

Source Water Protection Sub-committee Introductory Meeting

March 1st, 2018

Introductions:

Jack Stickney – KRWA
Steven Evans – Assistant Director, KWRRI
Ed Fortner – Utilities Director Berea, KY
Dorothy Rader – Water Quality, KY American Water
Mary Carel Wagner – Water Quality Manager, NKY Water District
Chloe Brantley – Water Supply Section Supervisor, Division of Water
Suzette Walling – UK Agricultural Extension
Melissa Melton – RCAP
Brad Lee – UK Agricultural Extension
Laura Norris – Water Supply Section, Division of Water
Russ Evans – OMU/Water Quality Lab
Brent Tippey – HDR Inc.
Earl Coffey – Danville City Engineer
Allan Shingleton – Water Supply Section, Division of Water
Russ Rose – Oldham County Water District
Chris Gohman – Hardin County Water District 1
Amanda Spalding – Hardin County Water District 1

Purpose of SWP Sub-Committee/Comments/General Discussion:

- Will this group be charged with a specific task by the DOW Director, as other sub-committees have been charged within the Drinking Water and Wastewater Advisory Council?
- What is purpose of this group?
 - Sharing BMPs/Management strategies
 - Discuss emerging issues
 - Collaboration between different agencies
 - Input on regulation modification
- Is implementation of management strategies or regulatory foundation the focus of this SWP sub-committee?
 - Jack – both
- What can this committee do to help benefit the utilities?
 - Discuss BMPs and management strategies rather than looking at the regulatory view
- Regulatory:
 - This group has potential to provide input to the updates of the 4:220 Water Supply Planning regulation and updates of source water assessment and protection plans.
- Consider a holistic and collaborative approach among utilities across the state when revising regulations and moving toward the future of Source Water Protection.
 - Focus on management practices with various tools, regulatory being one of those, however not the only one.
 - Cannot be solely a regulatory “checkbox” mentality to achieve SWP

- Strong need for a “one stop shop” for utilities to obtain near real-time data and access to all source water protection information
 - WRIS would be the ideal place to host these needs/data
 - Important in the event of a time sensitive emergency (HABs, spills, etc)
 - Current web-mapping set up is cumbersome for users
 - Various documents
 - “Hidden data” needs to be more accessible
- Utilities/users need various maps/data in one location
 - WRIS portal needs to be more interactive for users and an adaptive resource
 - Support for portal to incorporate real-time water quality data
 - Level of discomfort from some utilities with CSI’s and other water system information being readily available to public (terrorism)

Goals for Sub-Committee:

- Develop mission statement and action plan for sub-committee
 - Set interim goals to achieve over time
- Stakeholder engagement process
 - Surveying interests with SWP
 - Compare notes with other boards (water resources board) – do they have similar interests and goals? Should they be part of this discussion?
 - Avoid re-inventing the wheel
- How to set target goals that will benefit utilities of all sizes?
 - Changes to WRIS portal & web-mapping capabilities is a good starting point
- Create a list of ag contacts to use as a clearinghouse for contacts if utility has an ag issue in a region
- Potential to use 319 program to compare what watershed plans overlap w/ 319 funding to prioritize next projects
 - Funding is beneficial for SWP initiatives, especially for smaller utilities

Potential partners/collaboration:

- The USACE, NRCS, and agriculture representatives should be a stakeholder in this sub-committee
- Developing relationships between agriculture and utilities
 - Strong need for their input/collaboration
 - Initiate discussion on how agricultural practices may affect local water supply
 - How do we get farmers and large ag groups to commit and connect to SWP initiatives
- Ideology needs to be geared away from regulatory approach, but to bring in educational measures
- Water Resources board is currently working with ag stakeholders to implement BMPs and big picture ideas
 - Share meeting minutes. Is there any cross-over between these groups?
 - Include as a stakeholder
 - Potential to send SWP sub-committee to their meeting and vice versa?

Post Meeting thoughts:

The DOW Director may ask the SWP Sub-Committee in the future to weigh in on evaluating new water sources (whether primary, back up or emergency). This could be a potential topic for the next meeting.

Resources:

Kentucky DOW Source Water Protection Story Map:

<https://kygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=7496a20a4f0a413985cd1213c4be9b25>

Kentucky DOW Water Supply Planning Regulation KAR 4:220:

<http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/401/004/220.htm>

KIA WRIS Portal: <https://kia.ky.gov/WRIS/Pages/WRIS-Portal.aspx>