

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
February 24, 2015  
7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:36P.M. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

**Notice Requirements**

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the notice in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 21, 2015. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 21, 2015.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Commission, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Debbie Kratzer  
Lois Voronin  
Sandra McNicol  
Gail Ashley  
David Posey  
Cynthia Niciecki  
Diana Haywood  
Timothy Cahalin

**Absent**

Joe Zgurzynski  
Willard Reasoner

**Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor**

Tony Hauck was present and explained that several years ago he was on the township's Environmental Commission and also appointed as the township's hydro-geologist. He stated that last month he was appointed as the well water coordinator. He explained his experience in working with wells and studying geophysics. He reviewed what he plans on doing for the township. He expressed that he is very concerned regarding the water availability in the township. He feels that the Environmental Commission should know of the urgency of the water problems especially with the Penn East Pipeline possibly coming in the township.

2.

He feels that the township should keep up on this important situation. He stated that he is present to educate everyone and would like the Environmental Commission to keep an up-to-date inventory of the water and watch the water table.

He gave an explanation of the water wells at the Route 12 Business Park and stated he is very concerned regarding the wells at this time as they were full of sodium. He explained that after speaking to someone who lives near MEL, that they explained MEL drilled into a pond nearby the Route 12 Business Park.

Tony Hauck thanked everyone for listening to him this evening.

Everyone thanked Tony Hauck for coming to the meeting and speaking to the Commission.

### **Minutes**

(1). Approval of January 20, 2015 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the January 20, 2015 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes.

Correction: Page #7 Under Horseshoe Bend Park – Update, First paragraph, third line (replace Hold Grant with Holden Grant)

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey, Niciecki, Cahalin
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- None

### **Correspondence**

(2). Newsletter from the Raritan Headwaters Assoc. Re: Taking Care of Your Septic

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the newsletter from the Raritan Headwaters Association. The Commission all agreed that this was an excellent newsletter regarding taking care of your septic. Secretary Keller explained that the township's Board of Health recommended that this flyer be sent out to the residents of the township by including this flyer in the annual mailing. A call will be made to get permission from Raritan Headwaters Association to make copies and mail them out to the residents of the township.

### **Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops:**

3.

“Safety Aspects of the New Interstate Pipeline in Princeton” – January 22, 2015; 435 Nassau Street, Princeton at The Jewish Center (this is about Transco pipeline, but might be of interest) – **Review of Meeting**

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer stated that she did not attend this meeting.

FERC Public Scoping Meeting – January 27, 2015 6:00PM College of New Jersey, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ 08628 – **Meeting Canceled**

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that the meeting was canceled.

Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commission

(3). ANJEC’s 2015 Basic Training Course for EC at Three Locations

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

**Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops continued:**

(4). FERC Public Scoping Meeting – Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:00pm at West Trenton Ballroom 40 W. Upper Ferry Road, West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that this meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening if anyone is interested in attending, and also encouraged everyone to submit their comments. There was a discussion regarding how to file comments electronically.

FERC Public Scoping Meeting – Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 6:00pm at the Grand Colonial 86 Route 173, West Hampton, New Jersey 08628

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Public Scoping Period Ends – Friday, February 27, 2015

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(5). Third Annual New Jersey Invasive Species Conference – Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(6). 19<sup>th</sup> Annual New Jersey Land Conservation Rally – March 6, 2015 Wyndham Garden Hotel

4.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

### **Recycling News and Update**

#### **Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol**

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol stated that there is not a lot to report at this time. She explained that with all this winter weather the (lean to) is working well.

She explained that the yearly recycling tonnage report is due soon. She explained how the Department of Public Works will be contacting the company from their smart phone to notify them regarding the full dumpsters, which will make it easier for them while working on the roads.

### **Reports**

(7). Analytical Report – QCL Re: Kingwood Twp. Municipal Bldg. Water Test

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(8). Multi-Permit Application for JCP&L Vegetation Maintenance, Utility Infrastructure Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Activities

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

### **Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District**

N/A

### **New Business**

(9). Annual Report for 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she is still working on this report.

