

Groundwater Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting
Meeting Minutes: December 7, 2006 10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.
Boardman Law Firm Fourth floor conference room
One South Pinckney, Madison

Members Present: Mike Carter, Dan Duchniak, Andy Graham, Stuart Gross, Jodi Habush-Sinykin, Doug Hahn, Todd Ambs, Lawrie Kobza, Ron Kuehn, Carol McCartney, and Bob Nauta

Welcome: Chair Kuehn welcomed everyone.

Consideration of Minutes: The draft minutes for the November 30, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

Finalize the Draft 2006 Report to the Legislature:

Stuart Gross will provide staff with his list of typographical errors.

Kobza questioned the current status of the Brown County pipelines mentioned on page 8. Staff will investigate and correct as needed. The GAC approved the following additional edits proposed by Kobza:

- Page 15, Section 3.2, second paragraph, third sentence – change “communities” to “groundwater users”.
- Page 16, Section 3.3, introductory paragraph, second sentence – delete.
- Page 17, Section 3.4, move the second bullet (establish a committee) to Chapter 5, Other Recommendations.
- Page 17, Section 3.4, add a new third bullet to allow a GMA or GAA to initiate modification or termination of its designation.
- Page 21, Section 6.1, second paragraph, amend the first sentence to read: “Of the recommended changes to existing statutory provisions, the most substantial relate to providing clear statutory authorization to the DNR to promulgate necessary administrative rules consistent with this report and modification of existing high capacity well approvals for properties within groundwater management areas.

Using the October 11, 2006 meeting minutes for reference, the committee approved the following edits proposed by Kuehn:

- Executive Summary, fourth paragraph, third sentence delete “While motions.....were narrowly defeated,” and replace with “A motion to recommend the identification of Dane County as a GMA was narrowly defeated. A motion to declare St. Croix County as a GAA was made but was tabled. A motion to declare the Little Plover River Watershed a GAA was unanimously adopted following failure of a motion to identify it as a GMA.”
- Page 13, Chapter 3 second paragraph third sentence “This was reflected...as a whole” – delete. Modify second sentence to read: “The Committee was nearly evenly divided in regard to designation of Dane County as a GMA.” Insert the following: “The committee discussed St. Croix County and did not designate it as either a GMA or a GAA. The Committee further determined, unanimously, that the Little Plover River Watershed deserved GAA status.”
- Page 15, Chapter 3.2 paragraph one, amend the third sentence to read: “The Committee defeated motions to recommend identification of Dane County and the Little Plover River Watershed as additional Groundwater Management Areas and tabled a motion to identify St. Croix County as a Groundwater Attention Area.”
- Page 15, Chapter 3.2, second paragraph, the reference to a GMA is corrected to GAA.

- Page 18, Chapter 3.5, add this sentence following the bulleted item: “This has already begun in the Little Plover River watershed where the DNR has met with, and received cooperation from, the affected municipalities and private well owners.”

McCartney’s concerns were addressed by amending the cover letter as follows:

- Second paragraph, first sentence: “...will require an extraordinary level of collaboration between the state, multiple levels of local government, and local stakeholders.”
- Second paragraph, third sentence: “...many important details concerning the cooperation, planning, and implementation aspects...”.

In response to questions about recapturing costs of implementing mitigation, Ambs suggested that as part of the 2007 report preparation the committee discuss revenue sources needed to support implementation of Act 310.

The committee approved the motion by Habush-Sinykin to amend the second sentence of the first paragraph in Chapter 3 to read:

- “The Groundwater Advisory Committee was provided information concerning several areas of the state in which impacts from groundwater drawdown are occurring or likely could occur, including the Little Plover River Watershed, Dane County, St. Croix County and the Central Sands area.”

The committee rejected a motion to add a new subsection 3.1.d. describing the Central Sands.

The committee approved the cover letter as amended.

The question of whether any committee member can designate someone else to represent them at a meeting and cast the member’s vote was raised. In response, the committee approved a motion that, in the absence of Ambs, Jonas may vote.

In preparation for the February 1st meeting, Habush-Sinykin will distribute copies of the GPA Task Framework.

The meeting adjourned shortly before noon.