

WATER POLICY TASK FORCE MINUTES (WPTF)
Metropolitan Commission Conference Room
Minutes of June 24, 2008

WPTF Members present were Barne Wheeler, Chairman; Steve King, MetCom; Cannon Morse, PNAS; Dennis Roth; David Kelsey; Michael Wayman; Members absent were Bill Shreve; Bob Currie; Rebecca Schofield; and Sheryl Skrabacz, SMHD.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. **Discussion & Approval of Meeting Minutes:** The May 2008 Meeting Minutes were approved.
3. **Continuing Business:**
 - 3.1. Discussion outstanding water issues and plan of attack. Steve King updated the group on a meeting he had held with counterparts from Charles and Calvert Counties. He indicated that there was general consensus that a tri-county meeting with MDE would be more effective than just one county going. Steve indicated that the new Water & Sewer plan now under contract with CH2Mhill would answer many of the questions about water issues in the county. A discussion ensued surrounding which issues should be carried to MDE and whether a session with them was even useful. David Kelsey indicated that he believed that a meeting was necessary and the group agreed. The final list of issues to be presented to MDE are:
 - 3.1.1. Management Level (ML). Exactly what is supposed to happen when the ML is reached; how large a geographical area is affected; and who is responsible for taking action would be the primary focus of this topic. The relationship of MGS to MDE was discussed and the problems that are encountered when two separate agencies at State level are involved.
 - 3.1.2. Recharge Areas. Exactly where the recharge areas are located and how they are being safeguarded from contamination. Additionally, how much water in the aquifers comes from the outcrop areas and how much percolates into the confined aquifers from the surficial aquifers and between the aquifers would also be tabled.
 - 3.1.3. Alternate water source investigations. Exploration of the Patuxent aquifer and desalination are the topics here.
 - 3.1.4. Gray Water. Once new water treatment standards are implemented gray water should be safe for use in watering lawns and washing cars. Implementing legislation from the State would be necessary.
 - 3.1.5. Steve King agreed to put together a point paper and circulate to the other counties for their input.
 - 3.2. Discussion of Gray Water Initiative. Barne Wheeler indicated that the building code was being modified to permit use of gray water for flushing of toilets. Steve King again expressed concern over who would be responsible for insuring that the gray water not coming from his treatment plant was properly filtered and sanitized. He favors gray water use, but doesn't want MetCom to get any heat if problems occur during operation of the systems.
4. **New Business:**
 - 4.1. Table of Equivalent Dwelling Units Study (TEDUS). David Kelsey said there was nothing new to report.
 - 4.2. Conservation Initiatives. Steve King showed the group a water conservation initiative from Mr. Saeid Kasraei, MDE. He indicated that he would like the WPTF & COE to participate in this study. The group indicated that they would like to participate, but needed additional details before becoming more involved.
5. **Announcements:** The group agreed that September would be our next meeting month, unless circumstances required an earlier meeting.
6. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.