

WQMWG Meeting Notes Summary

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Introductions

First item was the call to the audience. Randy Heiss of SEAGO asked if a discussion of the current Freeport McMoRan 208 application submitted to SEAGO would be appropriate under the Call to the Audience. It was suggested that this item be discussed in the “Status of 208 Plans and Plan Amendments” agenda item. There were no further calls from the audience.

2. Announcements

Kevin Bright of AZ Game and Fish Department gave a brief report on zebra mussel contamination in AZ waters. Mark Edelman of the State Land Department did not have a report update. The AZ Department of Water Resources was not in attendance.

3. Approval of the minutes of the July 26th WQMWG meeting

There were several corrections or additions to the minutes of the July 26, 2016 WQMWG meeting. Julie Hoffman of MAG stated the approvals from the July 26, 2016 WQMWG meeting were not provided in the Notes Summary. Rick Stacks of Yuma County made the Motion to Approve the corrected minutes for the July 26th 2016 meeting. Randy Heiss of SEAGO seconded the Motion. Motion was approved for the correction of the minutes.

4. Jean McClain of the UA Water Resources Research Center Presentation

Jean gave a presentation “Recycled Municipal Wastewater and Antibiotic Resistance: Is there a Connection?” Jean gave information on the attempts to identify direct links of bacterial antibiotic resistance to water reclamation processes. The presentation covered what is known, what is unknown, about antibiotic resistance in water, and covers basic information needed by every water professional facing questions regarding water quality and antibiotic resistance. The presentation will be sent to all participants after the October 11th 2016 meeting.

5. Committee Fact Sheet Presentation – an Action Item

PAG and DEQ have been working on the updated revision to the Committee Fact Sheet for the Statewide WQMWG. The Fact Sheet contains the purpose and authority of the

group, a list of the voting members, the Ex-Officio Members (non-voting) and other procedural items that provide guidance to the larger group.

Update of the list of Voting and Ex-Officio members for the WQMWG. This was completed.

Approval of the revision to the Fact Sheet – a brief discussion of how to approve the update of the Fact Sheet. Alan Urban of CAG and Rick Stacks of Yuma County suggested that each section of the Fact Sheet be approved as we review and change the language. The section changes are as follows:

a. ADEQ to be chair of the WQMWG It was decided that DEQ as Chair of the WQMWG would not be a conflict of interest. Rick Stacks of Yuma County made a Motion to Approve DEQ as the chair of the WQMWG. Randy Heiss of SEAGO seconded the Motion to Approve. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Quorum for WQMWG meeting - What constitutes a quorum to convene a WQMWG meeting? Mead Mier of PAG provided revised changes to the existing language. Alan Urban of CAG made the Motion to Approve the changes to the existing language. Rick Stacks of Yuma County seconded the Motion to Approve. The vote was unanimous approval for changes to the language for a Quorum.

c. Voting – Mead Mier of PAG provided recommended language to the Voting Section. She noted each DPA has one vote. She added that on occasion the WQMWG member may need to have someone else from their office attend in their place. Randy Heiss of SEAGO suggested that a proxy not allowed be to vote. SEAGO seconded the Motion to Kevin Bright of AZGFD raised the question whether the state agencies have a vote or not. DEQ will research documentation of this issue and report back.

d. Public Comment – There were no changes suggested for this section.

e. Meeting Schedule – Several topics were discussed. A discussion of whether the WQMWG Chairship should circulate among the membership? Members were generally satisfied with the language for sharing the chairship among the DPAs although no vote was taken. The eligibility of DEQ as the chair was discussed earlier in the agenda so the question could be stricken from this section. The meeting place for the WQMWG was discussed. It was suggested that the meetings could be held either at the League of Town and Cities, or DEQ. For this section with the correction, a Motion to Approve was made by Randy Heiss of SEAGO and seconded by Alan Urban of CAG. The Motion to Approve passed in the meeting.

f. Meeting Minutes – Randy Heiss of SEAGO raised the issue of access by the public to the WQMWG meeting minutes under the Open Meeting Law. The first priority is to have the audio recording of the meeting minutes available to the public. Meeting minutes should be drafted and available to the public upon request. Alan Urban of CAG agrees with Randy's suggestion for an addition to the language. Alan Urban of CAG

made the Motion to Approve and Randy Heiss of SEAGO seconded the Motion to Approve. The meeting approved the Motion.

