

**Groundwater Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 1, 2007**  
**Department of Natural Resources Conference Room G-09**  
**101 South Webster, Madison**

Present: Ron Kuehn, Carol McCartney, Mike Carter, Dan Duchniak, Andrew Graham, Stuart Gross, Doug Hahn, Jill Jonas for Todd Ambs, Lawrie Kobza, Bob Nauta, Jodi Habush Sinykin.

1. Chair Kuehn welcomed everyone and announced the appointment of Carol McCartney as co-chair.
2. The Committee approved the [Minutes](#) of the December 7, 2006 GAC meeting as written.
3. [Draft revisions to](#) draft Administrative Rule NR 820 – Jonas indicated that the purpose of the discussion was to inform the Committee of changes made in response to comments by the GAC and the public. The revised draft rule, comments and responses will be provided to the Natural Resources Board at the March meeting and will be available to the public on the internet.

Larry Lynch identified several changes including:

- eliminating the definition of “public rights stage or flow” because the term is no longer used in NR820.29(4)(d);
- explicit inclusion of biological and ecological aspects of the affected water resource in 280.12(19);
- addition of review periods for well applications in NR 820.29;
- additional hydrogeologic information required for a well application in NR820.30(1)(f);
- further refinement of “residential” well water use in NR820.30(2)(a);
- addition of consideration of impacts caused by other wells on the property and actual or current conditions of protected waters in NR 820.30(3)(a); and
- removal of language from NR 820.32 dealing with exemptions near springs.

Committee members asked questions about the following:

- the new reference to s. 281.41, Stats., and asked staff to further investigate appropriateness;
- 280.31(1) requiring applicants to identify springs located within a radius of 2 miles of a proposed well. Department was asked to consider using the original, or other less explicit, language;
- Whether other wells are considered on a high capacity property when an application for a new well is reviewed. George Mickelson explained current practice.

Committee members endorsed the rule as modified and appreciated the opportunities to provide comments.

4. Jonas reviewed the *Second Charge* in [Secretary Hassett’s March 11, 2005 memo](#). She noted that “high water loss” and “plan approvals for wells that may have an impact on springs” were not included in the [Task Framework](#). It was noted that s. 281.34, Stats., does not prescribe a setback distance for wells proposed to be located near springs. The committee decided to add consideration of wells with a water loss of more than 95% of the water withdrawn to Task C (Significant Environmental Impact). Wells that may have an impact on springs will be considered in Task B (Plan Approval Process).

The committee agreed to follow the same process of deferring voting on newly introduced items until a later meeting date. The committee will use the Consensus Items Table to compile decisions. Italics will be used for new items. Once an item is introduced, the italics will be removed and

regular font added. Once an item is voted on, bold font and the consensus date will be added. Bob Nauta, Carol McCartney, Mike Carter, and Jodi Habush Sinykin volunteered to serve as leaders for Tasks A through D, respectively. Task Leaders will submit additional consensus table items and meeting notifications to department staff and request assistance when needed. The committee asked that staff compile a draft table of contents for the 2007 Report To The Legislature.

6. Update from the GPA Subcommittee

- [GPA Task Framework](#) – The entire GAC will discuss the 2006 Consensus Items Table (Task E) deferred items at the March meeting.
- Task B (Plan Approval Process for GPAs and Springs) – McCartney provided the [Revised Consensus Items Table](#). There was no discussion of the items in Task B. The DNR staff will provide a March presentation on “How the Law is Working”.
- Task A (Springs) – Bradbury provided an [update](#) of topics they are considering. He included a summary of recently completed springs projects and suggested the possibility of a field trip in April, after the regularly scheduled meeting adjourns.

7. Additional meetings were scheduled for March 6, May 3 and November 1. The April 5 meeting was rescheduled for April 4.

Adjourn at 12:36.

Next meeting – Tuesday, March 6, 2007 in the Boardman Law Firm 4<sup>th</sup> Floor conference room.