

## DRAFT

### Meeting Minutes –

### Climate Change Adaptation Workgroup of the Advisory Committee on Water Information

June 20, 2013: 1:00 – 2:30

#### Attendees

Ben Chou	Jeff Peterson	Nathan Bracken
Curtis Cude	Judy Francis	Noel Gollehon
Cynthia Finley	Karen Metchis	Paul Freedman
Dave Carlton	Laura Petes	Paul Wiegand
Dierdre Mason	Mary Musick	Rolf Olsen
Ernie Wells	Michael Block	Ron Hoffer
Fay Augustyn	Nancy Beller-Simms	Scott Biernat
Jeff Manning	Nancy Turyk	Wendy Norton

#### Action Items -- ALL

- If you have any comments on the minutes from the last meeting, please provide them to Wendy Norton or Jeff Peterson in the next couple of days.
- Before our next meeting, please email your comments on the draft fact sheets to Jeff Peterson or Paul Freedman (these fact sheets were sent to everyone via email this morning).
- If you have constraints that make either the November or the January dates preferable for you, for a face-to-face meeting, please let Wendy or Jeff or Paul know ASAP.
- Workgroup member biographies: Take a look at the version that was emailed to everyone this morning, and please contribute any materials for your own biography you're comfortable with sharing.

#### Introductions and Agenda Review

**Approval of Notes from Previous Meeting** (see draft notes on ACWI/climate website: [http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/ACWI\\_Climate\\_wkg\\_minutes\\_17\\_Apr\\_2013Rev.pdf](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/ACWI_Climate_wkg_minutes_17_Apr_2013Rev.pdf))

#### Climate Workgroup Business

- Review of Draft Fact Sheets on Agency Coordination Activities and Summary of Water Elements of National Climate Assessment; Co-chairs (see attached working draft)
  - Any comments from the group? Not at this time (people have not had a chance to review yet), but people agree that the fact sheets are a good idea.
  - **ACTION:** Before our next meeting, please email your comments to Jeff Peterson or Paul Freedman.
- Discussion of Next Webinar for Workgroup: Levi Brekke
  - Reminder about the next webinar: June 27 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time: Theme: Climate Change, Extremes and Issues for Adaptation - Part II: Drought and Adapting to Multiple Types of Extremes." (Part I, held on May 30, focused on wet-weather extremes.)

### Speakers:

-- Ken Kunkel, NOAA NCDC: science overview - droughts and dry weather extremes, evidence of past change, summary of projected changes, National Climate Assessment 2013 draft statements

-- Carly Jerla, Bureau of Reclamation: WaterSMART Colorado Basin Water Supply and Demand Study, Federal & non-Federal involvement, novel approaches to assessing vulnerability and identifying adaptation strategies

-- Grant Davis and Jay Jasperse, Sonoma County: Developing adaptation strategies that address the spectrum of extremes, from floods to droughts

- Discussion of Face-to-Face Meeting; November vs. January; Co-chairs
  - Budget constraints didn't allow us to have a face-to-face meeting in the spring, so we're trying again for this winter (probably the third week of November or sometime in January – November 19-20 might be preferable because of weather conditions). Do people have any ideas for agenda items, etc? The meeting would probably be 2 days and will possibly take place at EPA's Potomac Yard facility in Arlington, VA.
  - **ACTION: If you have constraints that make one of these dates preferable for you, please let Wendy or Jeff or Paul know ASAP.**
- Status: Workgroup Facebook; Co-chairs (see attached working draft)
  - This document is shaping up well.
  - **ACTION: Take a look at the version that was emailed to everyone this morning, and please contribute whatever materials for your own biography you're comfortable with sharing.**
- Key reference documents – we have about 70 documents right now, but if you have additional ones to suggest, please let us know. Are there people who don't have Microsoft Access and aren't able to look at these documents right now? A few do not have Access, so maybe we'll do a version in Excel or some other format that everyone has available.
- Meeting schedule – We've had to deviate from our regular meeting plans, but we're going to try to do the next meeting on July 11, according to the plan we agreed to months ago. We'll try to stick with 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the second week of each month for future meetings.