See the attached sheet for corrections with updated information.

6. Presentation by Julie Hoffman – Streamlined MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process and Small Plant Review and Approval Process

The MAG presentation was sent to the members with the agenda before the October 2016 meeting. MAG has streamlined the 208 amendment and the Small Plant Review and Approval processes with a significant reduction in time and increased efficiency. MAG has produced informational fact sheets about the MAG 208 process and a step by step description of procedures for applicants requiring 208 approval. The next steps include: streamlining their 208 processes are: 1) to track the timelines for new 208 amendments and Small Plant Review and Approvals and 2) Conduct an evaluation to ensure the deadlines are met in the streamlined process to determine if additional improvements are necessary.

7. ADEQ Staff Report

There was a discussion of the carryover DPA funding for FY16. The FY17 \$40,000 is available for funding the DPAs. When the figure for the FY16 carryover is available, DEQ will notify the DPAs.

Julie Hoffman of MAG asked if the FY17 amount will change. DEQ said it will change. However, there is no date of confirmation of the additional funding at this time.

8. Status of 208 Plans and Amendments

A. **CAG** – Alan Urban gave a brief report as he had to leave for another scheduled meeting. As of this meeting, the CAG 208 Plan Update had not been approved by EPA. Alan said there might be several amendments in the near future.

B. **La Paz County** – Kathryn Mathewson said no amendments at this time.

C. **MAG** – Julie Hoffman said no amendments at this time.

D. **Mohave County** – Not in attendance.

E. **NACOG** – Not in attendance

F. **PAG** – Melanie provided the 208 report. PAG has conducted two consistency reviews and both Not Inconsistent. Working on an AZPDES 208 for Marana. PAG is continuing work on the inventory of WWTPs. The GIS maps will be provided on-line.

G. **SEAGO** - Randy discussed the 208 for the Freeport McMoRan Inc. (FMMI) proposed plant to replace the existing plant which is listed in the SEAGO 208 Plan. FMMI has a community WWTP that provides service to mining employee homes and other businesses in Morenci, Greenlee County. In addition to the wastewater from the surrounding unincorporated area of Morenci, the plant receives effluent from the

incorporated Town of Clifton WWTP. FMMI does not charge the Morenci area residents for the utility service and is not regulated by the AZ Corporation Commission. According to the language of the SEAGO 208 Plan Randy discussed the question of FMMI as a Wastewater Management Utility (WMU), a private entity serving in the area of Morenci and Clifton? SEAGO has been working with ADEQ whether FMMI is a WMU. For example, the 20 year plan amendment would answer the following questions: What happens when the mining operation shuts down – Who will operate the plant if FMMI stops mining? Currently FMMI is paying for the operation and maintenance of the existing plant. FMMI is proceeding through the public review process. The next step in the FMMI 208 approval process is the SEAGO Environmental Review Committee (ERC). Any comments from the Public Review will be included in the ERC review discussion meeting.

9. Call to the Audience

No public comment during the Call to the Audience. The Call to the Audience was closed.

10. Next Meeting Date/Request for Future Agenda Items

Next Meeting - Should the next meeting be in December and when in December? Tuesday, December 13th would be the regular scheduled meeting time. Yuma County has a conflict on the 13th due to other scheduled meetings. Randy Heiss of SEAGO suggested Tuesday, December 6th to have more members in attendance. A member suggested that a December meeting might not be necessary if there are no amendments, there might not be a need to have a meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

Other topics of interest for presentations? Direct reuse?

SEAGO may have a 208 amendment?

It was suggested to have the GotoMeeting option available for those members who would like to use it. Rick Stacks of Yuma County was pleased with the process and wanted to have it available in future meetings. Thanks to all who did participate in the GotoMeeting.

Close of the meeting – Rick Stacks of Yuma County made a Motion to close the meeting and Randy Heiss of SEAGO seconded the Motion to Approve.

