ms. Sara Kidd, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the status of a state project to acquire and develop land cover data.
- Mr. James Clary, HRPDC, gave a presentation to the Committee on various types of analyses that can be done to quantify the impacts of sea level rise on local and regional economies.
- Mr. Benjamin McFarlane, HRPDC, updated the Committee on matters related to sea level rise and recurrent flooding.
- Several Committee members and guests provided status reports.