

VCWQ Board Meeting Minutes DRAFT
February 3, 2007 at VCWQ Winter Meeting in Charlottesville, VA

1. Minutes from VCWQ board meeting (conference call) on December 7, 2006 were approved.

2. Old Business.

Membership –

Have membership reminders/recruitment material in advance of the Summit.

Board of Directors Recruitment – There was discussion about the requirements for VCWQ Board members. The Bylaws state that an organization must have a citizen monitoring program with over 50% data acquired by citizens. Therefore, the Bylaws provide for groups such as SWCD's to be non-voting members of VCWQ and we encourage their participation in all our activities and events. Robbi Savage, Executive Director of Rivanna Conservation Society, volunteered to represent the Middle James Watershed. Jim Disbrow volunteered to represent the Rappahannock Watershed. Other potential Board members were discussed. In order to attain representation from all Virginia watersheds, VCWQ still needs Board members from the following watersheds:

Upper James – Cowpasture River Preservation Association may want to recommend someone from their membership.

New River – Check with Friends of Claytor Lake – Darla Tucker. Llyn Sharp who does VA SOS monitoring is not available. The New River Roundtable will have a coordinator soon, may want to check with that person.

Big Sandy – no one here from that area – no ideas for that area.

Blackwater/Chowan – Wayne has spoken to Stacey Bradshaw at the Chowan Soil and Water Conservation District.

York – Robin Patton was suggested – in the past she has been interested but not had the time. Other suggestions: Dawn Shank (Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers Association), Dick Clark – Lake Anna Civic Association (he has participated in the past – but not had the time). Dick Clark mentioned that the York Watershed Roundtable was gearing back up.

Lower James – Sandy Cooke (now that Robbi Savage is representing the Middle James?). Fran Geissler could be contacted (she is with DCR)

Communications Committee – Jim Disbrow and Karen Anderson \volunteered to be on the Communications Committee, whose charge is to work on: (1) an elevator speech; (2) logo; (3) brochure; and (4) online event calendar (any further refinements). The Alliance will work with this committee as staff. Wayne urged everyone to start using the online calendar at www.virginiacwq.org for all monitoring events in Virginia. They will also be looking to develop a logo and to “launch” this materials at the Summit.

3. New Business

Bylaws review – Sandy Cooke will work with Stacey Brown to review the VCWQ Bylaws and report back prior to VCWQ July Summit so that changes can be introduced prior to Summit with voting at the Summit by membership.

Spring Training Event – This event will be held in April in SW Virginia. The date was tentatively set at April 21. (Note, due to a family commitment, Stacey Brown will not be able to conduct the training at this date. A future date will be selected).

c. Summit Planning Committee

Committee – Leslie Middleton, Otto Gutenson, Karen Andersen

This meeting

d. VCWQ work plan status: highlights of work plan

Leslie reports that we are on target for our work plan (according to our commitments in the VEE grant)

e. Sustainability: funding, resources

Carolyn Thomas is chairing a committee to look into this. She is just starting to come up with ideas. If you have any ideas – check with Carolyn. One idea is to ask VDEQ for some assistance from their grants officer.

Meeting Dates for 2007

- March 19th – Conference Call 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- May 23rd – In person Meeting
- July 21 Summit
- September 6 - Conference call @ 1:30 p.m.
- October 20 World Water Monitoring Day – fall training, perhaps in conjunction with VWMC and USEPA Region III Volunteer Monitor Conference
- December – In-person (work plan for 2008)

Committees will meet at other times (Communications, Summit Planning, Bylaws, Sustainability)

f. Other Business -

Develop an “action” plan to help DCR/DEQ accomplish their mission of filling data gaps and assisting in the implementation of TMDL plans. Coordinate this with Watershed Roundtables. Should this be a goal of VCWQ? Do we need to work on this within the Partnership agreement framework? Perhaps we can set this as an action item for the Summit. We did not set up a committee to work on this. We did agree to bring this up at the next Partners meeting.