

Carroll County Water Resource Coordination Council

Hampstead * Manchester * Mt. Airy * New Windsor
Carroll County Health Department



* Sykesville * Taneytown * Union Bridge * Westminster
Carroll County Government

WRCC Meeting Summary February 26, 2014

Attendees:

Gale Engles	Brenda Dinne	Steve Miller	Rose Mann
Jim Wieprecht	Frank Schaeffer	Tom Devilbiss	Sean Hartman
Marge Wolf	Dawn Ashbacher	Perry Jones	Kevin Hann
Glenn Edwards	Ed Singer	Ted Zaleski	
Monika Weierbach	Brad Plante	Steve Powell	

The meeting was called to order by Frank Schaeffer at 2:31.

Minutes from the January 22th meeting were approved as written.

County Commissioner Environmental Fund

The Board of Carroll County Commissioners (BCC) had allocated \$200,000.00 in the FY2014 Operating Budget to be used for the municipalities. Since the money is in the operating budget, the funds need to be used by the end of June. On February 20th in open session, the BCC asked the municipalities to make recommendations for the funds through the WRCC.

Discussion on how the funds could be used by the municipalities included:

- I & I Wastewater
- Water Meter Replacement
- Energy Audit
- One municipality to use money for a project (committee to select municipality)

This issue will be discussed with the Mayors at the March 6th MML meeting.

Steve Powell (Chief of Staff) and Ted Zaleski (Director, Management and Budget) attended the meeting. Steve discussed several ideas that the BCC had suggested for possible use of the funds. At least one member of the Board desires to provide relief from what is perceived as high water and sewer rates in the municipalities. One Board member suggested a study on cost-effective long-term solutions for infill & infiltration (I & I) and exploring alternative energy sources for treatment. Another Board member recommended the money be used to provide 50/50 matching funds with municipalities with a \$30,000 limit.

A meeting between the mayors and the BCC to discuss the environmental fund is to be scheduled. Steve would like the meeting scheduled sometime in March.

To serve as the lead intergovernmental agency for water resource planning, development and protection.

Stormwater Fee Status

Frank gave out information on stormwater management fund distribution that will be presented to the mayors before they meet with BCC. He went over the figures and explained the rationale used to develop a 75% /25% cost share. Frank's figures were based on the taxes the County collects in the municipalities. Steve Powell suggested this approach may not be the best way to justify cost since the County provides services to the municipalities per the Town County Agreement. Dawn Ashbacher said when the Mayors met with the Commissioners on November 26th, economic development and working together to assure compliance was received well. Working together jointly would provide economies of scale that result in a more efficient use of tax dollars.

Steve Powell suggested that the benefits it may have on economic development since most of the economic development land is centered around the municipalities may be worth emphasizing.

The issue of joint projects was discussed. Frank said if the County and municipalities were under the same NPDES MS4 permit, joint projects, regardless of where they were, would keep everyone in compliance. Steve said the BCC may have concerns about accountability or liability for the BCC with a joint permit.

Ted Zaleski noted there is no money allocated in the budget to assist the municipalities. Any assistance the BCC decides to provide would result in funds being reallocated from other projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2013 at 2:30 in Room 105.