### **Presentation: Getting Climate Smart: A Water Preparedness Guide for State Action (Fay Augustyn, American Rivers, and Ben Chou, NRDC)**

- Overview of Report (<http://www.nrdc.org/water/climate-smart/files/getting-climate-smart.pdf>)
- The presentation slides are available on the website: [http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/index.html](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/index.html).
- *Question:* Can you say something about how you put the strategies list together?  
*Answer:* We looked at the existing adaptation plans and planning guides for the Federal government, NGOs, the United Nations, and others. Then we sent the list to various experts for a 2-month review, which resulted in a shorter, more streamlined list.
- *Comment:* That list might be a good template for structuring the work of additional workgroups that we may need to assemble in order to carry out the tasks in our own WRACCW work plan.
- *Comment:* A lot of materials that may interest this group are available here: [www.americanrivers.org](http://www.americanrivers.org).

- *Question:* Have you gotten inquiries from States about using this plan? *Answer:* We released the plan about a month ago, and we're currently reaching out to various stakeholder groups to determine if they're interested in using it.
- *Question:* Did you have any discussions with States about the many governors in the West who are opposed to using the words "climate change" in any document? Did you give them suggestions for other words they could use? *Answer:* We haven't talked to any States that expressed opposition to using the words "climate change" yet.

**Presentation: Climate Change Elements of Implementation Plan for the National Ocean Policy** (Laura Petes, NOAA)

- Overview of Implementation Plan  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/oceans/policy>
- The presentation slides are available on the website:  
[http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/index.html](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/index.html).
- *Question:* The last couple of slides (implementation plan milestones) focused on the resilience of the physical infrastructure; don't we also need to focus on the social resilience? CDC has a program that's looking at developing indicators for climate change scenarios, at the State level; so you may want to include CDC as a partner. *Answer:* Yes, that's a good idea. There are health-related issues in some of the milestones I didn't cover in my presentation, mostly related to water-quality concerns such as harmful algal blooms. There's already an MOU between NOAA and CDC on climate/health issues.
- *Question:* Could you say something more about governance? Who is moving the agenda forward and how are the agencies working together? What's the best way for people to continue or begin to participate? *Answer:* Now that the implementation plan is out and we can track progress on the milestones, we're looking at ways to coordinate and ensure that we're all moving in the right direction. There is still a voice for non-Feds on the Governance Coordinating Committee. There's also the Ocean Research Advisory Panel, which provides mechanisms for involvement. Some of the milestones in the Plan speak specifically to the idea of non-Federal participation.
- *Question:* What sort of planning is being done for coastal facilities that could be at risk from sea-level rise and related water-quality issues? *Answer:* Regarding providing guidance to coastal communities, we encourage Federal facilities to consider this, but we're not going to tell non-Federal facilities what to do. We can only provide them with visualization tools and planning scenarios that will help them deal with the potential problems related to sea-level rise.

**Round Robin Reports from Workgroup Members (a brief highlight of your organizations activities related to climate change and water)**

- Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Facilities: A Guide to Developing and Implementing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs  
<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/documents/pdf/wastewater-guide.pdf>
- GAO Report: Climate Change: Future Federal Adaptation Efforts Could Better Support Local Infrastructure Decision-makers <http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/653741.pdf>

- Johnson Foundation Dialogues on Water Infrastructure  
<http://www.johnsonfdn.org/aboutus/inspiringsolutions>
- National Climate Assessment and NASA Projects for Climate Change Indicators Development Projects (will be available online, along with the meeting minutes at [http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/index.html](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/index.html); several indicators address water)
- Following the call, someone provided a link to a document of interest that was released by FEMA last week and deals with impacts of climate change on the National Flood Insurance Program:  
[http://www.aecom.com/deployedfiles/Internet/News/Sustainability/FEMA%20Climate%20Change%20Report/Climate\\_Change\\_Report\\_AECOM\\_2013-06-11.pdf](http://www.aecom.com/deployedfiles/Internet/News/Sustainability/FEMA%20Climate%20Change%20Report/Climate_Change_Report_AECOM_2013-06-11.pdf)
- *Question:* Related to mitigation, we have some citizen groups who are trying to move things forward; does anyone know of an info sheet related to mitigation that could be handed out to these groups? *Answer:* Someone suggested looking on EPA's climate change website at the "what you can do" section that gives suggestions for how individuals and communities can get involved.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 11 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

There is also a webinar coming up on June 27 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time.