(10). 2015 EC Objectives (draft)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the EC Objectives for 2015 for the Environmental Commission. She asked the Commission their opinion and if they approve the objectives. The members all agreed that Debbie Kratzer did a great job on the list of objectives.

5.

(11). SFY 15 319(h) Grant RFP – To Reduce Water Quality Impairment Through Implementation of Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Control Projects.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Old Business

N/A

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Update

(12). E-mail Info from Nathan – HART of Hunterdon County

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed over the overhead projector the other townships in the County that have completed their points and have been certified.

MEL – Update

(13). Copy of Letter to Richard Portuese Requesting Quarterly Homeowner Reports

Gail Ashley explained the letter she sent to Richard Portuese requesting copies of the 2014 quarterly homeowner report data from February, May, August and November. She noted that she did not hear from them for a long time and did not receive anything. She did contact them again and they did send a letter and the quarterly homeowner well sampling results for samples taken in the months of February, May, August and November of 2013.

Discuss – Homeowner Well Sampling Reports – Message from MEL, Operations Manager

Gail Ashley explained speaking to a gentleman who took over for Richard Portegese. She stated that there has not been an update of the site and Environ has not sent anything additional. She noted that they are not pumping water any longer. She explained that they are required to file a report, but that the township has not received a copy of it. She reviewed maps of the homeowner wells near MEL and the increase of salt through time, over the overhead projector. She reviewed the homes that had the highest numbers. She showed on the map where the contamination came from on the property of MEL. She noted that the reason she brought this up this evening is the concern of what the home owners feel and if they would like to speak to the Environmental Commission.

Gail Ashley explained that MEL stopped testing the homes, which could have other metals in their water. She noted that this chart she worked on was from reports MEL sent to the township.

6.

Gail Ashley reviewed an update of the MEL Chemicals Site Remediation. Lois Voronin stated that the pumping and testing started in 1980.

There was a suggestion to write a letter to the residents across from MEL and reach out to them regarding their well water. There was a suggestion to ask them to come to an Environmental Commission meeting to ask them what they know about MEL. Gail Ashley will draft a letter that will go out to the residents across from MEL, and have the Commission look it over before sending it out.

On Going Water Resource Inventory:

**(14).** Memo from Tony Hauck

There was no memo from Tony Hauck, but he was present this evening and spoke at the beginning of the meeting.

**PennEast Pipeline:**

Letter to NJWSA from EC - Response Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that she asked the New Jersey Water Supply Authority for their support against the PennEast Pipeline.

Diana Haywood explained that she attended a meeting last evening for the pipeline, and that Assemblyman, Eric Peterson was present and explained how he feels about the pipeline and how the Legislatures are opposed to the pipeline also. She explained that he expressed how they are in support of the residents.

**(15).** Comments to FERC from EC

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the letter of comments she drafted to FERC. There were a few comments for changes that needed to be done by the Commission Members. Everyone agreed Debbie Kratzer did a great job.

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve Comments to FERC prepared by Debbie Kratzer and agreed to E-file the document to FERC.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey, Niciecki, Cahalin
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- None

7.

Memo to Twp. Committee Re: Recommend Funds for Environ. Studies Related the PennEast Pipeline Route – Response Update

Diana Haywood

- (16). Letter to Township Committee from Chair, Elaine Niemann, BOH – Requesting To allocate funds to review the PennEast Pipeline project.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer

- (17). Copy of Letter to FERC by: Mayor Dodds

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

N/A

Kingwood Park - Update

Park closed at this time.

Site Plan Review

N/A

Open Space

Sandra McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of February 3, 2015.

Sandra McNicol briefly reviewed the meeting of February 3<sup>rd</sup> and stated that there was not a lot to report.

Debbie Kratzer explained that she went to the last Parks and Recreation meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> to explain the project planned at the Horseshoe Bend Park for the Meadow Field to attract rare butterflies. She stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee had no objections and thought it was a very nice idea.

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:30PM. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller  
Secretary

